



USDA-CSREES 2007 National Water Quality Conference

Development of a Irrigation Runoff Self Assment for the Greenhouse and Nursery Industry in San Diego County

We developed a water quality self assessment as part of a large-scale educational program designed to assist the local greenhouse and nursery industry in meeting stringent regulatory requirements regarding irrigation runoff. Local stormwater ordinances prohibit irrigation runoff from entering any brow ditch, water body, storm drain or other part of the municipal water transport system in the county. Growers are inspected on a regular basis and have had to design and implement systems to minimize runoff and capture irrigation runoff that could potentially cause a water quality problem. This self assessment assists them in identifying problem areas within their growing operations through a series of yes/no questions, and assists them in developing practices to keep them in compliance with local regulations.

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