



AgSTAR's Anaerobic Digester Project Development Handbook

Vanessa McKinney, U.S. EPA AgSTAR Program Manager



WHAT WE'LL SEE TODAY

1

U.S. EPA AgSTAR Program

Who we are and what we do.

2

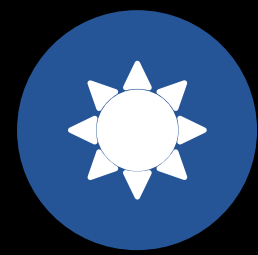
Overview of New Anaerobic Digester Project Development Handbook

A resource to help farmers & others build more digesters.

3

Additional Resources

Visit www.epa.gov/agstar for more information.



AgSTAR Program



PARTNERSHIP PROGRAM

Collaborative program sponsored by
EPA and USDA.

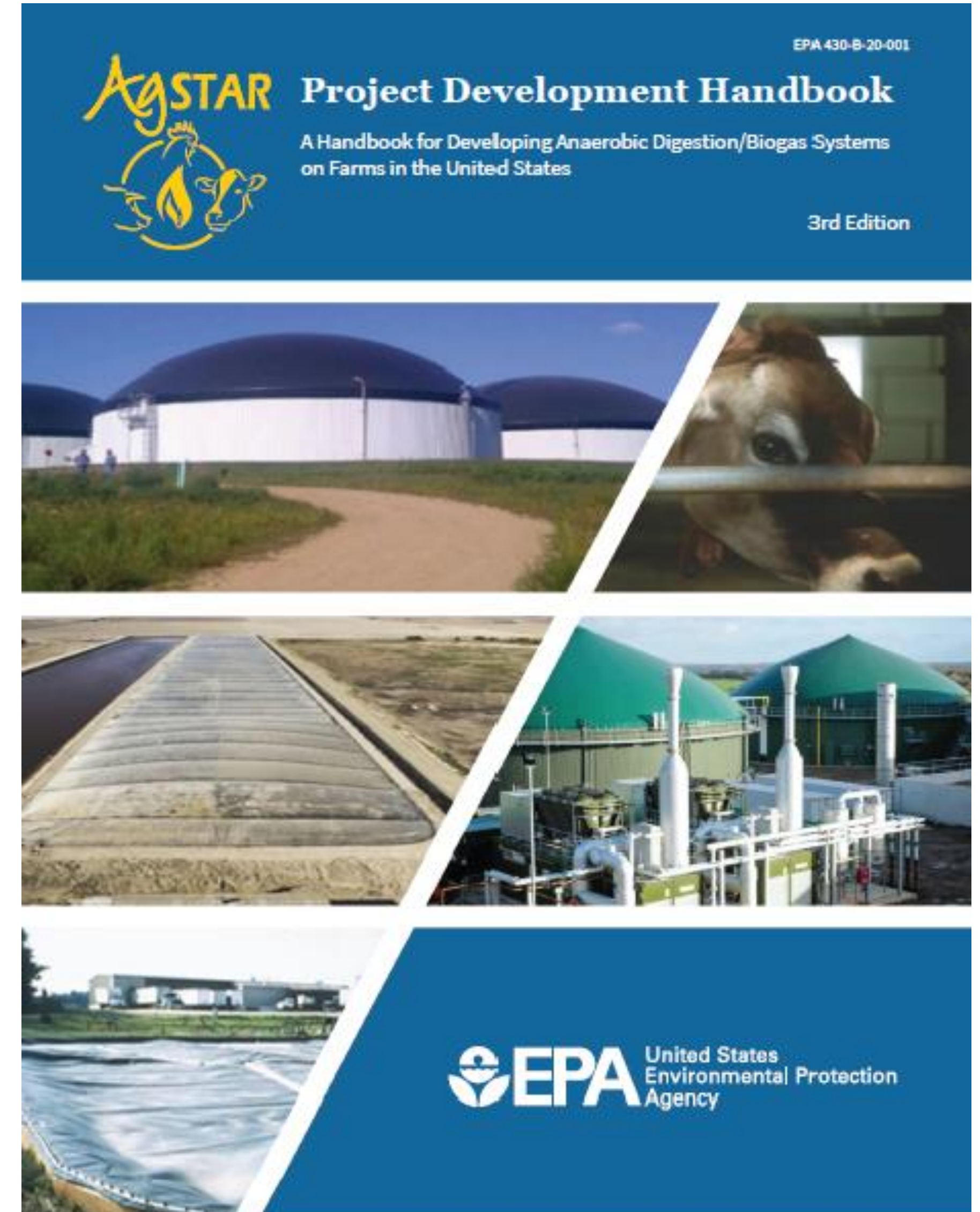
- 1 Promote Anaerobic Digestion**
Advancing economically and environmentally sound livestock manure management.

- 2 Strong Ties**
Working with industry, government, NGOs and university stakeholders.

- 3 Helping Hand**
Assisting those who enable, purchase, or implement farm anaerobic digestion projects.

