

Horse Manure Management: An Educational Program. (A04-davis132313-Poster)

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Abstract:

Half of the Animal Feeding Operations (AFOs) in Colorado are estimated to be horse owners, boarders, and stable owners (about 750). Since the 1999 EPA/USDA Unified National Strategy for AFOs spells out the expectation that all AFOs implement Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs), we have focused substantial effort on helping horse owners develop CNMPs. Many horse owners have an inadequate land base to utilize their manure on-site; in fact, many pay landfill tipping fees to dispose of their horse manure. Composting is an option that could turn their waste into a desirable product and potentially increase its demand in the community. We have developed a set of three factsheets on composting horse manure using dynamic windrows, static windrows, and vermicomposting. In addition, we wrote a curriculum for CNMP development specifically for horse owners and have begun a series of workshops in those counties with the most horses. One-quarter of workshop participants have signed up to take part in our composting mentoring program. We are developing a horse manure composting demonstration site and a website for our CNMP curriculum and composting information.

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