



Nutrient Management Plans and Other Practices

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NRCS retired

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What is a nutrient management plan?

Formal or informal plan to apply nutrients to agricultural land to maintain/enhance crop productivity while considering costs, farm workload and available equipment.



First	First Year Com Silage Fields						Crop F	Soil	Test	A djusted Recs Ib/ac Planned A pplications and Credits Ib/ac			Over(+) Under(-) A dj. UW Recs Ib/ac			A pplications									
Name	Field A.c.	Slp %		Prior Crop	2018 C rop	Yield Goal	P2O5	K20	Till ag e		Avg K	N	P2O5	K20	N	P2O5	K20	N	P2O5	K20	Product Name and Analysis	Appin Rate and Method	N-P2O5- K2O credit	App Time	Total Amt
1	17.7	9	PoB	missing	Corn sibge	25.1-30	100	230	SCND	27	77	190	50	285	190	96	272	0	46	-13	28% UAN (Liquid 28-0- 0) 28-0-0	10 gal Spring Unincorp	30-0-0		177 gal
																					Dairy Slurry 10-8-17	16000 gal Fall Incorp	160-96- 272		283200 gal







- Managing the amount (rate), source, placement (method of application), and timing of plant nutrients and soil amendments.
- Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) Conservation Practice Standard
 - Recognized by the Environmental Protection Agency as "Best Available Technology" for prevention of non-point nutrient loss from ag land.
 - Is NOT intended to be a zero discharge practice.
 - Clean Water Act Stormwater Discharge variance does NOT prohibit the loss of manure sourced nutrients once incorporated into the soil as a fertilizer (at agronomic rates).
 - Recognized by the State of Wisconsin (NRCS, DATCP) as the basis for enforcement of Agricultural Performance Standards and baseline for WPDES permit language.



- Introduced in 1999 by the USDA/EPA Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations
- Initial resistance to adoption
 - Agriculture limit management options
 - Ag retailers potential to limit fertilizer sales
 - Biosolids generators farmers less likely to accept sludge if P levels already high



- Raised the expected level of management;
 - Base nutrient applications based on soil test results and "crop need" as identified by peer reviewed research (primarily land grant universities).
 - Mandated development of a nutrient budget for both Nitrogen and Phosphorous.
 - Utilized conservation planning resource assessments to add additional layers of protection for surface/groundwater and later air resources.

Requires:

- Soil Loss to Tolerable Rates (T).
- Concentrated Flow Channels maintained in permanent vegetation.

Does NOT prohibit application of solid manure to frozen and snow covered soil.

- Provides specific mitigation practices to limit runoff (limited rates, runoff minimizing practices).
- Permitted farms and farms with liquid manure are prohibited from applying to frozen and snow covered ground.

No nutrients on this field





Manure Storage as a Nutrient Loss Reduction Tool

Prevents application of manure during some periods of runoff risk.
Frees up farm labor needed for daily haul.

 Condenses manure application into spring and fall when soil conditions can be unfavorable for use of application equipment (compaction).

 Use of maximum application rates (costs/short window) increase loss of N to groundwater.

- Structures leak (liners have a limited service life).

 Structures expensive (public funding decreasing/small farms less likely to cash flow costs).



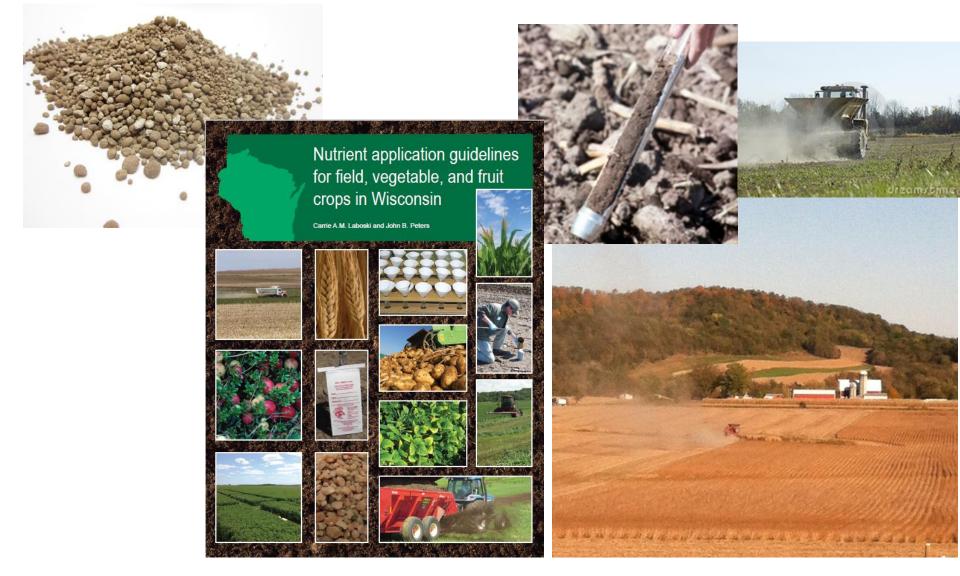
Roadblocks to implementing water quality conservation:

