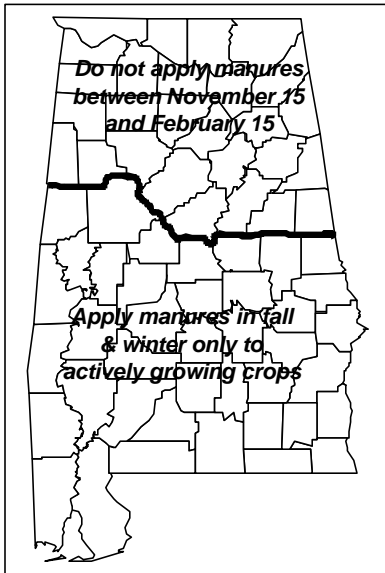


- WINTER LITTER SPREADING RESTRICTED
- MANAGE THE MOISTURE
- TOLL FREE POULTRY LITTER HOTLINE

- ALL PRODUCERS MUST HAVE NUTRIENT PLAN
- POOR COMPOSTING QUARANTINES FARMS
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WINTER LITTER SPREADING RESTRICTED



The new NRCS Nutrient Management Standard Code 590 went into effect April 2, 2001. This map is part of the 590 Standard, and was created to clarify the NEW land application standards. It is the same map used in Certified Animal Waste Vendor (CAWV) and Alabama poultry producer training meetings last fall.

NRCS CODE 590 now reads, in part:

Nutrient Application Method and Timing - Animal manure and related organic by-products will not be applied between November 15 and February 15 in North Alabama (See Figure above).

In the remainder of the state, livestock and poultry manure will not be applied in the fall or winter unless applied on an actively growing crop.

INTERIM LITTER HANDLING OPTIONS OFFERED LAST FALL for North Alabama breeder/pullet operations for the November 15, 2000, through February 15, 2001 period WILL NOT BE AVAILABLE FOR THIS WINTER.

All Alabama poultry producers should have the word by now and made adjustments in their litter handling plans to avoid land application during this winter period.

Richard Hulcher stated that "While ADEM took a **compliance assistance** approach last winter with producers working with NRCS or ACES to make adjustments, ADEM will gradually shift focus to **compliance assurance** efforts, as necessary, by winter 2001-2002."

ADEM and NRCS sources

MANAGE THE MOISTURE

NRCS representatives have met with a producer in Randolph County to select a site for a diked wet litter storage demonstration as proposed by the Coosa Valley Resource Conservation and Development (RC&D) Council. Upon hearing the details of the site prep, grading, and covering required, **the producer made a decision to manage his hen litter to keep it dry enough to use conventional temporary field storage and not diked storage.** He plans to **control water usage** as much as possible and **add dry sawdust** or other dry material as necessary to **produce litter dry enough to stack** about seven feet high. If so, the site selection and management will be much easier. The RC&D Council still has money available for two diked storage demonstration projects, if suitable sites can be found.

Bill Prince, NRCS Environmental Engineer

Attention Poultry Farmers!

Toll Free Poultry Litter Hotline

In an effort to assist poultry farmers to better manage their nutrient rich litter and to provide nutrient rich litter to those areas needing fertilizer, a toll free hotline number is being introduced. Farmers wishing to list the kind, amount and availability of their litter will be connected with those that need the litter for fertilizer. **Truckers and certified poultry waste vendors are also encouraged to participate.**

**1-866-LIT-T123
(1-866-548-8123)**

“the scoop on litter”

Partners supporting this poultry litter hotline are: Tennessee Valley Resource Conservation and Development Council (RC&D), Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM), Alabama Poultry and Egg Association (APEA), USDA- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), Marshall County Soil & Water Conservation District, Cullman County Soil & Water Conservation District, and Alabama Cooperative Extension System (ACES).

Jay Grayntland, Tennessee Valley RC&D

ALL POULTRY PRODUCERS MUST HAVE A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN NOW!

