



## **Fertility Management Workshop**

**Monday, September 8, 2008 4:00 PM—8:30 PM**

**This workshop will be held at the Southeast Purdue Ag Center  
at Butlerville**

The following is a list of topics that will be discussed along with input by specialist from Purdue and other retail professionals.

### **Fertility plots at SEPAC**

See long term results of various levels of P & K

### **Keeping Nutrients in Balance**

How does shortage of phosphorus affect nitrogen availability?

Soil sampling methods

Compare whole field, grid sampling, sampling by soil type

How has this year's soil erosion affected nutrients?

Services available from a soil testing lab

### **Fertilizer Availability and Pricing for 2009**

Using Chicken or Hog Manure to replace commercial fertilizer

Application methods for liquid manure in a no-till system

**A light meal will be provided. Reservations are preferred but not required.**

To **RSVP** call the SWCD at 346-3411 ext 3.

## 2008 Fall Tree Sale

The SWCD will be hosting a Fall Tree Sale again this year. Some of the trees available are: Autumn Blaze Maple, Red Sunset Maple, River Birch, Persimmon, Norway Spruce, White Pine, Swamp White Oak, Pin Oak, Shumard Oak, and Baldcypress. Shrubs that will be available are: Autumn Brilliance Serviceberry, Winterberry Holly, Common Ninebark, Blackhaw Viburnum, and American Cranberry Bush.

Prices vary and other tree types may be available. If you are interested in purchasing trees or shrubs please let us know.

Order deadline is Friday, September 12th and trees/shrubs will be available for pickup at the SWCD on September 17th

To order stop by the office or call 346-3411 ext.3

## Announcing Additional Money for EQIP

Agriculture Secretary Ed Schafer announced an additional \$200 million will be made available through the 2008 Farm Bill to help farmers nationwide to solve natural resource problems through the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP). USDA's Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) administers EQIP, which provides financial and technical assistance to producers.

"These additional funds will help our Indiana farmers in addressing critical natural resource issues," said NRCS District Conservationist Jenny Vogel. "With this announcement, Indiana will receive \$9 million through EQIP that will help us fund a large number of the 402 EQIP applications in backlog."

Voluntary incentive-based programs like EQIP are the key to helping producers meet their conservation goals and provide the public with important benefits such as cleaner water, improved air quality, healthy soils, and abundant wildlife.

Vogel said, "Because of the June 2008 floods, many of our farmers in Indiana are facing serious damage on their land. With the additional EQIP funds, \$1 million will be applied to repair existing EQIP conservation practices that were damaged by the devastating floods. This money could not have come at a better time."

EQIP, which was reauthorized in the 2008 Farm Bill, helps farmers and ranchers improve agricultural production while protecting environmental quality. EQIP helps producers install or implement structural and management practices on private agricultural land.

Limited resource producers and beginning farmers and ranchers may be eligible for higher rates in EQIP to address their natural resource issues. USDA can provide incentive payments to encourage producers to adopt conservation practices that would result in extra environmental benefits.

For additional information about EQIP, please visit <http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/2008eqip/eqip2008.html>.

## Soil Testing Assistance Available at SWCD

Farmers interested in soil testing for crop or pasture fields can get assistance from the Jennings County Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD). The SWCD recently received a grant to promote soil testing of farm lands in the county in an effort to reduce runoff of nutrients into our streams. Some of the grant funds will be available to cost-share with farmers for soil testing.

The soil testing will be for cropland and pastureland only. The SWCD will offer \$4 cost share on a standard field test sample. If you choose to have grid sampling the SWCD will offer a cost share of \$1/acre with a maximum of \$250 per producer.

We have negotiated special soil sample rates with Kova, Jackson-Jennings Co-Op, and Crop Production Services if you participate in this program through the SWCD.

In addition, the SWCD is cooperating with A & L Great Lakes lab at Fort Wayne to provide soil test results. Farmers may bring samples to the SWCD office to be sent on to the lab with the SWCD covering the sample shipping cost. Results will come back to the SWCD, which will provide assistance for interpreting results and making recommendations for fertilizer and lime. The SWCD has bags for soil samples, soil probes to lend out for taking samples, and will provide assistance for those needing it for proper methods to collect soil samples. For more information, contact the SWCD office at 812-346-3411 X3.

## Items for Sale or Rent at Your Local SWCD

The Jennings County Soil and Water Conservation District has the following available for sale.

2006 Plat Books \$20.00 Plat Wall Maps \$195.00 Electronic Plats \$50.00

Geo-Textile Fabric \$1.90 per linear foot (this works great for landscaping also)

Marking Flags \$3.00 (per 25)

We also have available for rent the following equipment. (reserve early)

No-Till Drill \$8.00 per acre (minimum \$75)

Warm-Season Grass Drill \$8.00 per acre (minimum \$75)

Brillion Seeder \$8.00 per acre (minimum \$25)

## An Opportunity to Learn More About No-Till

The 2009 National No-Till Conference will be held in Indianapolis on January 14 to 17, 2009. The Soil and Water Conservation District is offering to pay the registration fee for up to ten Jennings county farmers who would like to attend. This conference features farmers from all over the country sharing no-till experiences and has been described by past attendees as one of the best learning experiences available for no-tillers. Shane Meier attended last year's conference in Cincinnati and said, "It is definitely worth attending. It is an opportunity to compare what I am doing with other farmers and exchange ideas on what works in no-till."

Anyone wanting to attend the conference can go to the No-Till Farmer web site, [www.notillfarmer.com](http://www.notillfarmer.com), to get the registration information and learn more about the conference. There is a \$30.00 discount for registration before September 1<sup>st</sup>. The SWCD will reimburse attendees who present proof of attendance after attending the conference. This offer is limited to one reimbursement per farm operation and we would appreciate knowing of your interest in advance. For more information, contact the SWCD office at 346-3411 X3.