



United States Department of Agriculture



Energy Efficiency Programs at NRCS for the Agricultural Community

Deena Roberts

GA-NRCS

Natural Resources
Conservation Service

Who is NRCS?

- The Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) is a Federal agency within the US Department of Agriculture
- Created in 1935 during the dust bowl, originally named as the Soil Conservation Service (SCS)
- Provide technical and financial assistance to private landowners to help people conserve their natural resources



NRCS is not a regulatory agency

- Provide technical assistance in...
 - natural resource planning
 - design & engineering
 - implementation of techniques used to reduce soil erosion, improve water quality, and protect natural resources

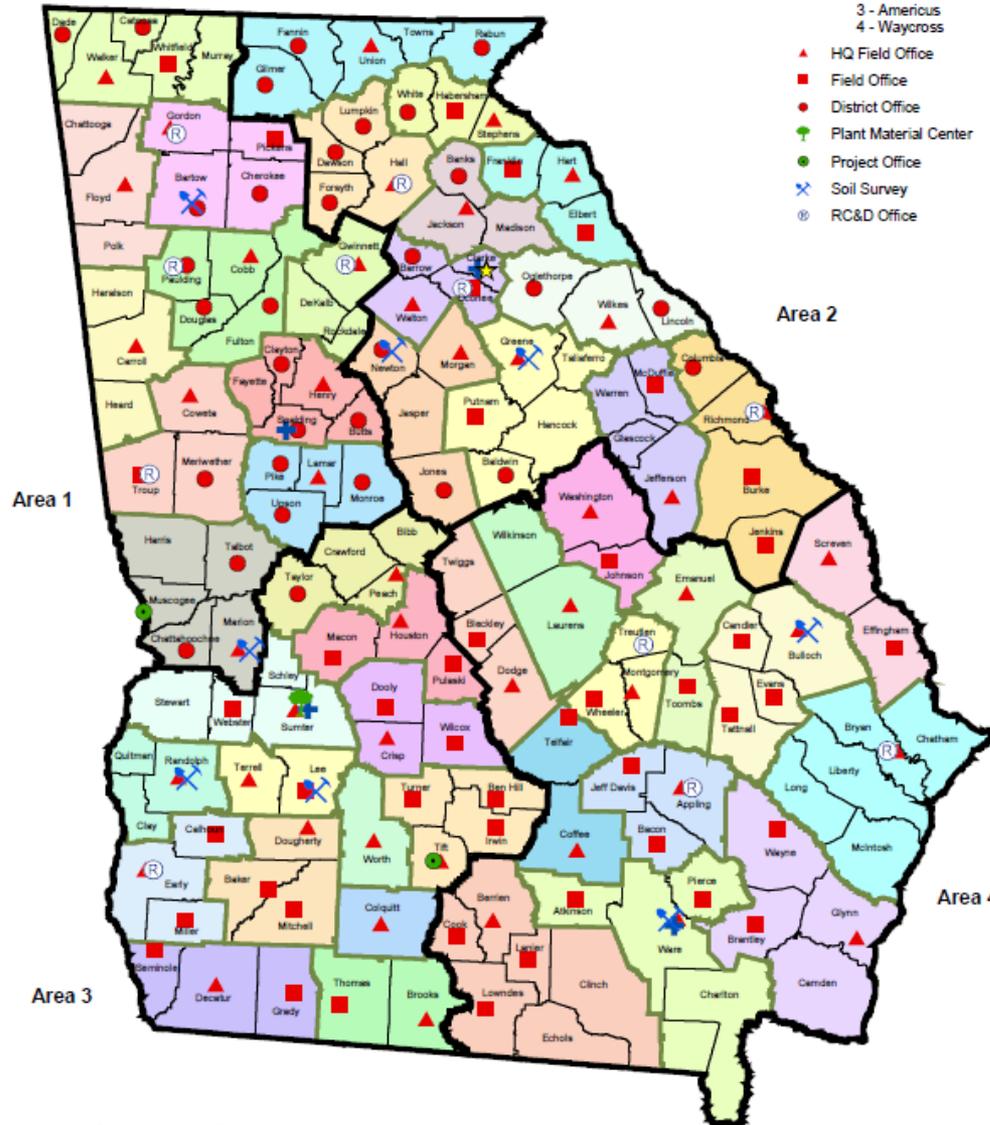


Georgia NRCS

Area and Service Center Boundaries

OFFICE

- ★ State Office - Athens
- ◆ Area Office
 - 1 - Griffin
 - 2 - Athens
 - 3 - Americus
 - 4 - Waycross
- ▲ HQ Field Office
- Field Office
- District Office
- Plant Material Center
- Project Office
- ✕ Soil Survey
- Ⓜ RC&D Office



Serving HABERSHAM County, Georgia

CLARKESVILLE SERVICE CENTER

555 MONROE ST
CLARKESVILLE, GA 30523-7815
(706) 754-6239
(855) 514-3349 fax

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- [Driving Directions](#)
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[Natural Resources Conservation Service](#)
[Rural Development](#)

GAINESVILLE SERVICE CENTER

734 E CRESCENT DR
GAINESVILLE, GA 30501-5082
(770) 536-0549
(855) 558-5122 fax

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[Farm Service Agency](#)

MONROE SERVICE CENTER

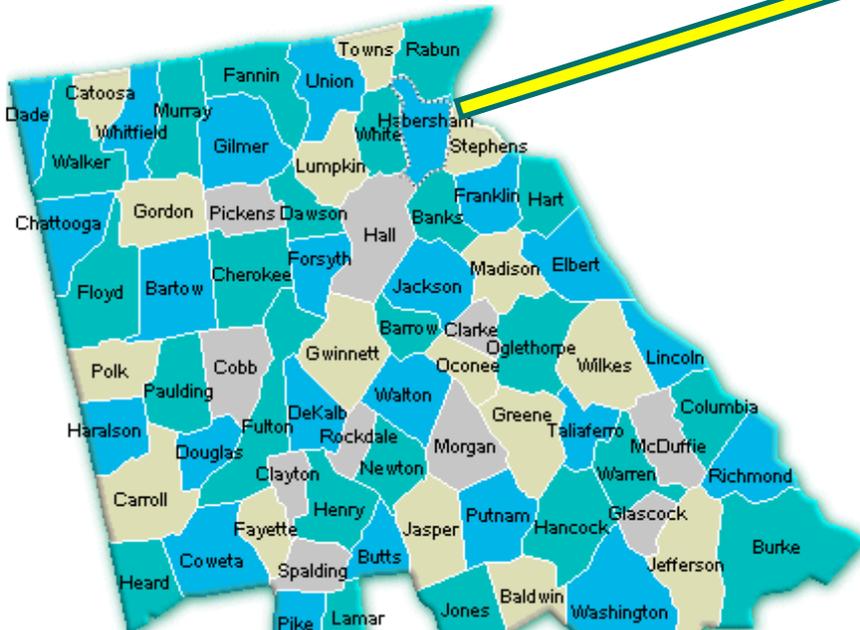
111 E SPRING ST
MONROE, GA 30655
(770) 267-1359
(855) 596-4587 fax

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- [Mailing Address](#)

[Rural Development](#)

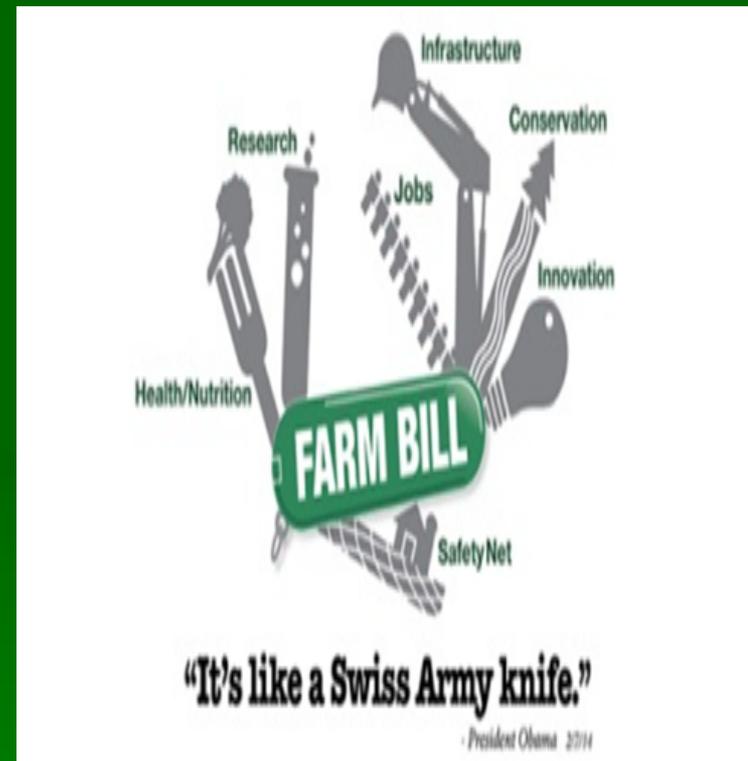
Northern Georgia Counties

Click on the map to select a county



What is the 2014 Farm Bill?

