Agriculture has viewed carbon footprint in two very different lights. On the one hand, there is great potential for producers to realize revenue through carbon credits for implementing positive stewardship practices and technologies. On the other hand, animal producers have also received a steady stream of criticism about the structure and practices of modern agriculture. Does the data exist to make reasonable estimates of the carbon footprint of animal agriculture? How do modern systems compare to the “good old days”? Webcast presenters will discuss their work on a model for carbon footprint of dairy operations and some of the conclusions they drew by comparing dairy production at two different points in time. An application for continuing education credit for Certified Crop Advisors (CCAs) and members of the American Registry of Professional Animal Scientists (ARPAS) has been submitted.

Jude Capper is an Assistant Professor of Dairy Sciences at Washington State University. Her post-doctoral research at Cornell focused on two areas: ruminant lipid metabolism, and modeling the environmental impact of dairy production. Jude has been working with colleagues to develop a deterministic model of the environmental impact of dairy production. The group’s current project evaluates the contribution made by various on-farm management practices (e.g. age at first calving, cow longevity, somatic cell count) to the environmental impact of milk production. Jude intends to extend the work to develop equivalent models for beef production. Phone: 509-335-6192 Email: capper@wsu.edu

Roger Cady currently is a Sr. Technical Consultant for Elanco Animal Health. Throughout his career Cady has worked to integrate research information with practical on-farm management in the area of heifer management and on-farm economics. Roger is currently focused on applying productivity to environmentally sustainable practices in the dairy industry. Cady is a native of New York and received his B.S., M.S. and Ph.D. in Animal Breeding from Cornell University. Prior to working in industry, Cady served as professor and extension dairy specialist for 18 years. Cady co-founded and moderated Dairy-L, a popular international e-mail discussion group on dairy herd management. He is a founder of the Professional Dairy Heifer Growers. He has received many awards in his career, is a member and past officer in the American Dairy Science Association (ADSA) and has served on various national and state industry committees and boards. Phone: 314-614-9114 Email: cadyra@lilly.com

How Do I Participate?
On the day of the webcast, go to http://www.extension.org/pages/Live_Webcast_Information to download the speaker’s power point presentations and connect to the virtual meeting room. First time viewers should also follow the steps at: http://www.extension.org/pages/How_Do_I_Participate_in_a_Webcast%3F.

Links For More Information:
* Journal of Animal Science “The environmental impact of dairy production: 1944 compared with 2007” http://jas.fass.org/cgi/content/full/87/6/2160
* Proceedings of the National Academy of Science “The Environmental Impact of Recombinant Bovine Somatotropin Use In Dairy Production” http://www.pnas.org/content/105/28/9668.full?sid=91a49541-7b93-44a4-bb1e-de0b67d78988

The LPE Learning Center is a project dedicated to the vision that individuals involved in public policy issues, animal production, and delivery of technical services for confined animal systems should have on-demand access to the nation’s best science-based resources. See our website at: http://www.extension.org/animal+manure+management.

The Air Quality Education in Animal Agriculture project is collaboration of national experts from across the U.S. working to enhance learning opportunities in air quality issues related to animal agriculture. In addition to educational webcasts, the project will develop an air quality curriculum that will be made available for classroom or extension use and conduct regional workshops.