



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

August 2009

Water Quality Enhancement Activity – *WQL04-Stalk or Leaf Tissue Tests for Nitrogen Application*

ATTACHMENT A – Montana Enhancement Activity Sheet Supplement

Testing and Analysis after Corn Maturity (Black Layer Development) of Corn

At this time there are no guidelines from Montana State University (MSU) for this type of test. This test is used in the Midwest and other corn growing regions to optimize fertilizer rates and maximize profits and can result in less fertilizer being applied with no reduction in yields.

Testing and Analysis in Late Vegetative Stage of Corn for the Current Crop using a Chlorophyll Meter

Currently there are no approved methods from Montana State University (MSU) for using or interpreting chlorophyll meter readings to determine growing season nitrogen requirements for corn. This method has been used in corn growing regions of the United States and publications are available which describe the use of chlorophyll meters to determine nitrogen needs of growing corn.

“The Early Season Chlorophyll Meter Test for Corn”. Agronomy Facts 53. Pennsylvania State University. Website: <http://cropsoil.psu.edu/Extension/Facts/agfact53.pdf>