



United States Department of Agriculture

Research, Education and Economics  
Agricultural Research Service

April 25, 2007

**Subject:** Minutes of the Environmental Management System Committee Meeting  
on April 25, 2007

**To:** Location EMS Committee Members  
Research Leaders

**From:** Tamara Snipes, Chemist/EMS Coordinator

The EMS Committee met on April 25, 2007 at 11:00 AM in the CPMRU Conference Room. T. Snipes, K. Marchant, J. Merriman, T. Strickland, T. Hendricks, P. Timper, T. Maze, and R. Hornbuckle were the committee members in attendance.

The annual EMS Awareness Training was held during UGA/USDA Safety Week, February 21-23, 2007. The presentation was finalized then presented by P. Timper during three sessions. The incorporation of EMS training with Safety Week seemed to work well and most USDA, as well as several state employees, attended one of the three sessions. Those who were unable to attend one of the sessions completed the training requirement online. All training was completed on April 4, 2007.

Recycling pickups have been an issue over the past several months with recyclables piling up in our storage areas. Bert Crowe, Recycling Superintendent for Tift County, was contacted several times concerning the problems. He explained that he had personnel problems and that things should resume to a normal schedule. We finally had a recycling pickup earlier this month. If problems remain, we will continue to work with Bert Crowe and discuss some alternatives for disposing of our recyclables.

Beth Anderson, Environmental Protection Specialist, replaced Mike Dobbins in the Area Office. She plans to have an EMS Coordinator teleconference on May 2, 2007. Committee members are also invited to listen, if interested. I will be forwarding all correspondence concerning the teleconference to committee members as it is received. Ms. Anderson also is willing to do on-site EMS training in FY08.

We briefly discussed completing the targets that were set for FY06 and FY07. Several should be finished soon. We discussed with T. Maze the possible tracking of one product, such as paper, instead of establishing a tracking system for all environmentally related items.

The next meeting of the Location EMS Committee will be scheduled tentatively for July 2007.



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