- Federal contracting requirements (DUNS/SCIMS).
- Mandatory treatment of all sources of livestock waste (limits small farms).
- Protracted timelines for application/contracting/design (3 years farmstead).
- State bias toward "bonding \$" limits use of management practices (rented land limits usefulness of construction cropland practices).
- Availability of technically adequate staff (agronomy, design certification).
- Lack of meaningful private sector engagement (adds non-agronomist tasks/costs, existing processes to allow use are burdensome/low return for commitment).
- High level of practice performance to justify public funding limits number of farmers willing to fully adopt practices.

- Soil Nutrient Application Planner (SNAP) was the primary agronomic nutrient application planning tool in use in 2001.
- Conservation agencies agreed to continue to use and enhance SNAP (now SnapPlus) as the primary tool to support the upgraded 590 practice.
- 2005 590 introduced the Phosphorus Index (PI) and SnapPlus allowing detailed planning.
 - Generalized assessment of the risk for P loss to surface water.
 - Acceptable (in concept) to move excessive P applications to low delivery risk fields.
 - SnapPlus provides some modeling of runoff P delivery to surface waters.
 - Recognized nationally as a model for a responsive planning tool widely used by WI agronomists and environmental protection planners.



NMP Goal: Provide nutrients for crop growth



NPM Goal: Protect water quality



Crop Nutrients

Big three for crop growth

- Nitrogen (N)
- Phosphorus (P₂O₅)
- Potassium (K₂O)





Big two for water problems

- Nitrogen (N)
- Phosphorus (P)
- Potassium (K)

NMP: Example field

Field 1 17.7 acres





Step 1 Soil test

What is a routine agronomic soil test?

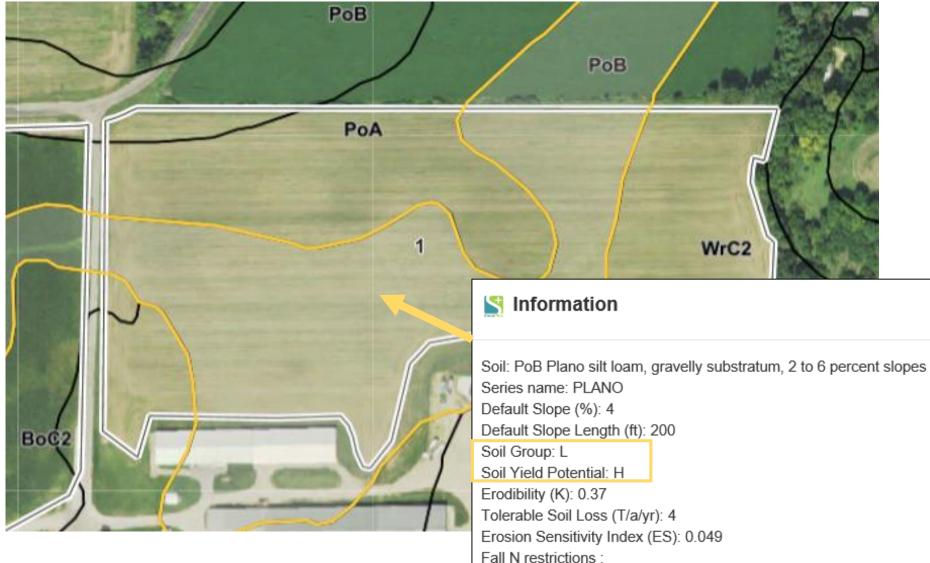


Year	Soil Test	pН	OM	Р	К
2018	2015-11-05	6.5	2.7	27	77



NMP: Example field Nutrient recommendations

Step 2 Identify predominant soil type



CAFO manure restrictions :



