



Webinar helps producers analyze potential of anaerobic digester systems

By a Dairy Herd news source | Updated: October 12, 2011

OAK BROOK, IL.: The technical, environmental and economic factors involved in the use of anaerobic digestion systems on livestock operations will be addressed in the virtual Renewable Energy Education Field Day on Oct. 26, 2011.

"To create the most appropriate digester system for an operation requires an understanding of the technology involved, as well as the potential for addressing nutrient management needs or generating an income stream," says engineer James Fischer, energy project director for Farm Foundation, NFP. "This webinar is designed to help managers better understand the opportunities and the challenges a digester system may present to their livestock operations."

The Oct. 26 webinar will include researchers with technical expertise, and producers with first-hand experience in researching and operating digester systems. This virtual Field Day is targeted to dairy and beef producers in New Mexico, Arizona, California, Colorado, Kansas, Oklahoma and Texas. Representatives of environmental and agricultural organizations working with livestock producers, as well as staff from state and federal agencies, are also encouraged to participate. There is no charge to participate but [registration is required](#).

Farm Foundation, NFP is organizing this webinar in collaboration with USDA Rural Development, USDA's Office of Energy Policy and New Uses, USDA Farm Service Agency and USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service.

Speakers include livestock producers with experience in operating an anaerobic digester, industry leaders working with various technologies used in anaerobic digestion, university researchers, the Innovation Center for U.S. Dairy, and representatives from government agencies, including the U.S. Department of Agriculture and the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency's AgStar program. [Click here](#) to review the agenda. Session topics include:

- Producer experiences with anaerobic digester systems.
- Digesting manure under dry climate conditions.
- Using a digester to manage livestock manure/nutrient issues.
- Potential revenue streams from an integrated digester system.
- Financing options for installing an anaerobic digester.

Webinar sessions will be from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. MDT. The sessions are being taped and will be available for viewing for one year after the event. There is no charge to participate in the webinar but [registration is required](#). Here are three ways to participate in the Oct. 26 webinar:

- You can participate by being part of the audience at the webinar's origination site at the New Mexico Farm and Ranch Heritage Museum, Las Cruces, N.M.
- Attend at one of the eight viewing sites. These are opportunities to view and discuss the webinar with other producers, producer group representatives or agency staffers. Locations are: Lamar Community College Equine Center, Lamar, Colo.; Otero County Extension Office, Rocky Ford, Colo.; Arizona State University, Polytechnic Campus, Mesa, Ariz.; the U.S. EPA Region 9 Office, San Francisco, Calif.; the

Texas AgriLife Research and Extension Center, Amarillo, Texas; Southwest Regional Dairy Center, Stephenville, Texas; the Grady County Extension Office, Chickasha, Okla.; and the USDA Whitten Building, Room 107A, Washington, D.C.

- You can view the event from your office or home computer.

To register for the webinar, visit the [Farm Foundation, NFP web site](#). *There is no charge to participate in this webinar, but registration is required.*

This is the second Renewable Energy Education Field Day presented by Farm Foundation, NFP and USDA agencies. Biomass was the subject of the [first Field Day](#) in November 2010.

Click [here](#) for online version.

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