Only CAFOs (concentrated animal feeding operations) must file a formal Qualified Credentialed Professional (QCP) certified plan with ADEM through the local Soil and Water Conservation District Office. **All other animal feeding operations (AFOs) MUST HAVE A WRITTEN NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN** done by either a QCP, their local NRCS district conservationist or themselves with information from County Extension Agriculture Agents who will help small AFOs do their own nutrient management plan that will meet NRCS nutrient management standards. DOCUMENT following the BMPs. Following a written nutrient management plan is a BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICE.

ENCOURAGE ALL YOUR LITTER CUSTOMERS TO GET A NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLAN AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!

Charles Mitchell, AU/ACES Extension Agronomist-Soils

POOR COMPOSTING QUARANTINES FARMS

A number of poultry farms in both north and south Alabama use composting to process poultry mortality from their poultry business. Farmers have excellent information available on properly operating dead bird composters ("Composting Poultry Mortality", AL NRCS Guide Sheet 371, <http://seweb.ga.nrcs.usda.gov/al/pdf/317.pdf>) but some are not following these procedures.

The Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI) routinely inspects these facilities before farmers are allowed to move the compost off their farms. ADAI also responds to dead bird composter complaints. ADAI has found stinky, smelly, and leaky composters with exposed dead bird parts, and other compost operational problems that create a PUBLIC HEALTH HAZARD.

Farms with these POORLY OPERATED COMPOSTERS are QUARANTINED until proper compost operation is restored. NO litter or compost LEAVES THE PREMISES and NO BIRDS COME ON THE FARM DURING THIS TIME. PROPER DEAD BIRD COMPOSTER OPERATION IS VERY IMPORTANT!

46 POULTRY FARMS IN 12 ALABAMA COUNTIES HAVE RECEIVED 28 COMPOSTER WARNINGS AND 18 QUARANTINE NOTICES IN 2001 FOR POOR DEAD BIRD COMPOSTER OPERATION!

If you or any of your customers have questions on composting procedures, see your ACES County ANR Agent, NRCS DC, or the ADAI Animal Health Division in Montgomery.

Ray Hilburn, ADAI Poultry Inspector Supervisor

ADEM COMPLIANCE ACTIVITIES

For the period Oct. 00' thru Sep. 01', ADEM has worked 205 registration applications and conducted 121 agricultural inspections (72 of which were COMPLAINT-DRIVEN). NINETEEN ENFORCEMENT LETTERS were issued. Roughly 80% of these activities were POULTRY RELATED.

Remember that the Nutrient Management Plan becomes part of ADEM's enforceable rules for each animal feeding operation. Land application and records are extremely important to the CAWV. A section of NRCS 590 states,

Animal manure, related organic by-products, or wastewater should not be applied within three days of a predicted storm event with more than 49% probability (as predicted by National Weather Service zone forecasts with rain predicted as likely, periods of rain, occasional, or 50% or more probability).

Nutrients and wastewater should not be applied where soils are saturated, frozen, or snow covered.

Even if your customer says he does not have a written Nutrient Management Plan, you are responsible for following all land application BMPs!

Shane Brown, Field Operations, ADEM

USE YOUR COMPUTER AND THE WORLD WIDE WEB

For accurate NWS forecasts for your litter application field, go to either <http://www.aces.edu/weather.htm> or <http://wunderground.com> and type in the zip code of the rural mailbox or city nearest your application field. This gives the 72-hour forecast. Print it out and keep it as part of your application records. If you do not have a computer on the WWW, go to your local Extension or NRCS office or your local library and use one available there.

Ted Tyson, ACES/AU Extension Biosystems Engineer



Charles Mitchell Extension Agronomist
Ted Tyson Extension Biosystems Engineer

For additional information or assistance, call your local county agent or soil conservationist

*-Ted W. Tyson,
Extension Biosystems Engineer
email tyson@aces.edu*