

ENVIRONMENT

Title: Development of a National Air Quality Self Assessment Tool (NAQSAT) for swine producers - NPB #07-013

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Scientific Abstract: Air emissions continue to be an important area for management by livestock producers. How to reduce emissions in an effective and affordable manner is of considerable challenge. The objective of this project was to develop an easy-to-use tool that would help swine producers identify where in their operation they could best make management changes in order to reduce air emissions that were identified as a priority by the individual producer. To accomplish our objectives, we assembled a team from 13 states that included researchers, Extension Educators, and industry representatives to develop a tool. The tool needed to be easy to use, based on scientific data, not take much time, able to be used by a producer or their advisor, and accessible to anyone who wished to use it. The intent was not to develop emissions estimates nor rank a producer relative to peers, but to identify how best to address emissions within the confines of existing structures on the operation. The product meets these criteria and provides an opportunity for a user to test the impact a change in behavior or practices will have on resulting emissions from an operation. The product also makes it easy to see how a change to reduce one the emission of a selected pollutant may impact emissions of other pollutants. The product is free (www.naqsat.tamu.edu) and available for use by anyone with targeted audiences of swine, dairy, beef, and poultry producers or their advisors.

These research results were submitted in fulfillment of checkoff-funded research projects. This report is published directly as submitted by the project's principal investigator. This report has not been peer-reviewed.

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