

S MN Nutrient Efficiency Coalition
August 17, 2009
Notes from conversation with Brian Williams

Nutrient Efficiency Coalition members:

Brian Williams called me today to tell me about his meeting with the State Certified Crop Advisers. He asked them for feedback on the recognition program ideas we have been discussing.

Generally the group was supportive, but asked a few questions:

- What will the criteria be for entering/winning?
- How will the program be funded beyond the availability of grant dollars?

Brian stated, and I agree, that our next step should be to set the criteria and go back to the crop advisers for more input. Brian mentioned that there will be a fertilizer short course in December, in Minneapolis, and we might set a goal to present an award at that event. We both realize that time is limited, and we would need to get on the ball to pull that off.

We agreed that as we develop criteria we should better define what CTIC can provide to this effort, as well as how we can make the program sustainable.

Brian suggested that we form a subcommittee when we meet on the 24th, to begin developing criteria. He mentioned that George Rehm, retired soil scientist, might be available to participate in the subcommittee.

I agreed to do an internet search for programs that we could use as examples when developing ours. The results of that search are attached. The best fits for what we've been talking about seemed to be the Dupont program and the North Dakota program. There is also an interesting program that recognizes researchers who reach out to producers. It is sponsored by the International Fertilizer Association.