- The Agriculture Act of 2014 (Farm Bill) established the policies and federal funding levels for agriculture, agricultural research, nutrition programs, rural economic development program, and more.
 - Signed by President Obama on February 7, 2014



2014 Farm Bill

- This Farm Bill continues our focus on critical resource concerns – USDA is able to assist farmers, ranchers, non-industrial private forest landowners and other land stewards with addressing the resource issues of today while having the flexibility to address emerging issues.



Conservation Technical Assistance

- One of the original programs developed with the creation of the Agency in 1933.
- Help provided to land users to address opportunities, concerns, and problems related to the use of natural resources and to help land users make sound natural resource management decisions.
- Not a cost share, but free service to the producer.

Conservation Technical Assistance Examples

- Development of Conservation Management Plans to reach producer's goals and objectives of the operation.
- Providing soils information to make management decisions.
- Provide guidance for conservation practice designs and implementation.
- Provide various forms of map products of the operation for producers including aerial, topographic, directional, hydrographic, and soils.



EQIP offers financial and technical assistance to agriculture and forestry producers to address natural resource concerns that may affect the environment.

5 Steps to Assistance

1. **Planning** – Visit local NRCS office and work with staff on a conservation plan
2. **Application** – With the help of NRCS, complete an application
3. **Eligibility** - Find out you're eligibility for NRCS financial assistance
4. **Ranking** - NRCS ranks applications according to local resource concerns
5. **Implementing** – Put conservation to work, sign a contract and implement the conservation practices





General Program Eligibility

- USDA Records Established?
- Farm Number
- Tract Number
- Crops Reported
- Filed/Updated AD-1026 (Highly Erodible Land and Wetland Conservation Certification)
- Filed/Updated CCC-931 (Payment Eligibility Average Adjusted Gross Income (AGI) Certification)
- Filed/Updated CCC-902 (Farm Operating Plan for Payment Eligibility Review)

On Farm Energy Initiative

The Agricultural Act of 2014 (Farm Bill) authorizes the use of EQIP to address energy conservation. The initiative is designed to assist producers in two ways:

- Identify ways to reduce energy use on their farms through development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) 128 Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP), also known as an on-farm energy audit.
- Provide assistance to implement various recommended measures using conservation practice standards that address inefficient use of on-farm energy.

128 Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)

A detailed documentation and inventory of the energy consuming activities and components of the current agricultural operation. The plan will document a typical prior year of on-farm energy consumption, and the strategy by which the producer will explore and prioritize their on-farm energy conservation concerns, objectives, and opportunities. Guidance for completing an on-farm energy audit is given in ANSI/ASABE S612 Performing On-Farm Energy Audits.

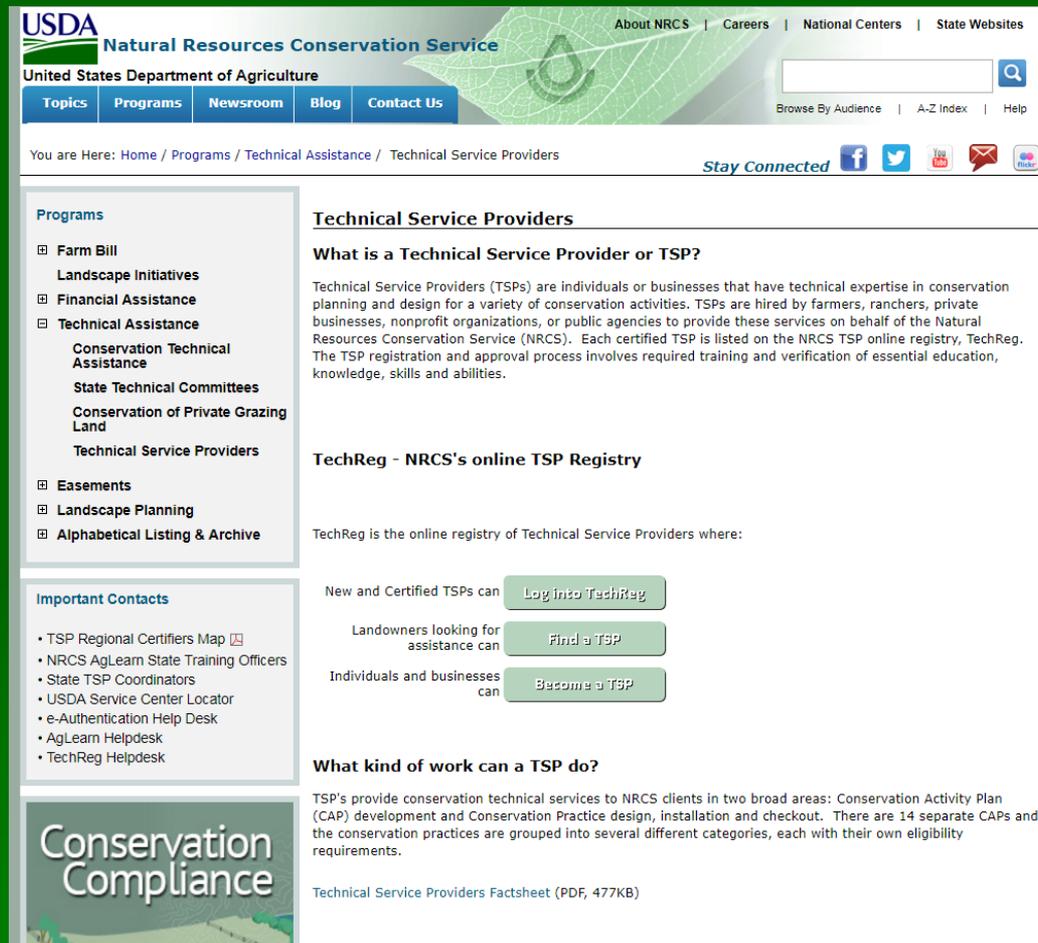
AgEMPs

- Majority of AgEMPs in Georgia are for poultry operations
- A few in Georgia for dairy & greenhouses
- Nationwide: poultry, dairy, greenhouses, grain drying, maple syrup operations

128 Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)

A certified Technical Service Provider (TSP) develops the AgEMP addressing Inefficient Energy Use for the farm enterprises. This will include all relevant enterprises and enterprises requested by the producer. Funding support from the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) is provided through contracts with eligible producers. Producers in turn obtain services from certified TSPs for development of an AgEMP. The TSP proficiency criteria required to develop an AgEMP for an EQIP eligible producer is located on the TSP web site.

128 Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)



USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service
United States Department of Agriculture

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Programs

- Farm Bill
- Landscape Initiatives
- Financial Assistance
- Technical Assistance
 - Conservation Technical Assistance
 - State Technical Committees
 - Conservation of Private Grazing Land
 - Technical Service Providers
- Easements
- Landscape Planning
- Alphabetical Listing & Archive

Important Contacts

- TSP Regional Certifiers Map [↗](#)
- NRCS AgLearn State Training Officers
- State TSP Coordinators
- USDA Service Center Locator
- e-Authentication Help Desk
- AgLearn Helpdesk
- TechReg Helpdesk

Technical Service Providers

What is a Technical Service Provider or TSP?

Technical Service Providers (TSPs) are individuals or businesses that have technical expertise in conservation planning and design for a variety of conservation activities. TSPs are hired by farmers, ranchers, private businesses, nonprofit organizations, or public agencies to provide these services on behalf of the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS). Each certified TSP is listed on the NRCS TSP online registry, TechReg. The TSP registration and approval process involves required training and verification of essential education, knowledge, skills and abilities.

TechReg - NRCS's online TSP Registry

TechReg is the online registry of Technical Service Providers where:

- New and Certified TSPs can [Log into TechReg](#)
- Landowners looking for assistance can [Find a TSP](#)
- Individuals and businesses can [Become a TSP](#)

What kind of work can a TSP do?

TSPs provide conservation technical services to NRCS clients in two broad areas: Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) development and Conservation Practice design, installation and checkout. There are 14 separate CAPs and the conservation practices are grouped into several different categories, each with their own eligibility requirements.

