



# The Role of Feed Management in Whole Farm Nutrient Management





Extension









#### Background

Feed represents the largest import of nutrients to most farms, followed by commercial fertilizer. Feed Management opportunities currently exist to reduce imports of nutrients, particularly nitrogen and phosphorus, to most animal livestock and poultry operations.

### Permitted Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFO) are required to develop a Nutrient Management Plan

Livestock and poultry operations defined as concentrated animal feeding operations (CAFOs) will be required to have a nutrient management plan (NMP). For those that choose to develop a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP), there will be an immediate need for an understanding of the Feed Management element of the CNMP and defined by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS).

#### Feed Management Education Project

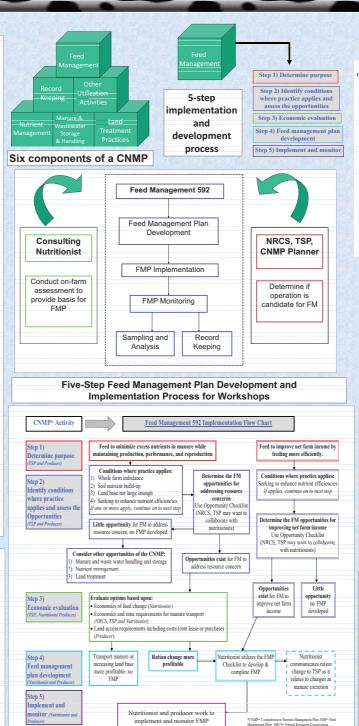
In 2003, the Western SARE funded a multi-state Professional Development project entitled "Feed Management Education in Nutrition and Nutrient Management for Livestock and Poultry Professionals." The success of the SARE Professional Development project provided the basis from which to submit a grant to the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service to expand the SARE-funded project to the national

In 2005 an education project that is national in scope was funded by the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Innovation grant program. The project has developed, tested, evaluated, and implemented a National Feed Management Education Program and Assessment Tools as part of a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan.

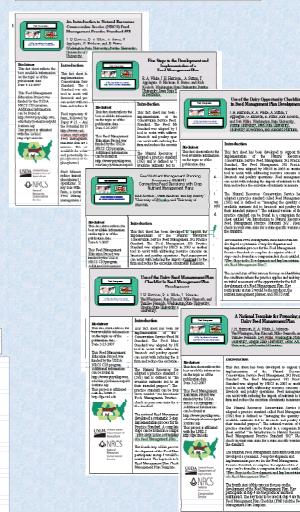
The project is designed to encourage adoption of Feed Management practices that have a positive impact on soil, water, and air quality. The goal of the proposed project is to assist NRCS staff and agricultural professionals to increase their understanding of Feed Management, and its impacts on Environmental Sustainability of Livestock and Poultry Operations

#### Specific outcomes are:

- 1) develop educational materials that are applicable at the national level,
- 2) provide training for NRCS staff, agricultural professionals, and technical service providers (TSPs) in feed management concepts and practices that minimize import of nutrients to the farm,
- 3) provide training in the use of computer models and software for strategic ration balancing, whole farm nutrient balance, and nutrient excretion estimates based upon feed and animal performance inputs,
- 4) develop a chapter for the NRCS Agricultural Waste Management Field Handbook (AWMFH) on Feed Management.



## **Development and implementation tools**



#### Location of Education Products and Training Workshops

Location of Fact Sheets

http://www.puyallup.wsu.edu/dairy/nutrient-management/publications.asp

Location of Electronic Tools

http://www.puyallup.wsu.edu/dairy/nutrient-management/software.asp

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