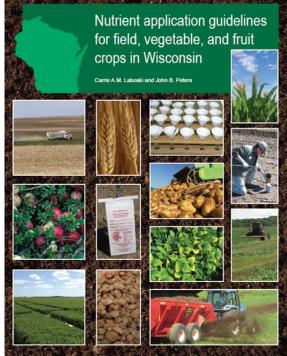
Step 3 Look up UW-Extension recommendations

Year	Soil Test	pН	OM	Ρ	K
2018	2015-11-05	6.5	2.7	27	77

Soil group: Loamy Soil yield response to N: High

Crop Year (Fall to Fall): Crop: Yield Goal:

2018	
Corn silage	-
25.1-30	-

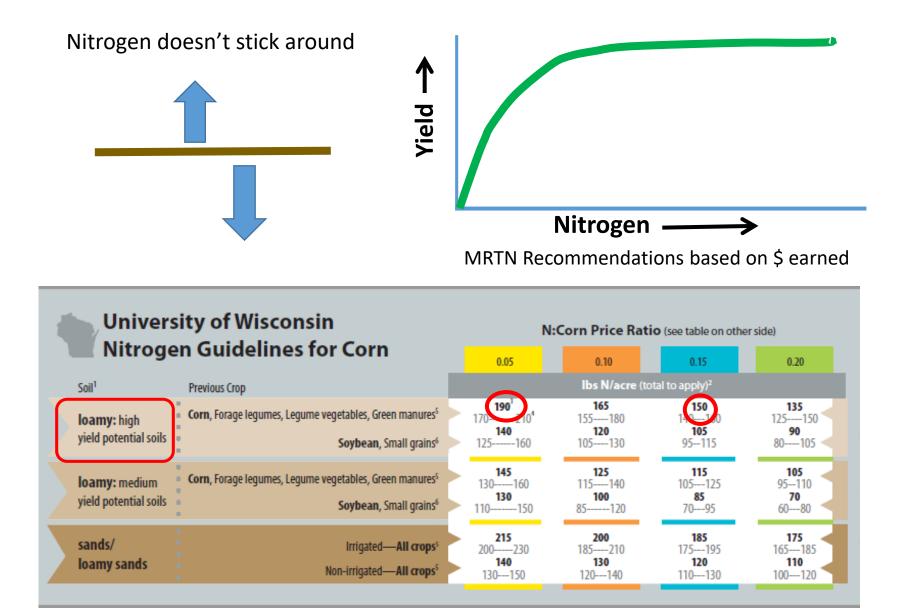


UW-Ext Pub A2809

(lbs/acre)	N	P2O5	K20
UW Recommendation:	190	<mark>50</mark>	285



Nitrogen Recommendations







P and K stay in soil

Soil Test pH OM Ρ ĸ Year 2018 2015-11-05 6.5 2.7 27 77 Soil test category High (H) Excessively high (EH) Very low (VL) Low (L) Optimum (0) -soil test P ppm^b Soil group^a Demand level 1: corn grain, soybean, clover, small grains (but not wheat), grasses, oilseed crops, pasture Loamy < 10 10 - 1516 - 2021 - 30> 30Sandy, Organic < 12 12 - 2223 - 3233-42 > 42 Demand level 2: alfalfa corn silage, wheat, beans, sweet corn, peas, fruits < 12 12 - 1718-25 26-35 > 35 Loamy Sandy, Organic < 18 18-25 26-37 38-55 > 55

Recommendations based on soil storage and expected crop removal





SOIL TEST LEVEL OF THE FIELD

			Very Low	Low	Optimum	High	Very High	Ex. High				
		@ 35% DM (tons/acre)		Ib P ₂ O ₅ or K ₂ O/acre to apply								
	e	15-20	105	95	65	35	-	0				
	nat	20-25	120	110	80	40	-	0				
ш	Phosphat	25-30	140	130	100	50	-	0				
9	Å	30-35	155	145	115	60	-	0				
A	-	35-40	175	165	135	70	-	0				
		15-20	200	185	145	75	35	0				
S	÷	20-25	240	225	185	95	45	0				
	Potash	25-30	285	270	230	110	60	0				
	ě.	30-35	325	310	270	135	70	0				
		35-40	365	350	310	155	80	0				