[Technical Service Providers Factsheet \(PDF, 477KB\)](#)

Conservation Compliance

128 Agricultural Energy Management Plan (AgEMP)



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service



Technical Service Provider
Registry

Home
About TechReg
FAQ
Help
Contact Us
Logout

Search USDA

Locate Technical Service Provider

Welcome Guest

[Back to US Map](#) [Back to State Map](#)

Georgia

Select the county, category and service

Select County:

Select Category:

Select Service:

Search for a TSP by First Name, Last Name or TSP Number

First Name: Last Name: TSP Number:

Search for a business or agency

Business/Agency Name:

Technical Service Providers [View/Print TSP List](#)

Name	Type	TSP ID	Address	City	ST	Zip	Phone	eMail	
Booth, Kyle Norman	Individual	TSP-14-9794	65 Millet Street Suite 105	Richmond	VT	05477	8007321399	kyleb@ensave.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
ENSAVE	Business	TSP-B-09-845	65 Millet Street, Suite 105	Richmond	VT	05477	8024341828	amelia@ensave.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
Everly, Bruce O	Individual	TSP-10-6812	7545 Chablis Circle	indianapolis	IN	46278	3172280134	bruce@midwesteim.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
Gagne-Barney, Deborah Marie	Individual	TSP-16-21534	65 Millet Street, Suite 105	Richmond	VT	05477	8024341835	deborah@ensave.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
GDS ASSOCIATES INC	Business	TSP-B-10-878	440 SCIENCE DR STE 400	MADISON	WI	53711	8004418525	agservices@gdsassociates.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
IACocca, MARK	Individual	TSP-11-7736	1000 ELM STREET	Manchester	NH	03105	8562121758	MARK@USAFARMENERGY.COM	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
Mullen, Kathleen Pekrul	Individual	TSP-13-9459	15112 Chilgrove Ln	Huntersville	NC	28078	7047771650	kmullen@PekrulEngineering.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
NESTER, WILLIE	Individual	TSP-03-3361	901 Sea Turtle Cove	Brandon	MS	39047	6012599671	nesterw@bellsouth.net	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
OFF GRID SHELTERS LLC	Business	TSP-B-15-9877	1000 ELM STREET	MANCHESTER	NH	03105	8562121758		<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
Pekrul Engineering PLLC	Business	TSP-B-15-9917	15112 Chilgrove Ln	Huntersville	NC	28078	7047771650	BarnEngineer@gmail.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>
REINHOLTZ, BETHANY	Individual	TSP-09-6412	8098 Pine Brook Dr	Abrams	WI	54101	9202488453	bethany.reinholtz@gdsassociates.com	<input type="button" value="Resume"/>

[Back to US Map](#) [Back to State Map](#)

Energy Practice Implementation

- Practice must be a recommended practice in a Type 2 AgEMP.
- AgEMP must not be older than 4 years
- AgEMP must be completed prior to contract ranking.
- Practice designs may be completed by certified TSP or NRCS.

EQIP Energy Practices

- 374 – Farmstead Energy Improvements
- 670 – Lighting System Improvement
- 672 – Building Envelope Improvement

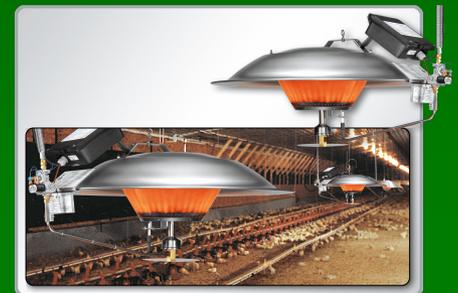
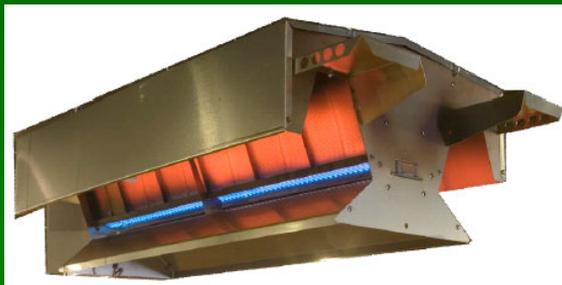
- Most energy practices in Georgia are on poultry operations since Georgia is the largest broiler producer in the United States.
- Most energy practices are related to items used in poultry houses during cold weather.
- Construction can vary on houses.
- Broilers can be in houses from 36 to 52 days depending on the size of bird they are contracted to grow.
- First 14 days they do half house brooding.
- Typical broiler houses:
 - 40' x 400'
 - 40' x 500'
 - 50' x 500'
 - 50' x 600'

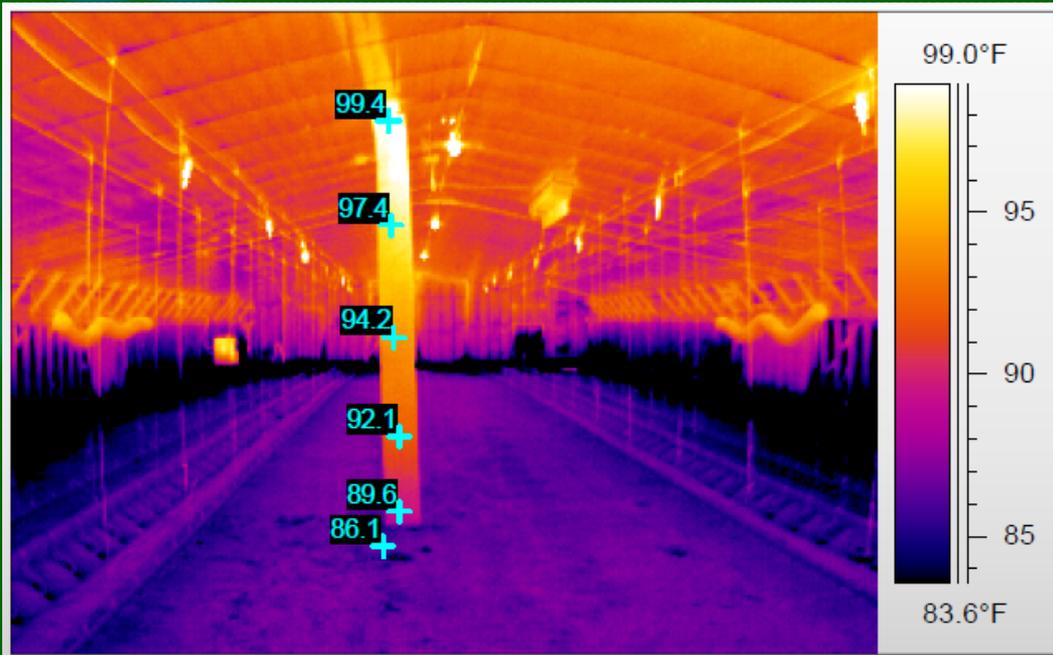
374 – Farmstead Energy Improvement Practices

