



## Workshop on Agricultural Air Quality: State of the Science

Bolger Conference Center, Potomac, Maryland near Washington, DC  
June 5-8, 2006

[www.esa.org/AirWorkshop](http://www.esa.org/AirWorkshop)

Dear Colleagues,

We would like to extend an invitation to participate in the *Workshop on Agricultural Air Quality: State of the Science* to be held June 5 through 8, 2006 at the Bolger Center, Potomac, MD, near Washington, DC.

This Workshop is a result of two previous efforts: A National Research Council Report which recommended further research on agricultural air quality problems; and, a USDA Agricultural Air Quality Task Force which directed the “National Research Initiative: Competitive Grants Program to develop a research agenda”.

Recent studies provide convincing evidence that changes in agricultural crop production and increases in animal activities are altering the emissions of trace gases to the atmosphere. These emissions can perturb the environment with a host of beneficial and detrimental effects such as increased crop yields from nitrogen loading or decreased visibility from increased aerosol production.

Maximizing the benefits and reducing the detrimental effects of agricultural production requires us to transcend scientific disciplines, and political boundaries. This task challenges the creativity of natural and social scientists, economists, engineers, business leaders, and policy makers

The *Workshop on Agricultural Air Quality: State of the Science* will provide a venue for multidisciplinary teams of experts to share their knowledge, present new research, and work together to develop new avenues for science and technology transfer, education and outreach. We believe this Workshop will play a significant role in helping shape the future of the agricultural practices and agricultural air quality analysis framework for the United States. We hope you will join us for this important event.

Sincerely,

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North Carolina State University  
Co-Chair, Workshop on Agricultural  
Air Quality: State of the Science

William H. Schlesinger, Co-Chair  
Duke University  
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