DELAWARE DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
2320 South DuPont Highway, Dover, DE 19901

To: Newsroom Directors and Assignment Editors

For Immediate Release: April 12, 2007

Number of pages:

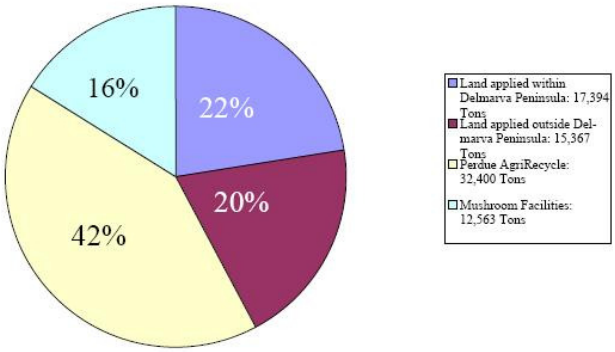
Contact **Anne Fitzgerald**
800.282.8685 (DE only)
302.698.4520
302.242.4092 (Cell)

Delaware Nutrient Management Commission Releases Annual Report

On March 28, Governor Minner and the 144th Delaware General Assembly received the *2006 Annual Report on Nutrient Management* for the State of Delaware. A few program accomplishments follow:

- Ninety-nine percent (99%) or 453,291 acres of Delaware cropland has been enrolled or mandated into nutrient management planning.
- Ninety-seven thousand, six hundred and forty-nine (97,649) acres of nutrient management plans were developed in 2006 by private and public consultants.
- Sixty (60) different continuing education events were held for 1,955 nutrient management certification holders.
- Seventy-seven thousand, seven hundred and twenty-four (77,724) tons of excess poultry litter were relocated for alternative use and land application during 2006.

2006 Relocation and Alternative Use
Total 77,724 tons



Manure being uploaded for transport from farm.

- Since 2001, 398,267 tons of excess poultry litter have been relocated.

The Delaware Nutrient Management Law was passed in 1999 as a water quality measure to reduce nutrient runoff from agriculture and other sources of manure and commercial based fertilizers. Commission Chairman and Bridgeville farmer, Bill Vanderwende said, "The results and general acceptance of the program are a success. Farmers, program staff, nutrient consultants, and other agribusinesses should be commended."

A complete copy of the report can be found on the web at: www.state.de.us/deptagri/nutrients/index.shtml or by calling 302-698-4500.

Electronic copies of the graphic and picture are available: anne.fitzgerald@state.de.us.

###