



COLUMN

The main objective of the Intervention Teams component is to permit linkage between various stakeholders for the implementation of initiatives on pollution reduction, waste reduction, solid and liquid manure treatment, elimination of odours during spreading, and erosion reduction.

Tangible results in Beauce

The action plan established by the Fédération de l'UPA de la Beauce gives priority to reducing odour perception, soil erosion and risks of water pollution by livestock waste.

Here are some of the actions carried out since May 2002:

- identification of 400 wells in the Beauce region, production and distribution of 4,000 pamphlets on the subject
- establishment of seven sites for planting windbreaks and shelterbelts
- demonstrations on ways of preventing direct access to watercourses
- various communication and networking activities to mobilize agricultural producers, technical advisers, the general public, local elected representatives, the media, etc.

Implementation of the action plan is continuing in 2003 with identification of wells, watercourse management and manure storage and analysis.

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Some achievements of the environmental intervention teams

In January 2002, CDAQ launched the Intervention Teams component of its Environment Program. This component is intended to facilitate the implementation of regional agri-environmental action plans and the Union des producteurs agricoles' Environmental Intervention Framework by providing funding for professional assistance. CDAQ funds concrete projects that encourage producers and their partners to take steps toward implementing sustainable agricultural practices on Quebec farms.

Other regions

To date, nearly every Quebec region have developed and submitted a project, obtained a contribution from CDAQ and are already at work. The plans being carried have helped producers to implement on their farms conservation practices to protect water, air and soil. Some regions are working to increase acreage under green manure and minimum tillage, establishing windbreaks and shelterbelts and promoting compliance with spreading distances. Others are focussing on controlling risks of runoff from livestock facilities, limiting livestock access to watercourses and carrying out shoreline management projects.

For more information, please contact agroenvironnemental agents in each Union des producteurs agricoles regional offices.

Achievements in Saguenay-Lac-Saint-Jean

The action plan in this region seeks to increase producers' autonomy in adjusting sprayers, provide training in integrated pest control and implement agri-environmental fertilization plan.

Summary of activities in summer 2002:

- information on the importance of manure analyses and interpretation of results
- organization of six information clinics on pesticides
- adjustment of sprayers in collaboration with agri-environmental advisory clubs
- technical training on pest scouting in vegetable fields
- demonstrations on windbreaks
- training and demonstrations on green manure

The coming months will be dedicated to windbreaks, integrated pest management and watercourse management projects.

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We invite you to contact us for any question or comment on this column or the activities of the CDAQ

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To refer to the list of financially supported projects, please visit the Council's website at: www.cdaq.qc.ca
Since its inception in 1996, the CDAQ administers the producers' share of provincial funds allocated by Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada (AAFC) under the Canadian Adaptation and Rural Development Fund (CARD).