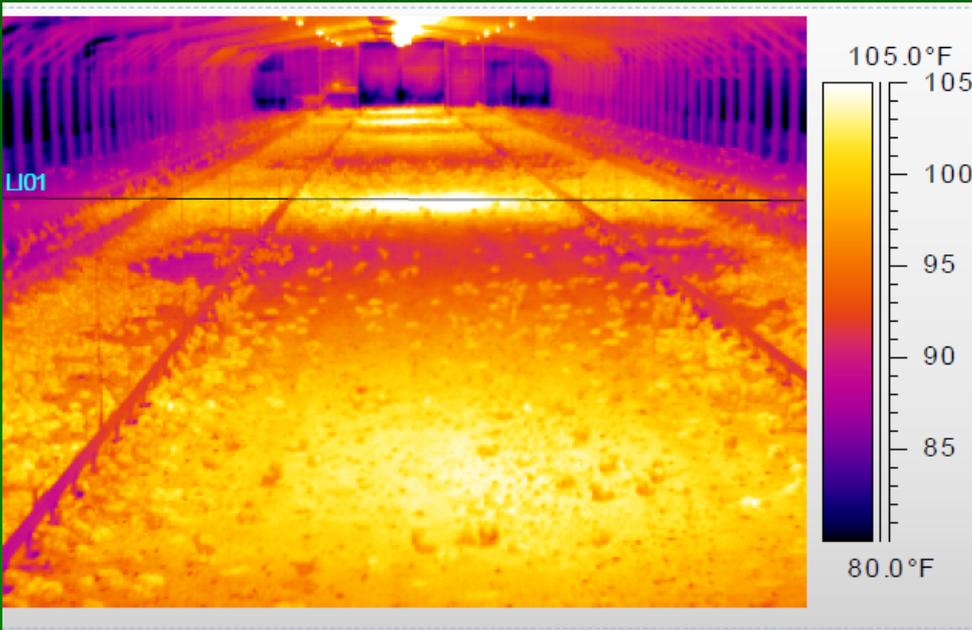
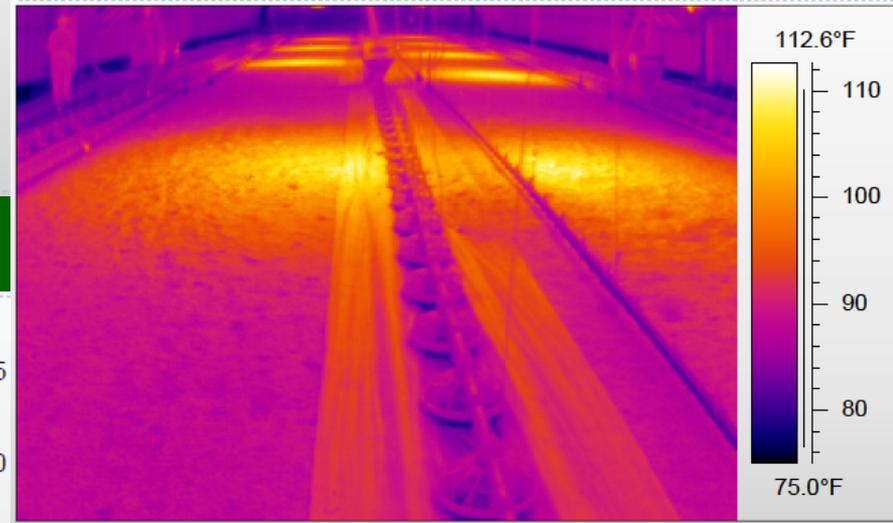
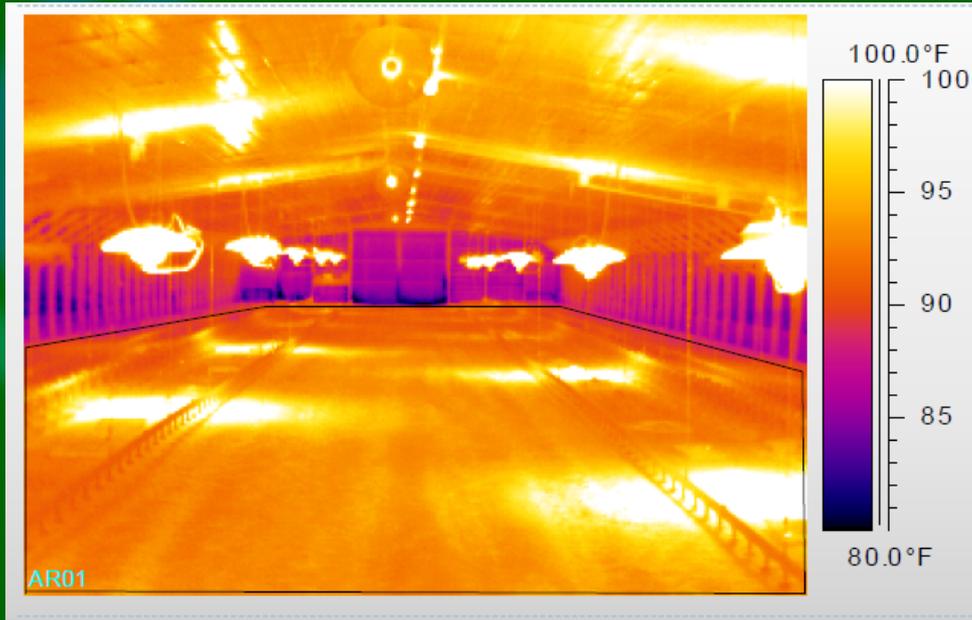
- Radiant heaters
- Stir Fans
- Attic Inlets
- Scroll Compressors
- Motors
- Variable Speed Drives
- Vacuum Pumps
- Heat Recovery Units
- Plate Coolers
- Grain Dryer

Poultry houses today use primarily 5 types of heating systems:

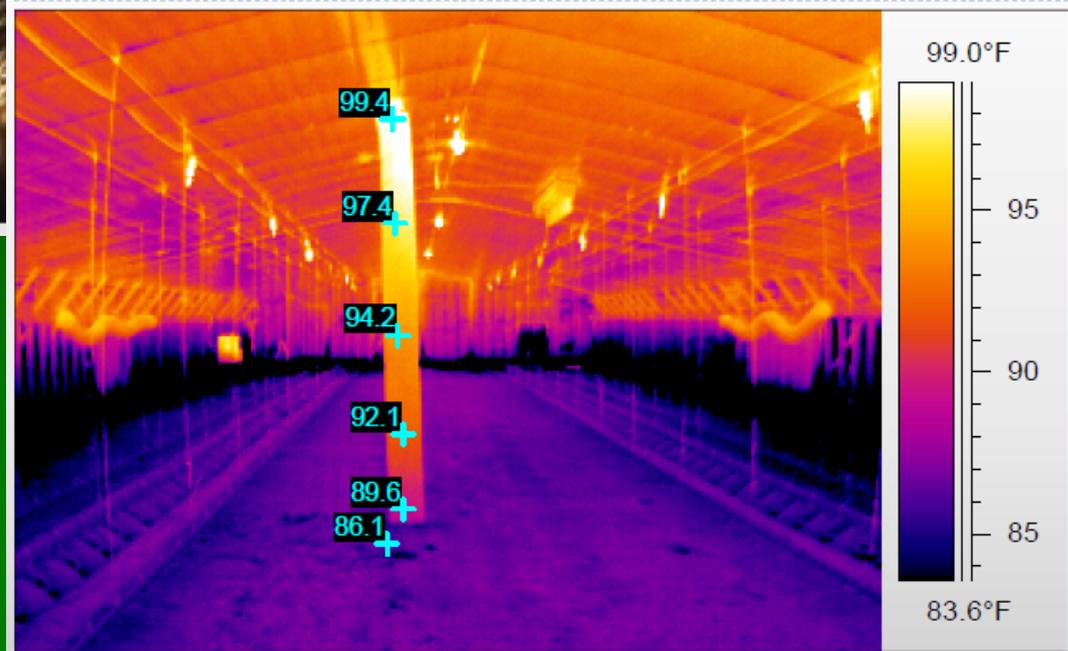
- Forced Air Furnaces
- Conventional Brooders
- Radiant Brooders
- Radiant Tube Heaters
- High Intensity Radiant Heaters





