

# North Dakota Beef Producers Adopt Manure Composting

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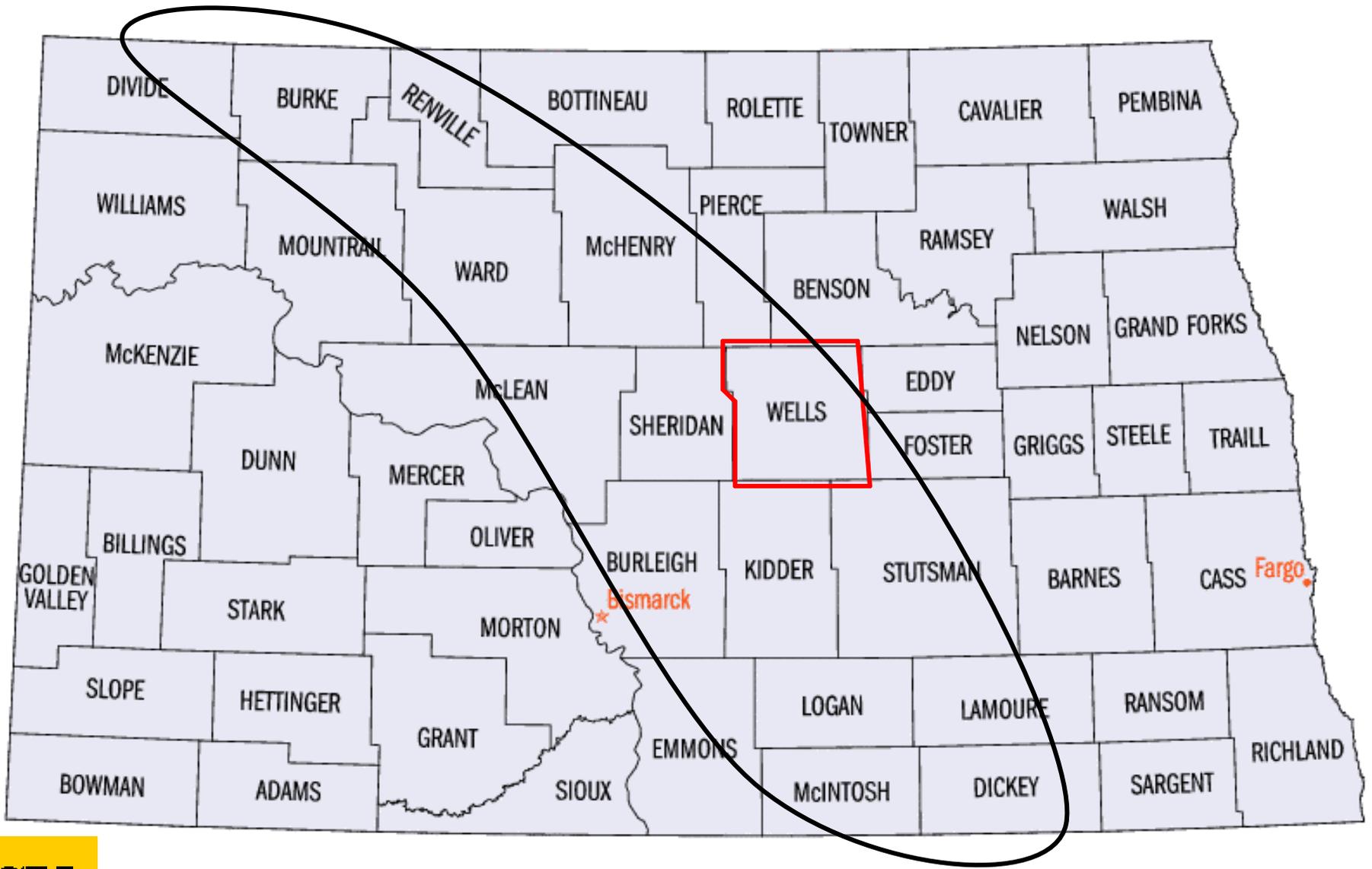
Savannah, GA

