

General Manual
Title 190 – Ecological Sciences

Part 402 – Nutrient Management

KS402.3 Certification

A. Persons who provide technical assistance involving nutrient management and/or the utilization of organic by-products (including animal manure) where nutrients are applied to the land in Kansas by providing land users a nutrient management plan or the nutrient management component of conservation plans will do so according to the following guidance:

(1) Persons approving the plan will be certified conservation planners with practice planning approval authority for Conservation Practice Standard 590, Nutrient Management, through the certification program established by the Kansas State Conservationist (STC).

(2) Nutrient management plans may be developed by planners and specialists not meeting the certification requirements provided a certified conservation planner with practice planning approval authority for nutrient management approves the plan prior to the presentation to the producer.

(3) An “approved source” may develop nutrient management plans as components to conservation plans, provided a certified conservation planner with practice planning approval authority for nutrient management approves the plan prior to presentation to the producer.

(4) An “approved source” may be, but is not limited to:

(i) Persons maintaining certification as a Certified Crop Advisor of the American Society of Agronomy (CCA).

(ii) Persons listed by Kansas State University (KSU) Cooperative Research, Education, and Extension Service (CREES) as meeting the educational and proficiency requirements to make effective crop production nutrient recommendations.

(5) It will be the responsibility of the certifying organization of approved sources to provide a registry to the Kansas NRCS State Office containing the registrants name, organization, mailing address, phone number, fax number, e-mail address, certification expiration date, and a list of services each individual is qualified to perform. It will be the responsibility of KSU CREES to provide a registry of qualified employees.

(6) In order to approve the nutrient management component of a conservation plan, an individual must meet the training requirements as established by the Kansas STC and demonstrate proficiency in planning and applying the

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conservation practice in full compliance with standards and specifications established in the Kansas Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG) for Conservation Practice Standard 590, Nutrient Management.

(7) The Kansas STC will establish a process to provide training to maintain employee competency and certification. Supervisors and certified nutrient management planners share the responsibility of achieving needed or additional education requirements to maintain certification as a nutrient management planner. NRCS-certified conservation planners are responsible for keeping records of training completed and providing the information to NRCS as evidence of meeting the minimum certification requirements.