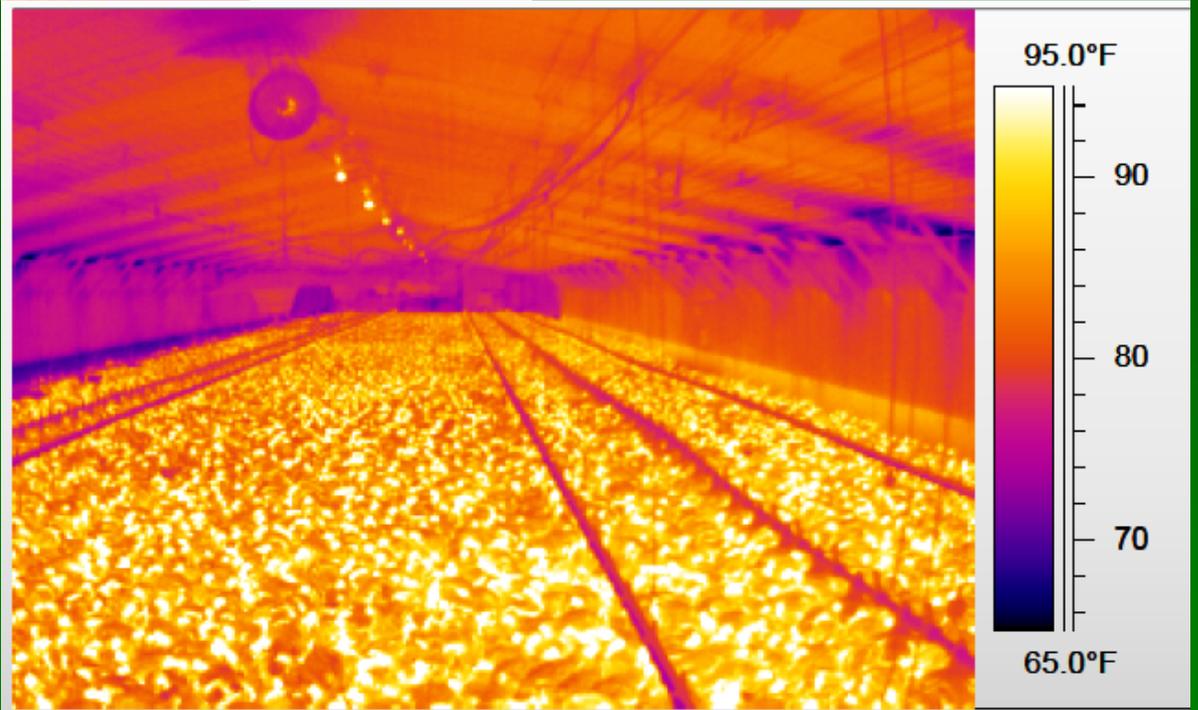


Stir Fans



Side Inlets & Attic Inlets





670- Lighting System Improvement Practices

- Light Bulbs
- Automatic Controller System



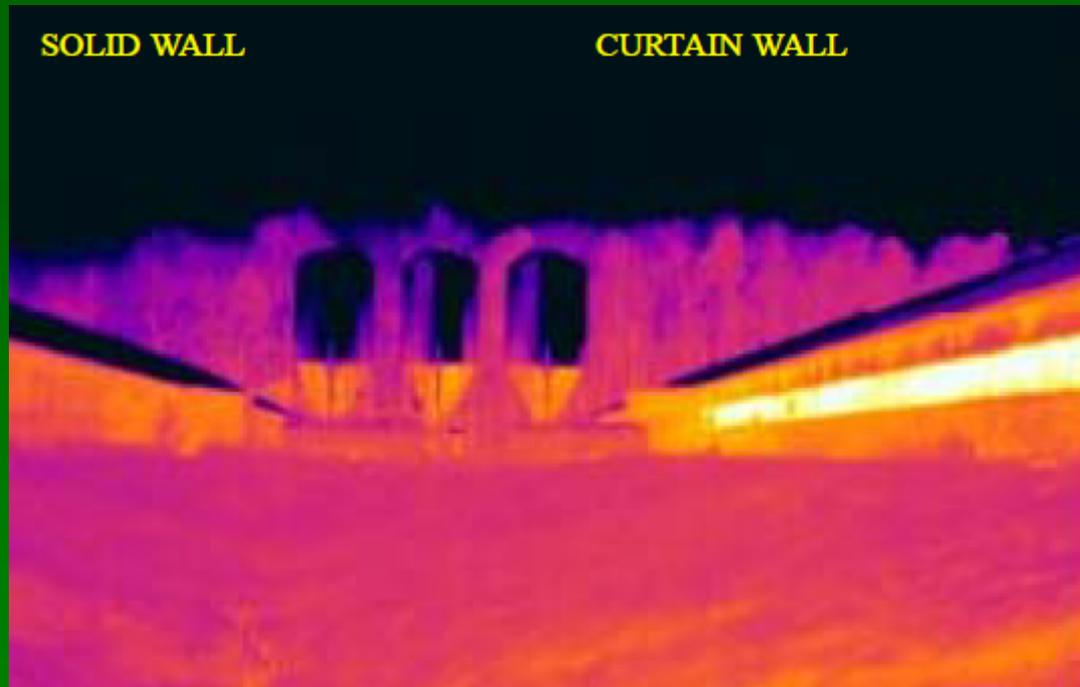
672- Building Envelope Improvement Practices

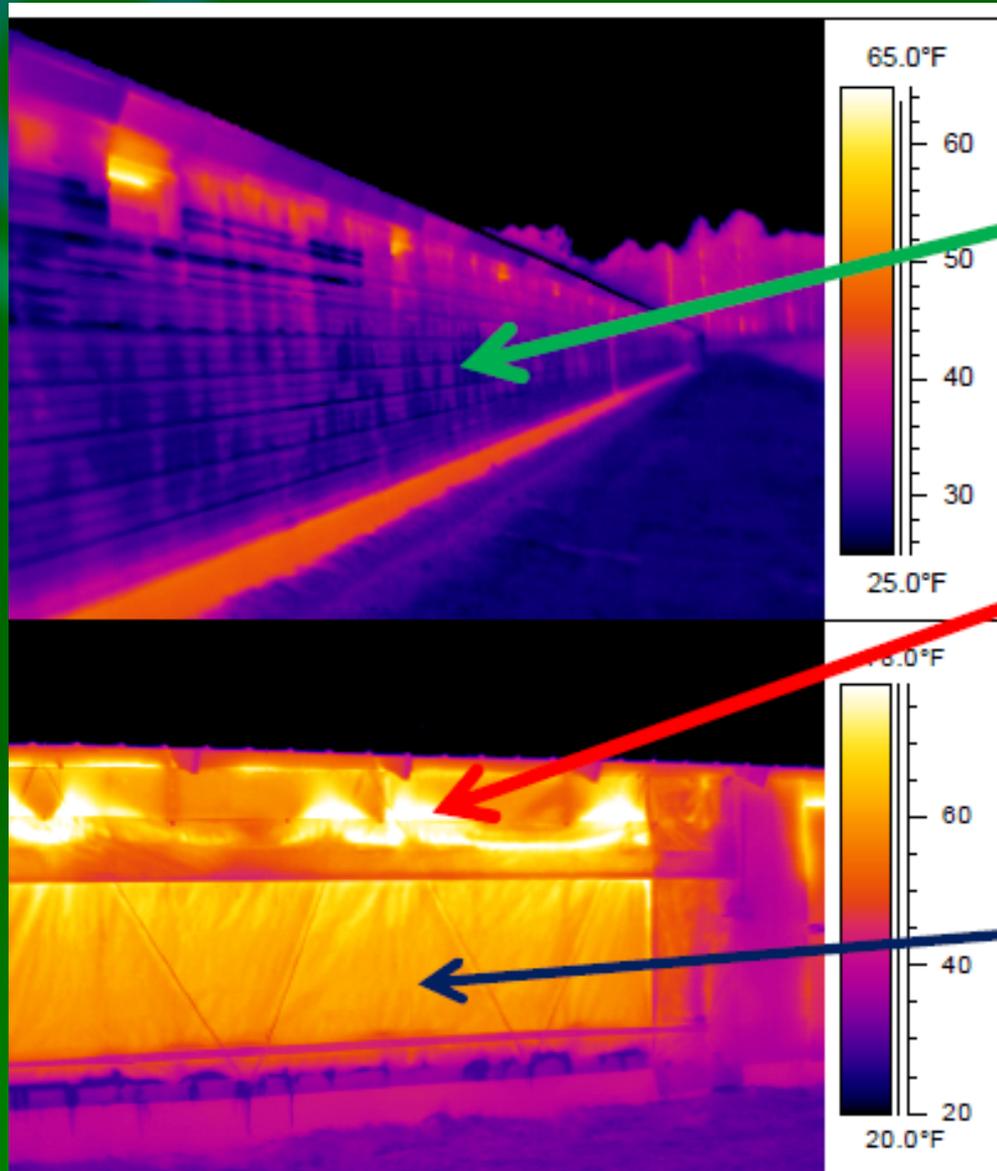
- Batt Wall Insulation
- Attic Insulation
- Tunnel Doors
- Insulated Poultry House Doors
- Sealant
- Greenhouse Screens
- Insulated Unglazed Walls for Greenhouse