AgSTAR's New Anaerobic Digester Handbook

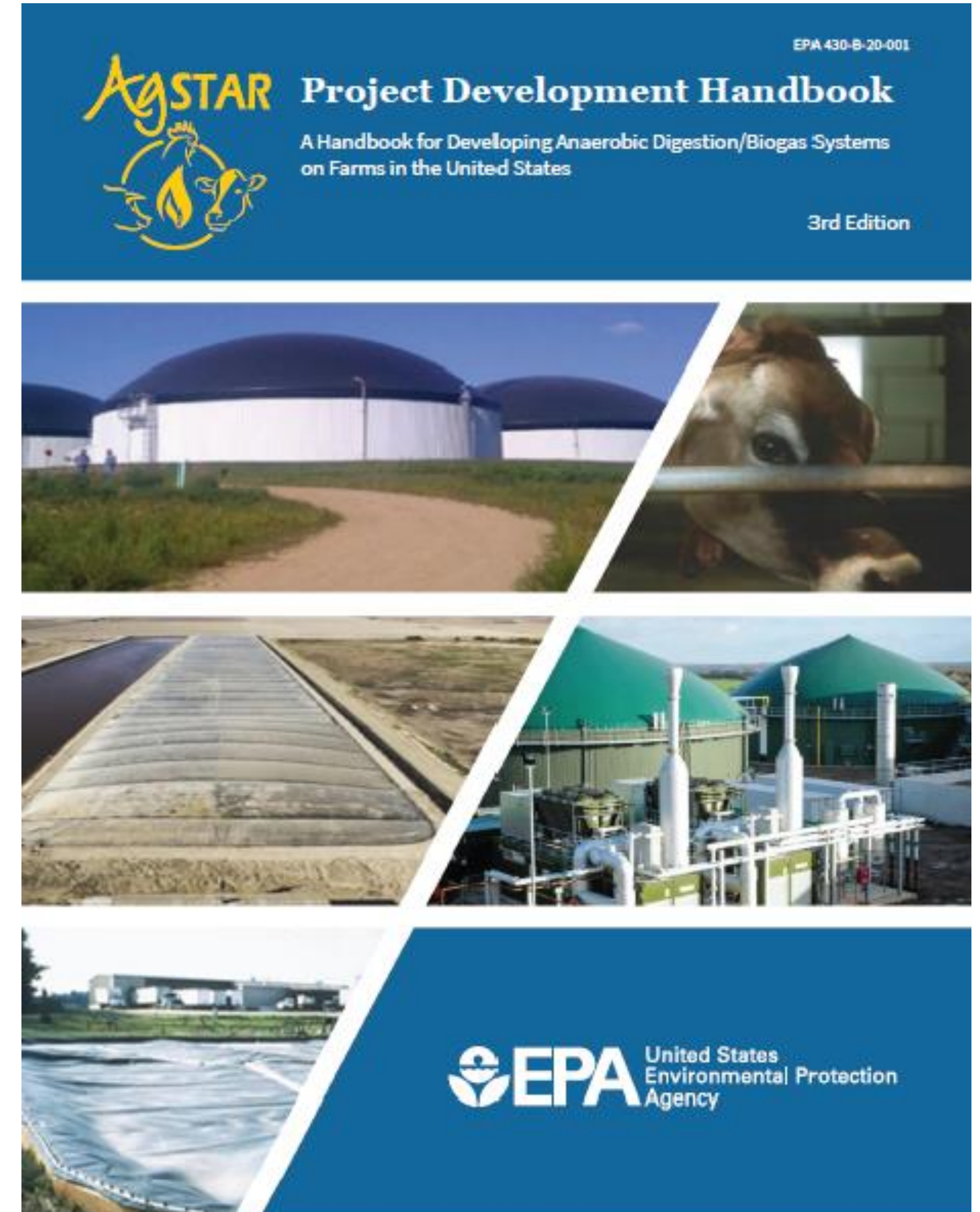
- A comprehensive compilation of the latest knowledge in the industry on best practices for anaerobic digestion (AD)/ biogas systems.
- Farm-focused, but concepts are applicable for all AD/biogas systems.
- Goal: ensure long-term success for AD/ biogas systems by providing a framework for project development.
- Audience: Anyone interested in AD/biogas systems as a farm manure management option
 - Policy makers
 - Farmers
 - Financiers/ investors
 - Private Developers





Handbook Overview

- 11 Chapters that outline key considerations for farm-based digester projects
 - ✓ Process Fundamentals
 - ✓ Digester Feedstocks
 - ✓ Products and Equipment - Energy and Digestate
 - ✓ Economic and Financial Factors
 - ✓ Screening and Feasibility Assessments
 - ✓ Business Relationships
 - ✓ Permitting
 - ✓ Public and Community Outreach
 - ✓ Safety, Operations and Maintenance





10 Keys to Digester Success

1

Plan for Success:
Identify project
goals, risks and
develop baseline
inventory.

2

Recruit an
experienced,
objective
implementation
team.