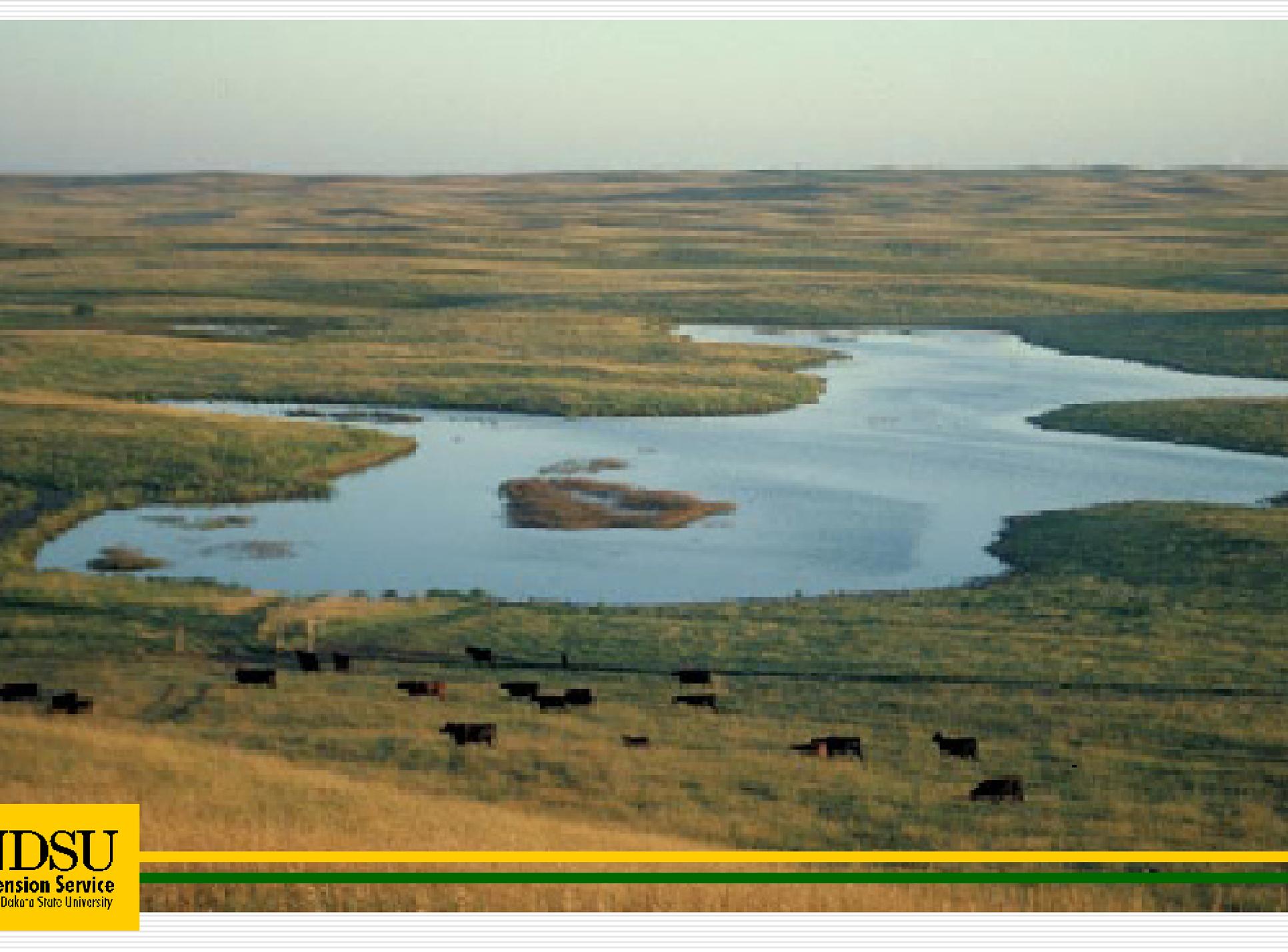
07/10/2006

# Background

- ▶ Interest in composting shown by producers throughout the state
- ▶ Wells County SCD received NRCS CIG in 2005







# CIG Background

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- Three Phase Project
  - Introduction/Education Phase (Winter '05-'06)
  - Demonstration Phase (Summer '06)
  - Implementation Phase (2007)

# I & E Phase

- Public meetings held to increase awareness
  - News releases, articles
- One-on-one meetings with producers
  - Site visits to determine suitability for project