--- Very high category does not exist for soil test phosphorus



Applying nutrients to meet recs

(lbs/acre)	N	P2O5	K20	
UW Recommendation:	190	50	285	

Manure

N, P2O5, K2O & S va Ibs/unit		first year ava bs/1000 gallo		ıts in	
Nutrient Type	N surface	N incorp	N inject	P2O5	K2 O
Dairy, slurry	7	10	12	6	17

							_				
	Source name	•	Seaso	n	Spread method		Acres applied	Rate		Units	144 lb N
۲	Dairy Slurry	Ŧ	Spring	Ŧ	Injected	Ŧ	17.7	12,000	J .	gals/a	

Fertilizer

	Source name	Season	Spread method	Acı
	starter 💌	Spring -	Incorpor	
•	28% UAN (Li 🝷	Spring -	Unincor	

(Ibs/acre) UW Recommendation: This year's manure: This year's fertilizer: Total credits & applications: Over(+)/Under(-) adj UW rec:

N	P2O5	K20
190	<mark>50</mark>	285
144	72	204
42	23	30
186	95	234
-4	45	-51



Identifying over-applications

Nitrogen: Can't exceed recommendations

Adjusted UW recommendation:
1st & 2nd year legume credit:
2nd & 3rd year manure credit:
This year's manure:
This year's fertilizer:
Total credits & applications:
Over(+)/Under(-) adj UW rec:

190	50	285	
0	-	-	
0	-	-	
192	96	272	
59	0	0	
251	96	272	
61	46	-13	

Phosphorus:

- Fertilizer can't exceed rotation recommendations
- Manure phosphorus has options: Soil test P balance
 P Index



Phosphorous is managed over the crop rotation

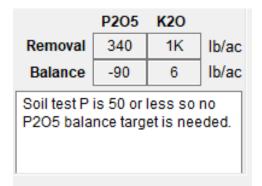
Crop Year (Fall to Fall):	2018		2019	_	2020	_	2021	_	2022	_
Crop:	Corn silage	•	Corn silage	-	Alfalfa Seeding Spring	•	Alfalfa	-	Alfalfa	•
Yield Goal:	25.1-30	•	25.1-30	-	2.6-3.5	-	3.6-4.5	-	3.6-4.5	•
Tillage:	Spring Chisel, no disk	•	Spring Chisel, no disk	•	Spring Chisel, no disk	•	None	•	None	•

