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SUBJECT: ECN - CALCULATING MANURE SPREADER CAPACITY

Purpose. To transmit the above named technical note.

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# Technical Note

## Calculating Manure Spreader Capacity

Economics Series No. W7

United States
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ECONOMICS NO. W7

# Calculating Manure Spreader Capacity

Though disposing of manure with the least possible cost may be a major concern on some specialized livestock farms, the objective on most farms should be to obtain the maximum crop nutrient benefit from the manure. The producer should also minimize pollution from manure. Crop budgets that include manure as a crop nutrient use some type of manure spreading equipment. A handy way to estimate spreader capacity in different units is given in the following table.

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October 24, 1989

## MANURE SPREADER CAPACITY

| Spreader size | Tons of Manure |
|---|---|
| in gallons (8 lb/gal): | |
| 1,000 | 4 |
| 2,000 | 8 |
| 4,000 | 16 |
| in bushels (75 lb/bu): | |
| 75 | 2.8 |
| 100 | 3.75 |
| 125 | 4.7 |
| 150 | 5.6 |
| in cubic feet (609 lb/cu. ft): | |
| 100 | 3 |
| 200 | 6 |
| 300 | 9 |

The dollar value of manure will depend on the handling system and the nutrient content when applied to crops. It can vary considerably from the original amount in the manure, depending on storage, time and method of application. This data is available in the Animal Waste Management Field Manual, currently under revision, and should be used when developing crop budgets. Budgets for individual farmers should be based on a current nutrient analysis of their stored waste.