



USDA-CSREES 2007 National Water Quality Conference

[Heartland Nutrient and Pesticide Management: Making an Impact](#)

Nonpoint pollution from agriculture is the principal source of water quality impairment throughout the Midwestern states. Nutrients and pesticides are considered to be nonpoint source pollutants and may have adverse effects if applied improperly. These detrimental effects include potential contamination of drinking water supplies and recreation waters. The Heartland Nutrient and Pesticide Management (NPM) Team facilitates multi-state and inter-agency communication to promote the use of agricultural best management practices (BMPs) that aid in the reduction of nonpoint source pollution. Increasing communication and sharing of research findings throughout the region promotes regional collaboration on BMP implementation for existing and future projects as well as reducing the duplication of research efforts. In effort to achieve their objective, the NPM Team developed an approach that addresses three priority nutrient and pesticide issues while building capacity throughout the region. Communication has been increased through a series of research roundtables and workshops where current research information was shared between IA, KS, MO and NE land grant universities (LGUs), as well as state and federal environmental and agricultural agencies. This information was then disseminated through the NPM team's award winning website. Regional collaboration accomplished by the NPM Team's dynamic approach includes publication of multi-state and inter-agency papers on priority topics. Additional publications are currently in development. Multi-state, integrated research and extension projects developed as a result of NPM regional collaboration have successfully competed for USDA-CSREES 406 program funding. Capacity-building with a Kansas Tribal College is among one of the team's top accomplishments as is training events held throughout the states. This poster presentation will demonstrate the team's approach to achieving their objectives and all their accomplishments in doing so. Results of a stakeholder focus group including agency and LGU personnel throughout the region demonstrate that the NPM team is indeed 'Making an Impact'.

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