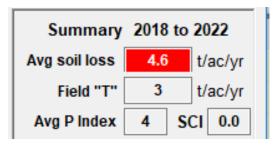
Soil Test P Balance

P Index

All Rotation Additions - Crop Removal

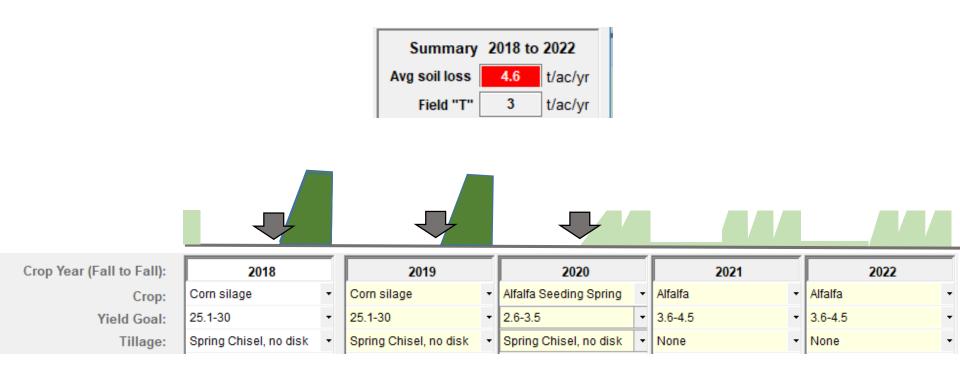
Estimates runoff P losses







590: No manure or fertilizer on fields with soil loss above T

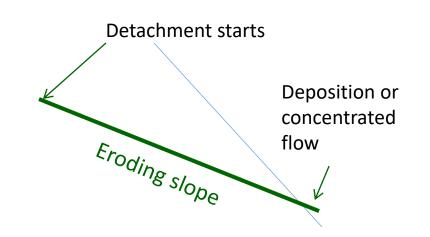


RUSLE2 Universal Soil Loss Equation



Erosion = R x K x S x L x C x P

- R = Erosivity of local rainfall
- K = Erodibility of soil
- S = Slope steepness
- L = Slope length
- C = Cover management
- P = Practices



Result: Average annual sheet and rill erosion on a slope in ton/acre/year

SnapPlus RUSLE2 soil loss estimates

• Simplify steps for users

Erosion

 Follow NRCS guidelines, use dominant critical soil

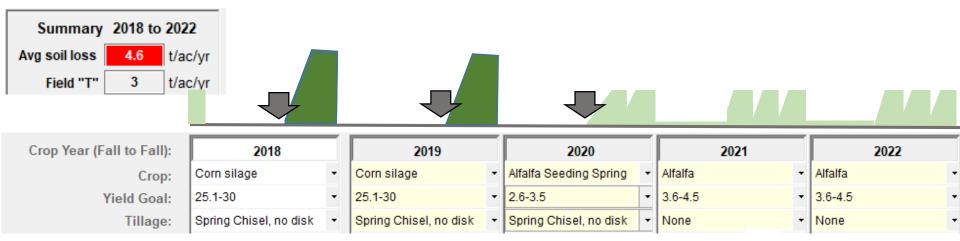
> Dominant critical soil details: Name: Warsaw Symbol: WrC2 Slope: 9.0 Texture: Silt Loam

 Err on side of over-estimating soil loss

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fanage Soil 20 Topo 0.	50.		100. R	Add break	Erase break		ation USAW/iscons Slope length (hi Avg. slope steepn Detachment on slope, t Soil loss erod. portion, t Soil loss for cons. plan, t Soil loss for cons. plan, t Adjust res. buis Surt. cover after plant	ess, % 9.0 /ac/yr 1.4 /ac/yr 1.4 /ac/yr 1.4 /ac/yr 1.4 /ac/yr 1.4 allevel burg
		iraphic	l\corn silage;	NT with NT rye co	over z4 cont*		natural rough., mm used as a rotation?	tor 0.020 ctor 1.3 US 0.42
	View/edit rotatio Add to this Imgation s	: manageme	ed to make thi nt to make ne				iel for all operations . diesel use, gal/ac iergv use . BTU/ac	ctor 0.98 ctor 0.94 , fra 1.0
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lydrology Sedimen	Date, m/d/y + -	2 	No operation	builde		Base Im In	hiel cost, USS/ac g start date, m/d/y ng end date, m/d/y	t, % 0 c/yt 5.0 0 Erosion by ralues Ro Erosbilty
lydrolog, Sedimen oil Segme	Date, m/d/y + - 11/1/1 4/26/2 5/1/2	> Sp ble disk	No operation rayer, kill crop opnr w/fluted	builde		Base Im In In	hiel cost, USS/ac g start date, m/d/y ng end date, m/d/y	r. & 0 c/yr 50 Erosion by ralues Ro Erodbilty er on segmer
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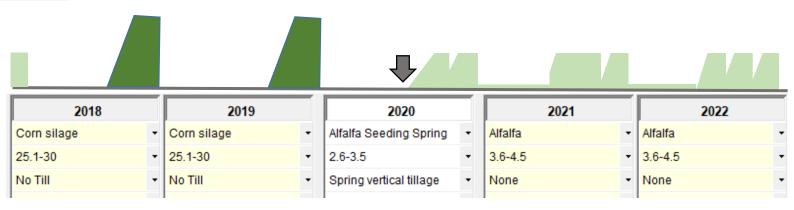
T is not a water quality standard