SOLID WALL

CURTAIN WALL





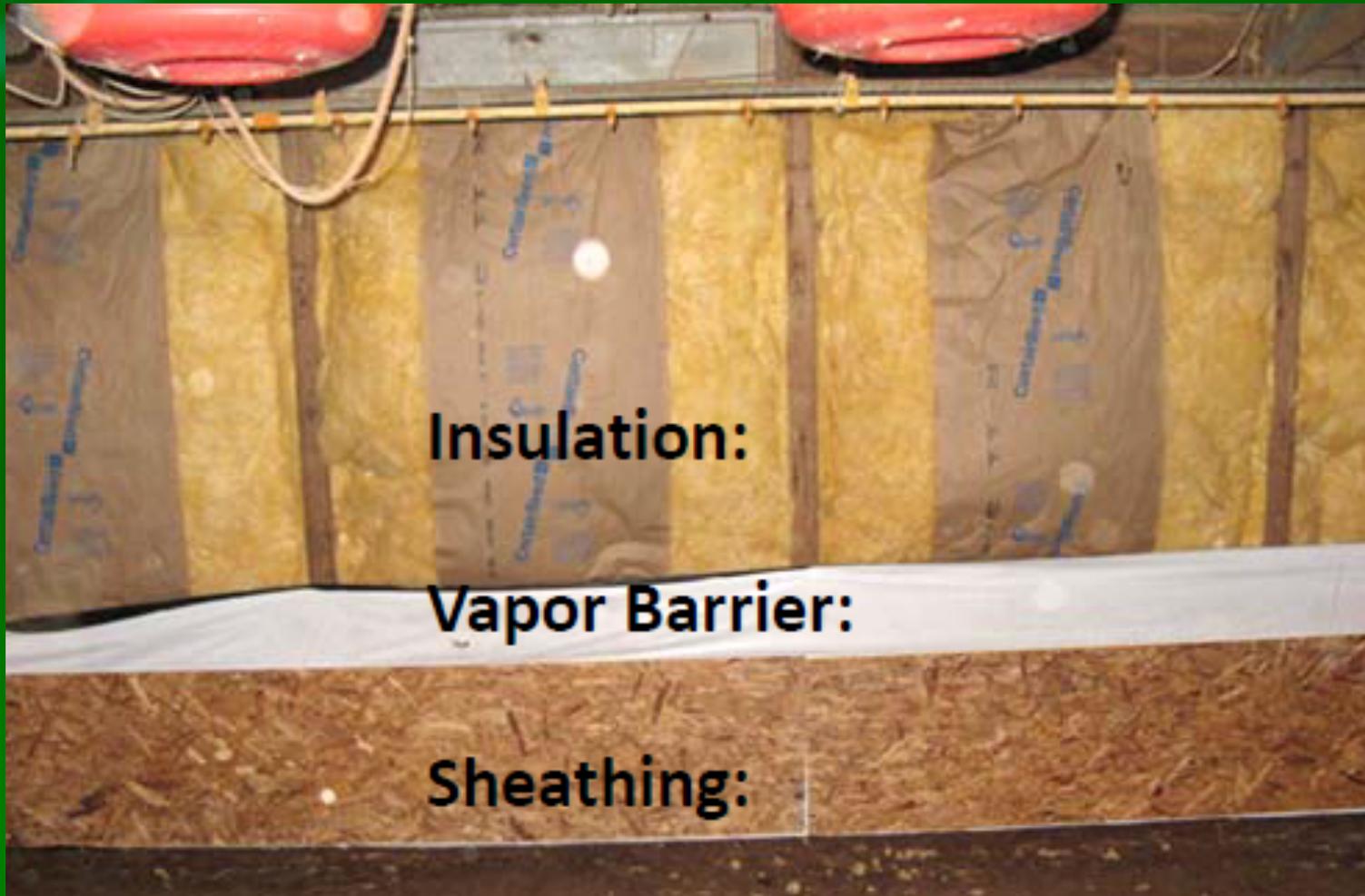
- 5 btu's / hour lost per square foot of insulated sidewall

- 5,000 btu's / hour lost per square foot of cracks

- 50 btu's / hour lost per square foot of curtain

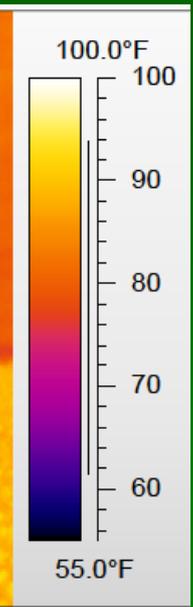
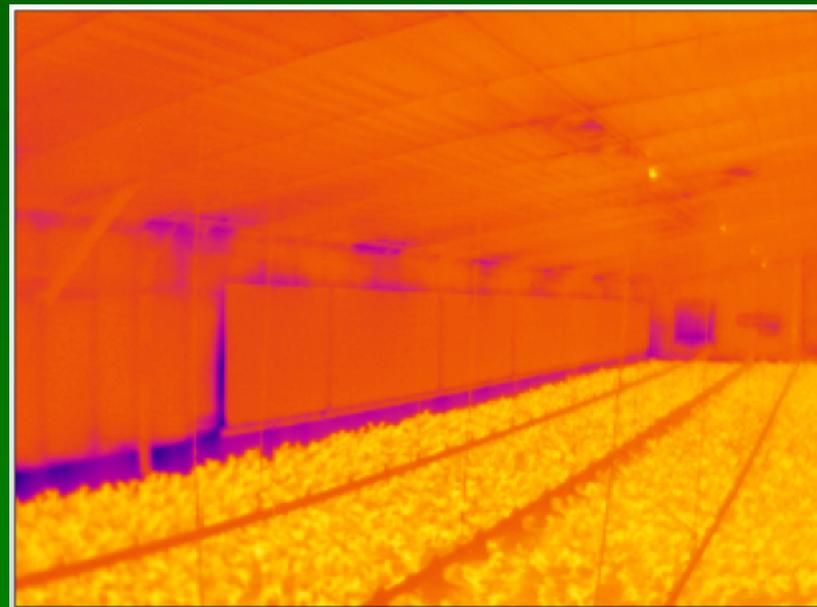
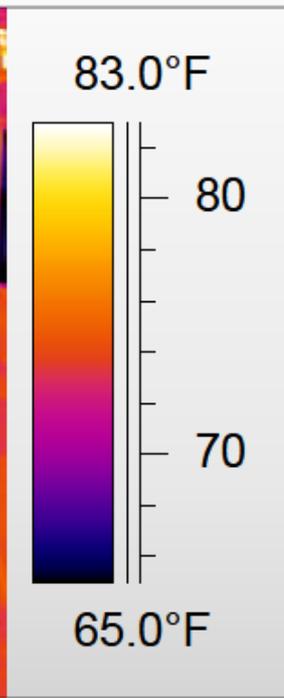
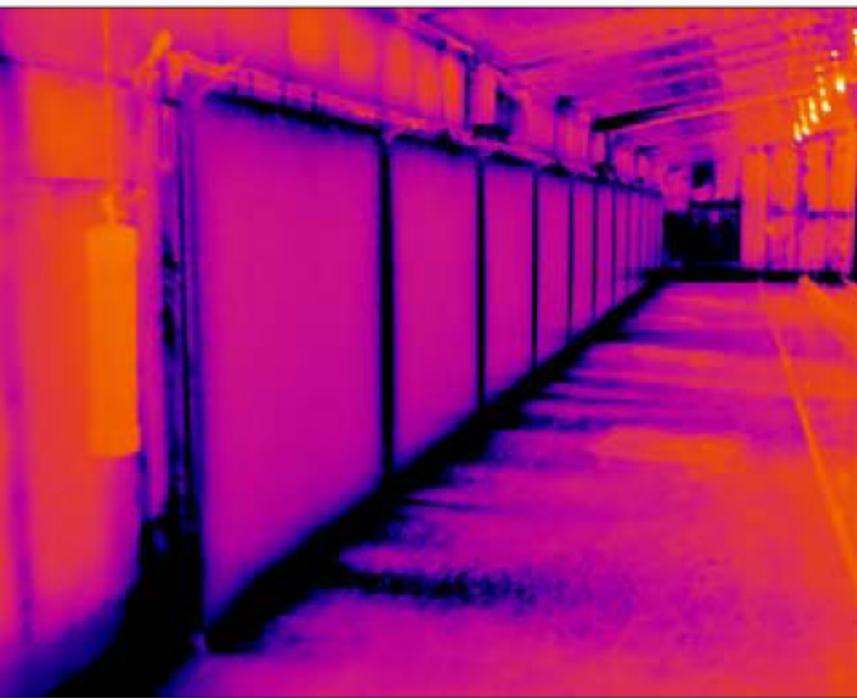


