



## **USDA-CSREES 2006 National Water Quality Conference**

### [Environmental Education for Agricultural Producers](#)

#### OSU/OCC Demonstration Farm

Delaware County, OK (located in the Northeast corner of the state) is home to high levels of both, agricultural production and natural water resources. In our continuing efforts to maintain a balance between the two, we have developed a demonstration farm. The farm is a privately owned cattle ranch in Jay, OK. Oklahoma State University is a partner with the Oklahoma Conservation Commission in this project. The purpose is to exhibit economically efficient conservation practices, called "Best Management Practices", for local producers to tour. OSU's involvement is educational with fall and spring producer tours and a summer youth camp for the life of the project.

Delaware County's leading agricultural commodity is poultry with beef second and dairy third. Education of poultry producers, poultry litter applicators, and producers who use poultry litter has been of increasing importance over the last seven years. This farm gives us a tool to actually tour and look at BMP's as part of our educational efforts rather than just a classroom setting.

Production practices currently on the farm include: riparian exclusion, alternative water sources, beef feeding facility, cross fencing, permanent forage establishment, stream crossing, and wildlife areas. Other projects on the farm include a test plot comparing poultry litter to commercial fertilizer, three run-off water plots, rain simulator demonstration, and soil sampling variability study. Also as part of the project we, Delaware Co. Ext., is to help area producers with ranch plans that would involve better conservation practices and more economic production.

We are very excited about our demonstration farm and would like to share our information with everyone.

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