

Update of Standard

Nutrient Management 590

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- National standard was updated Jan. 2012
- States have until Jan. 1, 2013 to comply

Items of Note:

- Emphasis on the “Four R’s”
- Soil Loss must be brought down to “T”
- Maine now requires Modified Morgan extract method for soils tests
- Requires a Nitrogen Leaching Index
- Requires a Phosphorus Index

Four “R’s”

Right Placement

Right Amount

Right Timing

Right Source

Soils Loss

- Nutrients can move with erosion.
- Reduce nutrient loss to surface water.
- T = “Tolerable” rate of soil loss for a given soil.
- RUSLE2 is used to calculate T for a given crop management system.

Modified Morgan soils testing method

- Reasons:
 1. Best extract method to use in acidic soils
 2. No reliable conversions to Modified Morgan.
- Must specifically request MM from labs
- Fertility recommendations should be based on Univ. information.

Nitrogen Leaching Index

- Leaching Index is determined by soil Hydrologic Group, climate/rainfall intensity
- Leaching potential for Maine soils “Moderate” and “High”
- Moderate – consider BMPs
- High – utilize applicable BMPs

Phosphorus Index

- Estimates potential for P loss to the environment
- Site-specific
- Used where P₂O₅ application will exceed recommendation
- Fields receiving manures/compost
- Index will provide P limit
- More restrictive than current N&P Matrix

Phosphorus Index

A numerical P Index rating is determined by factors including:

- Erosion/Management
- Soil Test P levels
- Planned P inputs
- Proximity to surface water flows