# Demonstration Phase

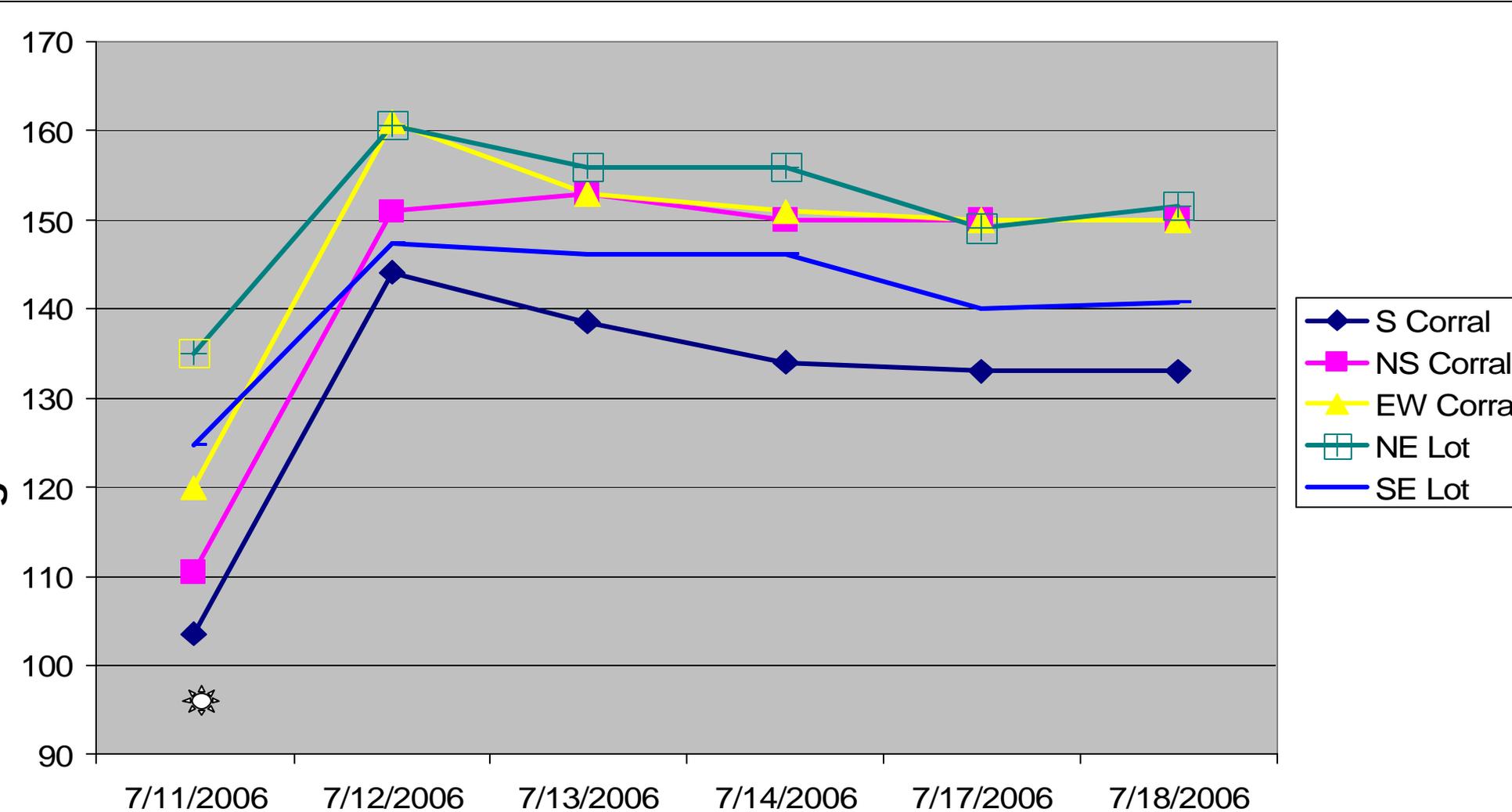
- Four farms agreed to participate
  - They were responsible for getting manure in windrows
  - Wells SCD did the turning and managing



# Demonstration Phase



# Compost Temps Over Time



# Demonstration Phase



- Field day held to showcase project
  - Data collected was shared with participants
  - Results showed no overall time savings for producer
    - Less manure to haul but took time to make windrows and turn
  - Assumed economic benefit



# Implementation Phase

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- Signing contracts with producers for incentive payments
  - Payment on a per ton basis with limits
  - Participants must have CNMP
  - All four cooperators are going to continue to compost

# Conclusion

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## Classic SCD program

- Unexpected participation by area farmers
- Method of getting “foot in the door” for other conservation work—spreader calibration, etc.

## SCD board looking ahead

- Manure spreader?

