



USDA-CSREES 2006 National Water Quality Conference

[WebCT Certified Animal Waste Vendor Training](#)

Alabama started one of the first certified animal waste vendor (CAWV) programs in the United States in 2000. For the first three two-year certification cycles, traditional Extension face-to-face group meetings were the training method. In 2004, increasing manpower and budget restraints dictated the development of an innovative WebCT-based computer training and Education Verification program. The program became widely available in early May 2005. The free two-hour training course is followed by a fee-based Education Verification Final Exam course. Results of the on-line Education Verification Final Exam are forwarded to the certification partner, Alabama Department of Agriculture and Industries (ADAI). ADAI issues a CAWV # pocket card for CAWV registration status verification with customers. Clients not interested in CAWV certification may also take the free two-hour training course and for a minimal fee, request a two-hour continuing education certificate for continuing education documentation under the Alabama Department of Environmental Management (ADEM) animal feeding operation rule. A brief description of the WebCT course set-up, including self-help review tests and sequenced access to succeeding modules, will be presented. Initial reaction of clientele to this radical departure from traditional extension education methods will be shared. Plans are to expand WebCT offerings to include other on-line courses for ADEM required animal feeding operation/ confined animal feeding operation (AFO/CAFO) continuing education.

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