Batt Wall Insulation



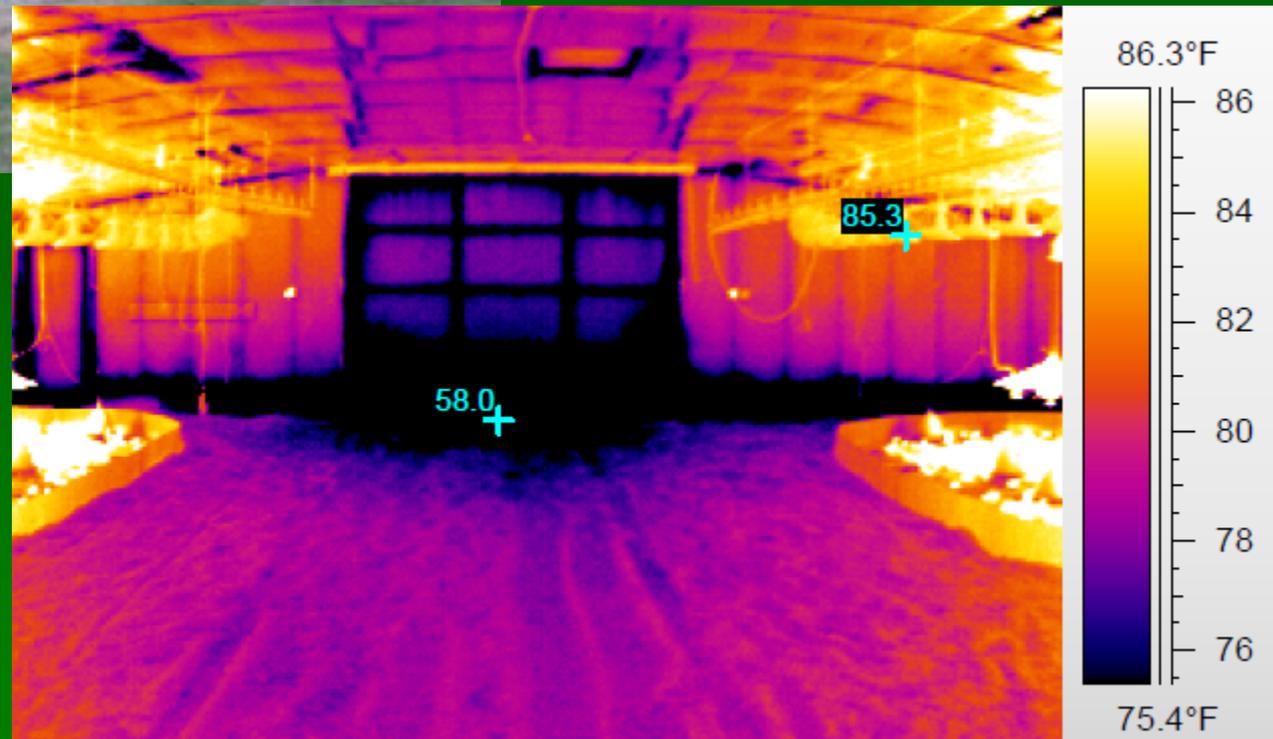
Tunnel Doors







Poultry House Doors



Attic Insulation



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How to Become a TSP



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Technical Service Providers

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[Technical Service Providers Factsheet \(PDF, 477KB\)](#)

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- Financial Assistance
- Technical Assistance
 - Conservation Technical Assistance
 - State Technical Committees
 - Conservation of Private Grazing Land
 - Technical Service Providers
- Easements
- Landscape Planning
- Alphabetical Listing & Archive

Important Contacts

- TSP Regional Certifiers Map
- NRCS AgLearn State Training Officers
- State TSP Coordinators
- USDA Service Center Locator
- e-Authentication Help Desk
- AgLearn Helpdesk
- TechReg Helpdesk

Step-by-Step Guide for Registering as a TSP

TechReg is an Internet application that allows individuals, businesses, and public agencies to register and become certified as Technical Service Providers. It also provides conservation program participants with a public directory for obtaining lists of certified TSPs for the specific conservation practice(s) and Conservation Activity Plan for the state and county the need assistance. To become a certified TSP, follow the steps below:

Step by Step Guide-Detailed Instructions for Obtaining an eAuth Level 2 Account and Completing TSP Profile Parts 1 and 2

Step 1: Create an eAuthentication User ID and Password

View Detailed Instructions on creating an eAuth Level 2 account

View Tips on Creating a Strong Password for your eAuth Account

You must obtain a USDA eAuthentication Level 2 account (User ID and password) to access TechReg to register as a TSP. eAuth registration for a Level 2 account is a 4 step process: 1) Account Registration; 2) Account Verification; 3) Confirmation Email and LRA Instructions and 4) Account Activation. Steps 1-3 are done online and takes approximately 30 minutes to complete. Step 4 involves visiting a USDA Service Center to have your identity verified and account activation completed which takes approximately 15 minutes.

Access to all USDA web sites protected by eAuthentication (eAuth) is handled through a common login screen. As a security precaution, you have three chances to login using your USDA eauth account. After three consecutive unsuccessful tries, your account is temporarily locked. The lock on the account should release itself after a period of 60 minutes of inactivity.

For issues related to account passwords, account usage, and account maintenance, please contact the USDA eAuthentication Help Desk via email at eauthhelpdesk@frc.usda.gov, or by telephone at (800) 457-3642. Make sure that you are using the correct User ID and password.

NOTICE: If you do not update your eAuth password within six months, your password will expire. You can reset your password by using the self-service option by clicking on the I forgot my password or Change my Password links from the eAuth log in page or contact the eAuth Help Desk for assistance. If you have forgotten your User ID, you may request a reminder using the self-service option by clicking on I forgot my User ID link on the log in page or contact the eAuth Help Desk for assistance. If you have not used your eAuth log in to access any USDA application including TechReg or AgLearn within one year your account may be deactivated. The eAuth Help Desk can enable your account. Do not go to the eAuth web site and request another Level 2 account.

<https://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/main/national/programs/technical/tsp/>

4 Steps to Become a TSP

- Create an eAuthentication User ID and Password
- Read Application Instructions and Certification Documents
- Become Certified
- Provide Services

TSP Certification Requirements for a AgEMP

- Option 1 – Education and Experience
- Option 2 - Certification

TSP Certification Requirements for a AgEMP

Option 1 – Education and Experience

- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Development-Sample Plan:** Candidates should complete one (1) sample plan that follows: (1) current years Plan Development Criteria for CAP 128-Agricultural Energy Management Plan listed in Section III of the eFOTG; (2) National Planning Procedures Handbook title 180, Part 600; and (3) in accordance with Performing On-farm Energy Audits (ANSI/ASABE S612). Plans should be submitted to your resident state TSP Coordinator by email, or send a paper copy by mail.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Educational Degree:** Bachelors or higher level degree in engineering or architecture.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Energy Audit Experience:** (1) three years of experience with energy systems, engineering and management; and (2) completion of five on-farm energy audits.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Energy Audit References:** provide two professional references needed verifying audit work.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan State Required Certification or Licensing:** all certifications or licenses required by state or local law or regulation in which service will be provided: (1) Professional Engineering license for this state; and (2) any other state specific required certification, license or registration. Documentation of certification or a license should be emailed to the State TSP Coordinator for all states where certification is being requested.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Training:** completion of the NRCS approved training course Air Quality, Climate Change and Energy. The completion certificate should be emailed to the State TSP Coordinator for all states where certification is being requested.

TSP Certification Requirements for a AgEMP

Option 2 - Certification

- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Development-Sample Plan:** Candidates should complete one sample plan that follows: (1) current years Plan Development Criteria for CAP 128-Agricultural Energy Management Plan listed in Section III of the eFOTG; (2) National Planning Procedures Handbook title 180, Part 600; and (3) in accordance with Performing On-farm Energy Audits (ANSI/ASABE S612). Plans should be submitted to your resident state TSP Coordinator by email, or send a paper copy by mail.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Energy Audit References:** provide two professional references needed verifying audit work.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Professional Certification:** Candidates using this option must have one of the following documented : (1) Certified Energy Manager (CEM) through the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE); (2) Certified Energy Auditor (CEA) through the Association of Energy Engineers (AEE); or (3) Hold a current state Professional Engineer (PE) license in any state.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan State Required Certification or Licensing:** all certifications or licenses required by state or local law or regulation in which service will be provided: (1) Professional Engineering license for this state; and (2) any other state specific required certification, license or registration. Documentation of certification or a license should be emailed to the State TSP Coordinator for all states where certification is being requested.
- **Agricultural Energy Management Plan Training:** completion of the NRCS approved training course Air Quality, Climate Change and Energy. The completion certificate should be emailed to the State TSP Coordinator for all states where certification is being requested.

AgEMP CAP Payment Rates

- Small
 - < 300 Acres
 - < 300 AU
 - Up to 2 irrigation pumps
 - <20,000 sq ft of heater greenhouse, or
 - A maple syrup enterprise]
- Medium
 - 301 to 2500 Ac
 - 301 to 1000 AU
 - 3 to 6 Irrigation Pumps, or
 - 20,001 to 40,000 sq ft heated greenhouse
- Large
 - > 2,500 Ac
 - > 1000 AU
 - More than 7 irrigation pumps or
 - > 40,001 sq ft of heater greenhouse

Or in table format -

Payment Scenario for Conservation Activity Plan 128, Energy

Size of Operation ¹	One Enterprise	Two Enterprises	Three Enterprises	Four Enterprises
Small	\$2133	\$3267	\$3767	\$4575
Medium	\$2633	\$4402	\$4902	\$5709
Large	\$3441	\$5975	\$6563	\$7459

TSP Certification Requirements for Energy Practice Implementation

- **Experience** : Provide documentation of work performed for two of the three references requested below, i.e., plan design, installation/layout/inspection, and checkout of energy improvements on agricultural operations.
- **Professional Engineering Licensing** : all certifications or licenses required by state or local law or regulation in which service will be provided: (1) Professional Engineering license for this state; and (2) any other state specific required certification, license or registration. Documentation of certification or a license should be emailed to the State TSP Coordinator for all states where certification is being requested.
- **References** : Provide three Energy Efficiency Program contacts or customer references where technical service has been provided that can verify your experience and proficiency in planning, designing, installation/layout/inspection, and checkout of energy improvements performed on agricultural operations.

