

AGENDA
 July 21, 2022
 10:00 AM-12:00 PM
 Agriculture Workgroup Conference Call

Conference Call Information

Join Zoom Meeting: <https://umces-edu.zoom.us/j/88394927738>

Meeting ID: 883 9492 7738

Passcode: 12567

Phone: +1 301 715 8592 US (Washington DC)

Calendar Page:

https://www.chesapeakebay.net/what/event/agriculture_workgroup_conference_call_july_2022

*To enter the webinar, please open the webinar link first. After opening the webinar, either elect to join via computer audio or via phone call. If you select phone, **please ensure you enter the participant ID.**

Workgroup Areas of Focus

Accounting & Reporting • Implementation • Innovation

Data & Modeling • CBP Assignments

10:00 **Welcome, introductions, roll-call, review meeting minutes**

Workgroup Chair

- Roll-call of the governance body
- Roll-call of the meeting participants- *Please enter name and affiliation under "Participants" or in "Chat" box*
- Approval of [minutes](#) from the June AgWG call

Data & Modeling/Accounting & Reporting

10:05 **Crediting Winter Cover (20 min)**

Loretta Collins

Loretta Collins, UMD- AgWG Coordinator, will continue the June discussion regarding a request to consider nutrient reduction crediting for winter forage crops as a beneficial alternative to winter fallow cropland.

Accounting & Reporting

10:25 **PA Commodity Cover Crop Tracking & Reporting (15 min)**

Ted Tesler

PA has developed a means to collect and report annual commodity cover crop BMP information for annual implementation progress scenarios. Ted Tesler, PA DEP, returns to request approval from the AgWG of the calculation method to estimate commodity cover crop BMP acres utilizing data from roadside transect surveys and CAST land use acres, as described on the [May](#) and [June](#) AgWG calls.

*commodity cover crop BMP = winter small grain that receives no fall application of nitrogen, rather scavenging available residual soil nitrogen. The small grain may be fertilized per agronomic recommendations in the spring and is harvested as a commodity small grain.

Decision: The AgWG is asked to approve the calculation method presented by PA for use in estimating commodity cover crop BMP implementation and reporting annual BMP implementation progress, utilizing roadside transect survey data and CAST estimated land use acres for relevant cropland.

10:40 **Cover Crop Tracking Pilot Study (30 min)** T. Tesler, M. Royer & A. Cook
PA DEP is working with PSU to utilize existing data from producer surveys, roadside transect surveys, and possible other relevant sources to enhance tracking and reporting of cover crop implementation in PA counties. Ted Tesler, DEP, Matt Royer, PSU, and Aaron Cook, PSU will provide an introduction and outline of the pilot project with more details to come in August.

11:10 **BREAK (5 min)**

CBP Assignments/Data & Modeling

11:15 **Moving Forward: Addressing Ag Inputs in Phase 7 (30 min)** Tom Butler
Tom Butler, EPA, will review an updated draft charge for the AgWG's role in Phase 7 Watershed Model development and based on AgWG feedback received after the June AgWG call. Tom is seeking approval of the Agricultural Modeling Team charge and call for nominations.

Decision: The AgWG is asked to approve the proposed Phase 7 Agricultural Modeling Team charge and call for nominations.

11:45 **New Business & Announcements (5 min)**

- **Update on Fertilizer Data Concerns**
- **Reducing Pollution Indicator (RPI) updated using 2021 Progress**
 - <https://www.chesapeakeprogress.com/clean-water/watershed-implementation-plans>
- **Ag Progress Days (PA): August 9-11**
 - More Info [here](#)
- **2022 Ag Census Key Dates:**
 - November 2022 – ag census mails out and data collection begins
 - February 6, 2023 – response deadline
 - 2024 (TBD) – data release

The Census of Agriculture is a complete count of U.S. farms and ranches and the people who operate them. Even small plots of land - whether rural or urban - growing fruit, vegetables or some food animals count if \$1,000 or more of such products were raised and sold, or normally would have been sold, during the Census year. The Census of Agriculture, taken only once every five years, looks at land use and ownership, operator characteristics, production practices, income and expenditures. For America's farmers and ranchers, the Census of Agriculture is their voice, their future, and their opportunity. - <https://www.nass.usda.gov/AgCensus/>

- **Animal Mortality Expert Panel Technical Appendix**
 - Most recent draft technical appendix available [here](#)- CBPO working through revisions based on feedback. Date for next WTWG discussion TBD.
 - Contact Jeremy Hanson (hansonj@chesapeake.org) with questions/comments.
- **ASA, CSSA & SSSA International Annual Meeting: Nov 6-9**
 - Baltimore, Maryland
 - More information here: <https://www.acsmeetings.org/>
 - July 12 – Abstract submission deadline
 - Oct 3 - Early registration deadline

- October 14 – Standard registration deadline
- **Other Announcements?** - send to Jackie Pickford (Pickford.Jacqueline@epa.gov) for inclusion in “Recap” email

11:55 **Review of Action and Decision Items (5 min)**

12:00 **Adjourn**

Next Meeting:

Thursday, August 18: 10AM-12PM, Call-in Zoom

*Common Abbreviations

AgWG- [Agriculture Workgroup](#)

BMP- Best Management Practice

BMPVAHAT- [BMP Verification Ad Hoc Action Team](#)

CAST- [Chesapeake Assessment Scenario Tool](#) (user interface for the CBP Watershed Model)

CBP- [Chesapeake Bay Program](#)

CBPO- Chesapeake Bay Program Office (houses EPA and myriad contractors and grantees working towards CBP goals)

CBW-Chesapeake Bay Watershed

CRC- [Chesapeake Research Consortium](#)

EPA- [United States] Environmental Protection Agency

NEIEN- National Environmental Information Exchange Network

NFWF- [National Fish and Wildlife Foundation](#)

PA DEP- Pennsylvania Department of Environmental Protection

STAC- Scientific & Technical Advisory Committee

WQGIT- [Water Quality Goal Implementation Team](#)

WTWG- [Watershed Technical Workgroup](#)

UMCES- University of Maryland Center for Environmental Science

UMD- University of Maryland

USDA-ARS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Agricultural Research Service*

USDA-NASS- United States Department of Agriculture-*National Agricultural Statistics Service* USDA-NRCS- United States Department of Agriculture-*Natural Resources Conservation Service*