



USDA-CSREES 2007 National Water Quality Conference

Diagnosing Well Related Problems Utilizing Digital Camera Video Recording Technology

Water quality and quantity issues are important to all facets of society. For the most part, water quality and quantity is something we all take for granted until problems arise such as lack of water, cloudy or discolored water, pump problems, and safety and health issues. When these problems arise, it is necessary to look at the source of the problem for possible diagnosis. Our job as County Extension Agents is to disseminate information, utilize teachable moments, diagnose problems, and recommend possible solutions that will enhance a more healthy and prosperous life. When some of these water related issues arose in Colquitt County, we utilized the WELL-VU™ Video Assistance System to inspect several wells looking at possible problems such as joint seal, leaks, grouting and sealing, casing construction, and other natural phenomenon. One particular well was inspected at a Colquitt County poultry house and revealed that the well had collapsed below the casing causing sediment problems. The well driller was able to pinpoint the depth and fix the problem with some well screening. A different well inspection at a home revealed that there was some type of natural formation just below the casing that was emitting some type of gas (possibly carbon dioxide) which in turn was causing problems with the pump. The well driller was able to lower the casing and solve the problem. Grant money made available through UGA College of Agriculture and Environmental Sciences has now allowed each extension district within the state to purchase one of these video systems to be utilized in our programming. By digitally video recording the well session, we are able to upload the video via internet in a compressed format in order for experts from around the world to view the problem and offer possible solutions.

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