Implementation Payment Rates



The screenshot shows the USDA TSPR TechReg website. At the top left is the USDA logo with the text "United States Department of Agriculture" and "Natural Resources Conservation Service". To the right is the "TSPR Technical Service Payment Rates TechReg" logo. A navigation bar contains links for "Home", "Help", and "Contact Us".

On the left side, there is a "Search USDA" box with a "Go" button. Below it are several menu sections:

- TSPR**
 - ▶ [Login](#)
 - ▶ [New User](#)
- TSPR Resources**
 - ▶ [Find a Technical Service Provider](#)
 - ▶ [Online Resources](#)
 - ▶ [State TSP Coordinators](#)
 - ▶ [TechReg FAQ](#)
 - ▶ [TechReg Home](#)
- Other Resources**
 - ▶ [USDA Offices](#)
- Feedback**
 - ▶ [Comment to TechReg Team](#)

The main content area features a heading "Welcome to Technical Service Payment Rates" followed by a large image. The image depicts a hand typing on a keyboard, with a smaller inset showing a person in a field. Overlaid on the image is the "TSPR Technical Service Payment Rates" logo. Below the image, the text reads: "This interactive web site offers payment rates for technical assistance. The payment rates are calculated by practice and geographic location." At the bottom of the main content area is a button labeled "Obtain Local Payment Rate Prices".

<https://tspr.sc.egov.usda.gov/>

Example 374 Implementation Payment Rates



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TSPR Resources

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1. Select Calendar Year:
2. Select State:
3. Select County:
4. Select General Practice:
5. Select Specific Practice:

Select	Practice	Practid	Animal Type	Typical Number of Units	Units	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	374 - FARMSTEAD ENERGY IMPROVEMENT	FL000A37	None	1	no	Implement recommendations for components of a current energy audit.

6. Enter the number of units for this contract:

Technical Service Provider Application Costs For 1 (no):

Activity	Per Unit	Total
Design	\$1,198.8420	\$1,199.00
Installation	\$588.1130	\$589.00
Checkout	\$475.0053	\$476.00
Total cost per (no)	\$2,261.9603	\$2,264.00

State Contact		
Name	Phone	Email
CRAWLEY, RD	(706) 546-2313	rd.crawley@ga.usda.gov
JEROME, KRISTINA MAY	(757) 787-0918 x120	Tina.Jerome@ga.usda.gov

Example 670 Implementation Payment Rates



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1. Select Calendar Year:
2. Select State:
3. Select County:
4. Select General Practice:
5. Select Specific Practice:

Select	Practice	Practid	Animal Type	Typical Number of Units	Units	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	670 - Lighting System Improvement	FL000A67	None	1	no	

6. Enter the number of units for this contract:

Technical Service Provider Application Costs For 1 (no):

Activity	Per Unit	Total
Design	\$2,497.7032	\$2,498.00
Installation	\$462.5356	\$463.00
Checkout	\$154.1739	\$155.00
Total cost per (no)	\$3,114.4127	\$3,116.00

State Contact

Name	Phone	Email
CRAWLEY, RD	(706) 546-2313	rd.crawley@ga.usda.gov
JEROME, KRISTINA MAY	(757) 787-0918 x120	Tina.Jerome@ga.usda.gov

Example 672 Implementation Payment Rates



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1. Select Calendar Year:
2. Select State:
3. Select County:
4. Select General Practice:
5. Select Specific Practice:

Select	Practice	Practid	Animal Type	Typical Units Number of Units	Description
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	672 - Building Envelope Improvement	FL000A67	None	1 no	Modification or retrofit of the building envelope of an existing agricultural structure. This practice may be applied as part of a conservation management system to reduce energy use by regulating heat transfer. Plan shall include audit, design, configuration, reporting and checkout.

6. Enter the number of units for this contract:

Technical Service Provider Application Costs For 1 (no):		
Activity	Per Unit	Total
Design	\$1,871.4111	\$1,872.00
Installation	\$152.3317	\$153.00
Checkout	\$152.3317	\$153.00
Total cost per (no)	\$2,176.0745	\$2,178.00

State Contact		
Name	Phone	Email
CRAWLEY, RD	(706) 546-2313	rd.crawley@ga.usda.gov
JEROME, KRISTINA MAY	(757) 787-0918 x120	Tina.Jerome@ga.usda.gov

State TSP Coordinator

RD Crawley

Contact Information:

706-546-2313

rd.crawley@ga.usda.gov

Web Sites

- <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov>
- <http://www.ga.nrcs.usda.gov>
- <http://techreg.usda.gov>

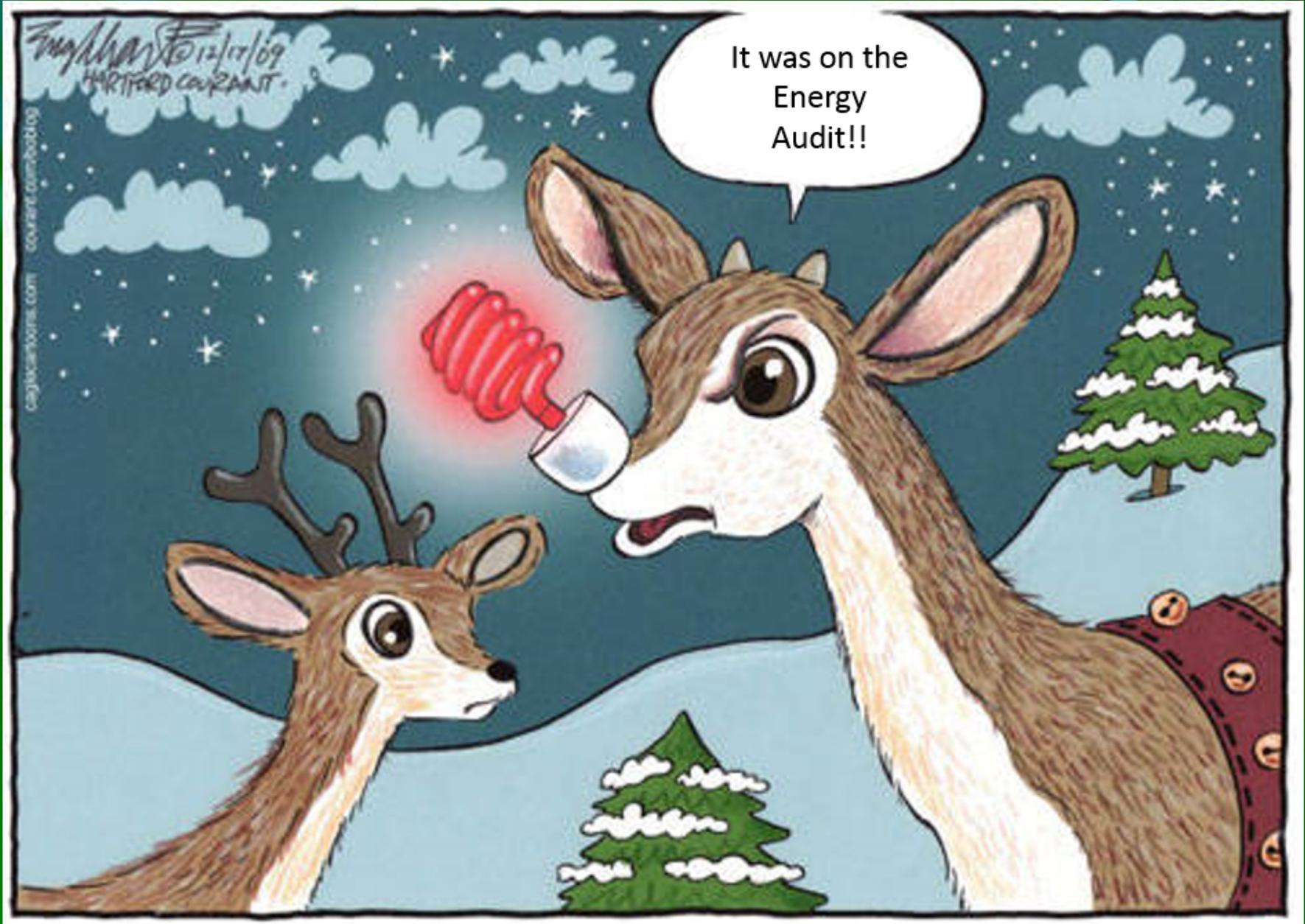
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United States Department of Agriculture

For additional information Contact:

**Deena Roberts
706-546-2039**

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