3

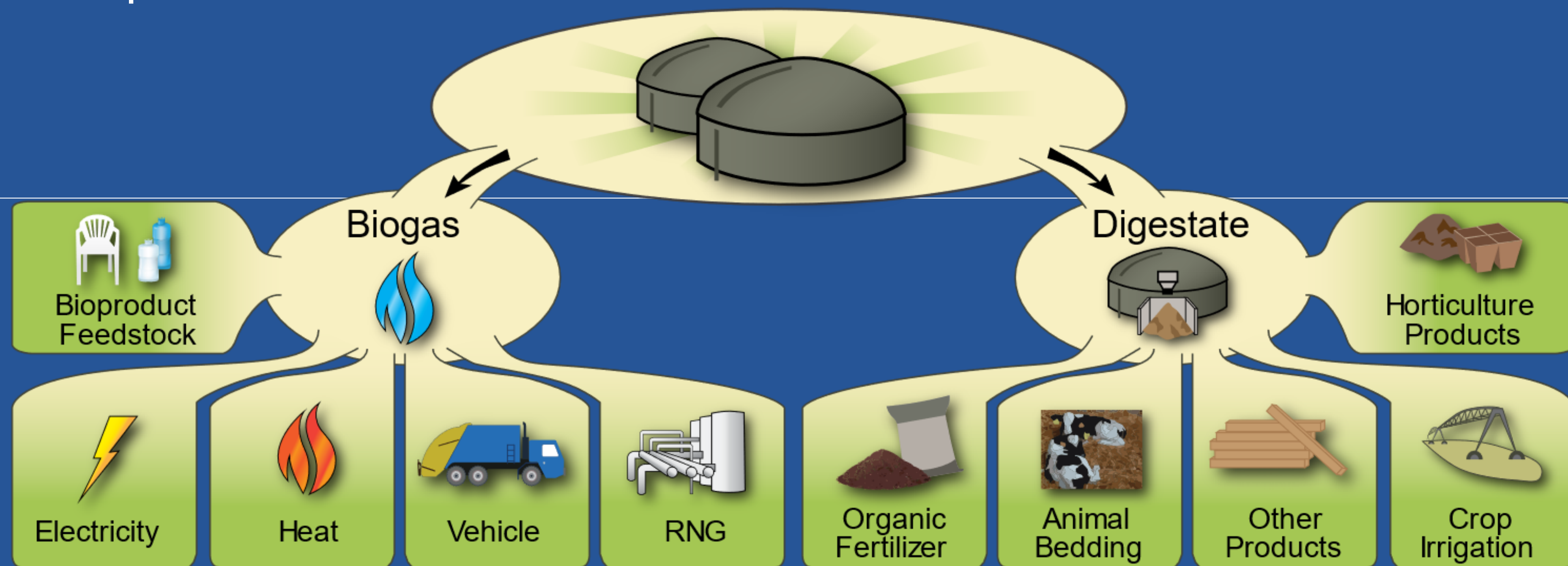
Follow a
sustainable
business model
to meet financial
goals





10 Keys to Digester Success

4 Secure suitable feedstock supply and test its biomethane potential.



5 Use the most appropriate technology to match the type and amount of feedstock.



10 Keys to Digester Success

6

Assess best value uses
for biogas and digestate.

7

Develop off-take
agreements.

8

Identify benefits to
climate, health,
sustainable food supply,
and environment.

9

Conduct community outreach
and education to obtain project
buy-in

10

Continually optimize operations
and maintenance.



Visit our website for more resources

The screenshot displays the EPA AgSTAR website. At the top is the EPA logo and navigation links for Environmental Topics, Laws & Regulations, and About EPA. A search bar is also present. The main heading is "AgSTAR: Biogas Recovery in the Agriculture Sector". Below this, there's a section for the "Project Development Handbook", described as the 3rd edition of AgSTAR's handbook, which outlines necessary development steps and questions industry professionals must address to increase the chances of farm-based digester project success. To the right of the handbook section, there's a "CONTACT US" link and social media sharing options (Facebook, Twitter, Email). Below the handbook section, there's a sidebar with the AgSTAR logo and the text "We can help you do more with your manure". This sidebar includes links for "Benefits of biogas recovery", "AgSTAR webinars", "Join the AgSTAR Listserv", and "About AgSTAR". At the bottom of the page, there's a footer stating "AgSTAR is a collaborative program sponsored by EPA and USDA that promotes the use of biogas recovery systems to reduce methane emissions from livestock waste. [Learn more.](#)" and logos for EPA and USDA.

www.epa.gov/agstar

- ✓ Webinar covering a deep dive into handbook – COMING SOON
- ✓ Project Profiles that Highlight the range of AD projects in the United States.
- ✓ Meet an Operator & AD Ombudsman Case Studies
- ✓ Subscribe to our listserv!
- ✓ New AD Operator Guidebook COMING SOON



THANK YOU

www.epa.gov/agstar

VANESSA MCKINNEY

McKinney.Vanessa@epa.gov