



2004 EQIP Nutrient and Pest Management FACT SHEET

The EQIP program can pay incentives to farmers for up to three years, to implement agronomic management practices. This is intended to promote environmentally sound and economically profitable farming. Two of these practices are Nutrient Management (590) and Pest Management (595). Refer to the 2004 EQIP Cost Share and Incentives List for specific program benefits.

These practices are implemented by developing and following a nutrient management plan or pest management plan. Technical Service Providers or NRCS Conservationists will work with you to develop these plans. Each plan has certain requirements.

Minimum Nutrient Management Plan Requirements

- Soil tests should be done every 3 to 4 years depending on crop rotation, using an approved lab, and following Purdue University guidelines in the publication "Soil Sampling for P, K, and Lime Recommendations" AY281. The soil tests need to include pH, CEC, OM%, P, and K. The soil sampling should be by soil type with composite samples averaging 1 core per 2 acres, with the maximum composite sample being 30 acres or less (15 cores) with a minimum of 5 cores if less than 10 acres.
- Establish realistic yield goals by using historical yield records and refining the method over time. If yield records are unavailable, please contact NRCS for soil type and yield information.
- Apply fertilizer according to the Tri-State fertilizer recommendations taking nitrogen credits from previous crops and fertility credits from applied wastes.
- Develop a nutrient balance sheet or budget, for the planned soil testing period. The nutrient balance sheet should reflect the full crop rotation between soil tests.
- Keep records on all phases of nutrient application: rate, form, method of application and time of application. For record keeping use ID196/PPP-18 "Crop Production Record Keeping System", or other equivalent record keeping systems. All record keeping information should be maintained by the producer and/or vendor and made available for review on request.

Yearly Nutrient Management Implementation Requirements

- Review yield goals and adjust if necessary.
- Continue to apply fertilizer according to Tri-State recommendations, using applicable nitrogen and fertility credits.
- Review nutrient balance sheet, and revise as needed.
- Review record keeping system, adding information for increased management levels.

Minimum Waste Utilization Plan (in addition to Nutrient Management)

- Comply with all applicable Federal, Indiana and local laws and regulations.
- Manure sampling – test for total N, NH₄-N, P₂O₅, K₂O a minimum of once every 3 years. New facilities can use book values until a proper sample can be collected/analyzed.
- Application rates for nitrogen (N) are based on potentially available N (PAN). PAN is ammonium N (NH₄⁺), nitrate N (if applicable), and % of organic N that will mineralize in one growing season.
- Phosphorus (P) application rates are based on Chart B of the 590 standard. Single applications can be made for multi-year P needs, can not exceed planned crop N needs, and applied to ensure loss potentials have been considered/addressed. Use the Pre-Sidedress Soil Nitrate Test to determine additional N needs.
- Follow applicable setback requirements. Do not apply to frequently flooded soils during times of expected flooding. Do not exceed soil infiltration rate, minimize ponding and avoid runoff. Do not apply to frozen, snow covered or saturated soils if potential of edge of field runoff exists.

The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

Minimum Pest Management Plan Requirements

- Crop scouting and record keeping are required and should include: Farm Service Agency tract and field numbers, - the location of field(s) on an aerial map, - dates of crop scouting activity, identification of pest and beneficial organisms, location in the field, including spotty infestations or widespread infestations, - the levels of pest and beneficial organisms found - crop stage of growth - pest stage of growth. Follow Purdue recommendations to estimate loss and risk using economic thresholds for insects. Use weed counts, presence of prolific seed producing weeds and other measures to determine when spraying appropriate pesticide is needed. Consider the population of beneficial organisms and cultural and mechanical control measures when the use of pesticide is needed. Purdue University's herbicide selector (PUHERB) may be used to evaluate pest control, cost of application and pesticide alternatives.
- Records must be kept for rate of control measure, form of control measure, and time of application.
- Continue to crop scout after pest control to evaluate the success of the measures, and document for future decision making.
- Reduce the loading of pest control products to surface and/or ground water. Use soil maps, runoff and leaching potential charts to determine site sensitivity or potential vulnerability to contamination.
- Consider using: A. reduced application rates and/or frequency as advised by crop consultant and label rates, B. alternative formulations or pesticides, C. application by spot treatment, banding, time of application, mode of application, D. biological controls, like insect traps, crop rotations, resistant varieties, and mechanical control.
- Reduce the risk of pest control product exposure to non-target species of animals and plants that are on or off-site. Apply pesticides according to pesticide label specifications with regard to spray drift, equipment, and manufacturer's guidelines for operation. Follow Purdue University recommendations for calibration of equipment. Choose formulations of products or alternative products that are less likely to volatilize.
- Ensure that appropriate Federal, Indiana, and local regulations are being followed.
- If a certified private pesticide applicator, you must maintain for 2 years the records of restricted-use pesticide applications. Within 2 weeks of application, records should be completed with the following information: The product name and registration number; the amount of product applied; the size of the area treated; the crop and site of pesticide application shown on maps; the date of application; and the certified applicators name and certification number.
- Provide adequate protection to humans when exposed to products. Consider the installation of filter strips if additional water quality protection is needed. All record keeping information must be maintained by the producer and/or vendor and be made available for review if requested.

Yearly Pest Management Implementation Requirements

- Prior to each planting season, review previous year's plan, activities and results in order to make plans and adjustment for the current year's plan.
- Continue crop scouting, record keeping, and awareness of pesticides application method and potential contamination to surface and/or ground waters.
- Continue to follow all label requirements and safety guidelines.

For detailed requirements for these and other conservation practices, go to:

<http://www.in.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/agronomy/agronomy.html>

Scroll down to the "Checklist" section, and select the checklist you need

<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>

Select Indiana, select county, select Section IV of the eFOTG folder and the appropriate standard.