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Click on Symposium on Composting Mortalities and Animal Residuals

Please make your room reservations by calling the Sheraton South Portland Hotel at 1-800-325-3535 or 207-775-6161. Request the Symposium on Composting rate of \$72.00 per night. The deadline to receive this rate is April 27, 2005.

REGISTRATION FORM

Registration Fee: \$175

Includes Technical Sessions,
Exhibits, Poster Sessions,
Lunches, Proceedings

This form must be returned by May 17, 2005 to:
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Symposium on Composting Mortalities And Slaughterhouse Residuals

MAY 24-25, 2005

PORTLAND, MAINE

Sheraton South Portland Hotel



SYMPOSIUM COSPONSORS:

- Maine Department of Agriculture
- Maine Department of Environmental Protection
- University of Maine Cooperative Extension
- Maine State Planning Office
- Maine Department of Transportation
- Maine Compost School
- Maine Inland Fisheries & Wildlife
- BioCycle, Journal of Composting & Organics Recycling
- Cornell Waste Management Institute
- U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

TUESDAY May 24, 2005

MORNING 8:45 AM — 11:45 AM

Plenary Session: Introductions and Keynote Address

Welcome and Overview

Hon. John Baldacci, Governor of Maine (Invited)

“Are We There Yet?” Status of Mortality and Slaughterhouse Residuals Composting

Perspectives on research, policies, and practices that have made composting a leading option for management of livestock mortalities, wildlife road kill, and animal-derived wastes. Comfort level, constraints, caveats and questions that remain to be answered.

Nora Goldstein, BioCycle, Journal of Composting & Organics Recycling
Robert Rynk, Environmental & Agricultural Engineering Consultant

Track I: Biosecurity/Diseases

(10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

Session Chair: **Mark Hutchinson**, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Discoveries of Prion Degradation and a Safe Prion Surrogate Protein

How the keratinase enzyme — originally extracted from poultry manure digester — is effective in degrading prion protein, the causative agent of a group of diseases called transmissible spongiform encephalopathies (TSE), which include the lethal neurodegenerative disease known as Mad Cow.

Jason Shih, North Carolina State Univ.

Lessons Learned from Avian Influenza Outbreaks 1984-2005

Balancing the environmental, economic and public acceptance needs during major livestock disease outbreaks.

Eric Bendfeldt, Virginia Cooperative Extension

Foot and Mouth Disease, Equine Infectious Anemia: Biosecurity Considerations and Response Strategies

Disposal of large numbers of animal carcasses in emergency disease outbreak, drawing on case in the United Kingdom in 2001 and avian influenza experience in Maine in 2002.

Don Hoenig, Maine Department of Agriculture

Panel Discussion

Track II: Wildlife and Road Kill Issues

(10:00 AM – 12:00 PM)

Session Chair: **Jean Bonhotal**, Cornell Waste Management Institute

Overview of Federal Highway Administration Initiatives, Policies

Overview of management options for wildlife road kill and discussion of FHA initiatives and policies.

Fred Bank, Federal Highway Administration

Assessing Pathogens in Road Kill

Research to assess pathogens that may affect employees handling road kill and ultimate disposal of the compost. Carcasses are seeded with select pathogens, sampled and analyzed to determine effectiveness of the composting process.

Jean Bonhotal, Cornell Waste Management Institute

Planning, Management of Chronic Wasting Disease Outbreaks in Wisconsin

The management of CWD, whether present in captive or free-ranging populations, requires specific plans to dispose of the carcasses.

Joe Brusca, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources

Panel Discussion

Lunch, Exhibits

AFTERNOON 1:15 PM — 5:00 PM

Track III: Carcass Composting

(1:15 PM – 5:00 PM)

Session Chair: **Bill Seekins**, Maine Department of Agriculture

Evaluation of Composting For Emergency Disposal of Cattle Mortalities in Iowa

Performance of composting methods, assessment of the environmental impact and review of biosecurity issues.

Thomas Glanville, Iowa State Univ.

Large Animal Mortality Carcass Composting Field Trials: 2001-2005

Analysis of hot compost approach used in Maine. Summary of early trials assessing static pile composting of large animal carcasses. Results from recent trials. Comparison of temperature response and decomposition rate between composting medias.

Bill Seekins, Maine Department of Agriculture

New York State's Implementation of Cornell Composting Method

Cooperators build and implement program to deal with waste product that previously had a “home.” Options were explored, considered and program direction was agreed upon, based on composting as another tool to be used with meat waste.

Jean Bonhotal, Cornell Waste Management Institute

Observations of Large Animal Carcass Composting With Different Media

Results of Maine Compost Team field trials using various feedstock blends to compost bovine and equine mortalities. Observations of odors, vectors and leachate from different blends. Root causes and “learned” strategies to correct these issues.

Mark King, Maine Department of Environmental Protection

In-House Composting of Turkey Mortalities As Rapid Response to Catastrophic Losses

Virginia's experience using in-house composting for emergency poultry carcass disposal.

Eric Bendfeldt, Virginia Cooperative Extension

Composting Hog Mortalities in Nova Scotia: Environmental Impacts

Multiyear research evaluating carcass composting methods with emphasis on water quality, including nutrient and pathogen impacts on surface and groundwater.

