On August 13–15, agronomists, crop and soil scientists, extension agents, economists, growers, and other agricultural experts will gather at a conference in Kansas City, MO to discuss nutrient use efficiency and the barriers and opportunities for improving implementation.

“I’m encouraging all crop advisers to join us and some of the top nitrogen use efficiency (NUE) experts in the country,” says CCA Cliff Snyder with the International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI). “This is going to be a real open exchange of ideas about the best nitrogen use efficiency practices that are out there today, including our industry’s 4R nutrient stewardship strategy.”

CCAs who attend the conference can earn continuing education credits.

“We know there can be a real tension between the production side and those on the environmental side at times,” says CPSS, CPAg, and CCA Dave Mengel, Kansas State University. “What’s different about this conference is we’re bringing both of these sides together to share ideas, because we all want clean water, profitable farming, and good yields.”

“We’ve located this in Kansas City so that crop advisers who work in the heart of corn production in the Midwest can attend, share their perspectives, and learn new techniques,” says CPSS Carrie Laboski, University of Wisconsin–Madison.

In addition to the sessions where case studies and successes are presented, coffee and beer breaks offer informal opportunities for sharing ideas.

“One of the highlights will be a roundtable discussion that features seven experienced ‘boots on the ground’ practitioners of various types of nutrient management in crop and livestock systems,” says Ron Gehl of North Carolina State University, who will be moderating the discussion. The experts will each speak for 10 minutes about their personal experiences and their reactions to the morning’s presentations. This will be followed by 45 minutes of discussion among the panel members and the audience.

Invited roundtable panelists include: Laboski, Douglas Busdeker (Northern Farm Centers, Anderson Inc.), Joshua McGrath (University of Maryland), Chris Mann (White Oaks Farm), CCA Todd Schaumberg (Polenske Agronomic Consulting), and Gabrielle Onorata (International Farming Corporation).

For more information and a complete agenda, visit: www.soils.org/meetings/specialized/nitrogen-use-efficiency.

The workshop is sponsored by the Woods Hole Research Center (WHRC), International Plant Nutrition Institute (IPNI), and The Fertilizer Institute (TFI). Co-sponsors include the Soil Science Society of America (SSSA), American Geophysical Union (AGU), and International Nitrogen Initiative (INI).

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