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Agricultural Outlook Forum
U.S. Department of Agriculture

Presented: February 24-25, 2011

Farm Energy Working Group

Carole Yates

FARM ENERGY working group



Providing energy efficiency, renewable energy opportunities for Iowa's small/mid-sized farming operations



National Center
for Appropriate
Technology

Farm Energy Working Group



Statewide Network

Helping Iowa farmers
increase energy
efficiency, decrease
reliance on fossil
fuels.

Mission

Support research, education, and implementation of a variety of energy conservation, efficiency, and renewable energy practices from on-farm resources to meet the needs of Iowa's small and mid-sized farms.





Farm Energy Accomplishments -- What do we do?

- Learn from each other
- Invited speakers from other states, working group



Learn from each other



Mini-grant Program



Sponsor Workshops

Helped sponsor 3
workshops for REAP
grant writing training



Micro-Scale Biogas Workshop



Example of biomass used to produce biogas and reduce use of propane, natural gas or electric usage.

Field Trips - Energy from the Farm

Farmers Electric
Cooperative (FEC)
Solar Array Program



Field Trips

Leighton Yoder,
Wellman, IA
18 kW Jacobs wind
turbine, 120' tower
\$25,000

-



Pheasant Ridge Farm

Eric & Ann Franzenburg, Van Horne, IA

Corn furnace for water-based heating



Radiance Dairy Farm



Francis & Susan Thicke,
Fairfield, IA

Solar PV to run pump



PV panel near pond -- runs pump to use pond water to fill 4,000 gallon storage tank.

Water is gravity-fed to watering troughs around the dairy farm.

2011-12 Projects

- Develop templates for 3 grant projects, help farmers write
- Develop business plan
- Evaluate work



FARM ENERGY working group

www.ceee.uni.edu/farmenergy.aspx

- Carole Yates
- Rich Dana
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