Robert Gordon, Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Panel Discussion

Track IV: Final Disposition

(1:15 PM - 2:45 PM)

Session Chair: **Chuck Franks**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region 1

BSE in Washington State — Discovery, Response and Disposal Issues

How state officials responded in 2003-2004 to first discovery of Bovine Spongiform Encephalopathy in the United States, which resulted in destruction of significant number of cows. Working through dilemma over disposal options for animals and animal by-products.

Chuck Matthews, Washington Department of Ecology

Agronomic Utilization of Compost — Growing Plants and Protecting the Environment

Appropriate agronomic utilization of compost from any source. Discussion will be focused on environmental concerns.

Harold Keener, Ohio State University

Panel Discussion

Track V: Alternative Disposal Methods

(3:00 PM – 5:00 PM)

Session Chair: **Cliff Curtis**, Maine Department of Transportation

Animal Mortality Management with Biological Treatment Using Series Anaerobic/Aerobic Digestion

Capability of thermophilic anaerobic and aerobic biological treatment to achieve volume and mass reductions equivalent to incineration without generation of adverse by-products. Results of laboratory-scale testing using synthetic wastes, including parts of full grown cows, mice, goose and chicken feathers, paper and plastics.

William Jewel, Cornell University

Landfill, Alkaline Hydrolysis and Incineration

Evaluating technology options for livestock mortality management.

Fran Kremmer, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (Invited)

Composting the End Product of Alkaline Digested Animal Mortalities

University uses alkaline digester to process mortalities, which produces an alkaline high nitrogen liquid waste that cannot be released to the city wastewater treatment plant. However, composting trials show this material is useful as a composting feedstock.

Kathy Doeskin, Colorado State Univ.

Panel Discussion

WEDNESDAY May 25, 2005

MORNING 8:00 AM — 11:15 AM

Track VI: Managing Slaughterhouse Residuals

(8:00 AM – 11:15 AM)

Session Chair: **Bill Seekins**, Maine Department of Agriculture

Precondition and Turn Approach to Composting Slaughterhouse Wastes

Method used in Maine to manage slaughterhouse wastes. Early trials, challenges and successes. Regulatory approach adopted for trial period.

Bill Seekins, Maine Department of Agriculture

Cornell's Natural Rendering Method

With market changes, disease issues and bans on feeding meat residuals, the rendering industry has undergone changes and can't manage all residuals generated. Butchers, farmers, marine specialists, and others can implement simple management techniques.

Jean Bonhotal, Cornell Waste Management Institute

Managing Bones from Slaughterhouse Residuals During Composting

A significant technical difficulty in of-fal composting is the management of bones. Maine Compost Team conducted trials testing the efficacy of different grinding equipment.

Mark Hutchinson, University of Maine Cooperative Extension

Recipe Development in Composting: Experiences in Great Britain

Understanding impacts of the initial composting recipe on the biological process and other composting factors.

Will Brinton, Woods End Research Laboratory

Panel Discussion

Track VII: Policies and Regulations

(8:00 AM – 11:15 AM)

Session Chair: **Tom Miragliuolo**, Maine State Planning Office

On-Farm Mortality Management Initiatives for Nova Scotia's Agricultural Sector

Overview of current farm dead stock management programs and pilot projects. Description of dead stock collection program and some of its challenges.

Robert Gordon, Nova Scotia Agricultural College

Hurricane Floyd: Lessons Learned and Changes Made

Effects of Hurricane Floyd on North Carolina's agriculture, focusing on animal disposal issues and program changes to state's Emergency Animal Responses. Review of animal disposal techniques, including emerging technologies.

Dan Wilson, North Carolina Department of Agriculture

Ohio's Livestock and Poultry Manure Composting Programs — Ten Years of Success

Description of 3-hour certification program for Ohio's livestock producers. Course has been used to train and certify over 3,000 farmers on “Composting Livestock Mortality.”

Harold Keener, Ohio State University

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Policies: A Broad Spectrum View

EPA is developing strategies, tools, and partnerships with governmental and private sector partners to facilitate safe and effective management of debris from agricultural and natural incidents. Issues of disease identification, decontamination, transportation, and disposal are among those EPA is addressing in conjunction with USDA and state agencies.

Bethany Grohs and **Dave Bartenfelder**, U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Panel Discussion

Lunch, Exhibits, Poster Sessions

AFTERNOON 12:30 PM — 4:00 PM

Plenary Session: Emergency Response Planning

Session Chair: **Andrea Szylvian**, U.S. EPA, Region 1

Maine's Emergency Disease Response Plan: “Are We Ready?”

Progress of Maine's emergency preparedness drawing on lessons learned from test exercises held over past three years. Description of recent Equinox 2005 exercise in which state partnered with New Hampshire, Vermont, Quebec and New Brunswick to simulate a foot-and-mouth disease outbreak.

Don Hoenig, Maine Department of Agriculture

Iowa's Experience with Emergency Disposal

Analysis of Iowa's Foreign Animal Disease Response Plan. Evaluation of integrating emergency composting as a disposal alternative.

Thomas Glanville, Iowa State Univ.

Decision Matrix for Emergency Planning

Discussion of decision matrix on various technologies available for disposal during an emergency. Pros and cons of each technology and the need for replanning.

Jim Howard, North Carolina Dept. of Agriculture

USDA APHIS Animal Emergency Planning

Overview of planning for animal emergencies. Review of APHIS policies and regulations affecting composting and carcass disposal.

Panel Discussion

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