

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
AGRICULTURAL AIR QUALITY TASK FORCE**

**USEPA/USDA Cooperative Research in Air Quality**

**Background**

At the March 1, 2006 AAQTF meeting, cooperative research between the USEPA and the USDA was presented as an opportunity. Previous charters of the AAQTF have recommended a comprehensive cooperative research/technology transfer program between the USEPA and USDA. The AAQTF at the June meeting in Amarillo recommended research priorities in the following areas:

- Developing PM<sub>2.5</sub>, PM<sub>10</sub>, NH<sub>3</sub>, H<sub>2</sub>S, Odor, and VOC Emissions/Emission Factors/Process-Based Modeling for High-Priority, Targeted Agricultural Practices.
- Establishing the Appropriateness of Utilizing PM Samplers Designed for Urban Environments in a Rural Setting.
- Developing Accurate Dispersion Models.
- Developing Management Plans and Control Technologies.
- Evaluating the Impact of New Diesel Rules on Agricultural Operations.
- Evaluating Agricultural Contributions to National Air Quality Initiatives.
- Assessing the Role of Agricultural NH<sub>3</sub> Emissions in the Formation of Ammonium Nitrate Particulate Matter.
- Evaluating Pathogens and Other Constituents from AFO/CAFOs.

**Recommendation**

The AAQTF recommends that the USEPA and USDA consult on a joint air quality extramural research program that incorporates recommendations of the AAQTF Research Committee.

The Agricultural Air Quality Task Force (AAQTF) advises the Secretary of Agriculture on issues relating to agricultural air quality. Consistent with the Federal Advisory Committee Act, the AAQTF is utilized solely for advisory functions. Determinations of action to be taken and policy to be expressed with respect to matters upon which the AAQTF reports or makes recommendations shall be made solely by the Secretary of Agriculture or an authorized officer of the Federal Government.