Reducing tillage reduces soil loss



Summary 2018 to 2022							
Avg soil loss	2.3	t/ac/yr					
Field "T"	3	t/ac/yr					

Erosion



Other methods to reduce soil loss

Adjust crop rotation to add soil cover



Cover crops



Contour farming



Strip cropping



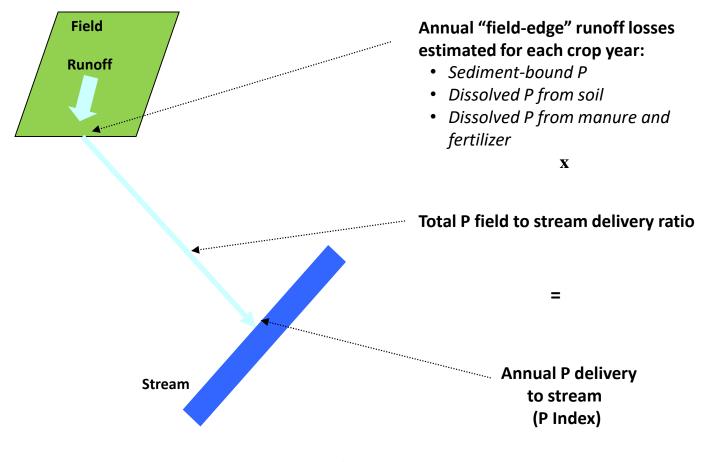
Contour grass buffers





Wisconsin P Index

P Index estimates P delivery to nearest surface water body in lb/a/yr with long-term average weather



Not a water quality assessment

Runoff P

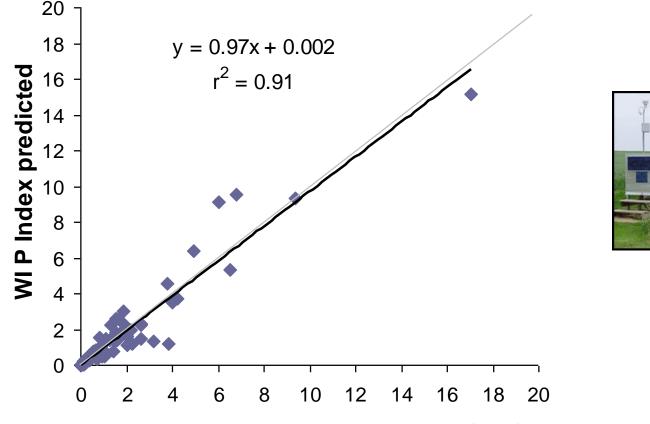
Erodible or Dissolvable Phosphorus

Erosion and Runoff

and

P Losses

"Source" Components of P Index Equations Tested



Measured runoff total P (lb acre⁻¹ yr⁻¹)

Revised WI P Index compared to measured runoff losses for 86 site years using measured sediment and runoff volume in the equations

Source: Good, L.W., P. Vadas, J.C. Panuska, C.A. Bonilla, W.E. Jokela, 2012. Testing the Wisconsin Phosphorus Index with Year-Round Field-Scale Runoff Monitoring. Journal of Environmental Quality. 41:1730-1740.

Estimating Transport

- Eroding sediment
 - RUSLE2 erosion
- Rainfall runoff

- Runoff curve numbers

Snowmelt runoff

- Method based on surface depressional storage and measured long-term average winter runoff for agricultural watersheds

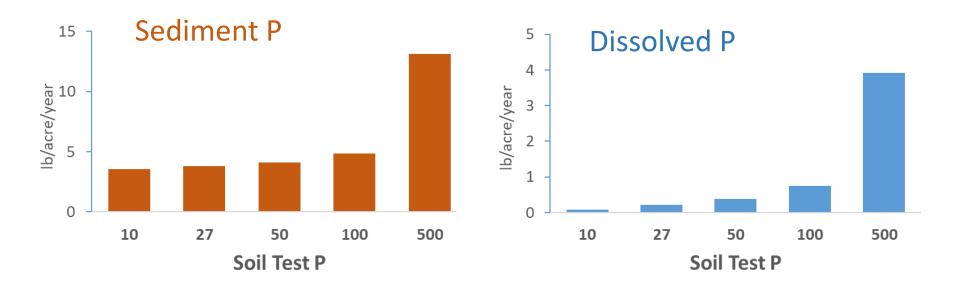




Soil test P and P losses

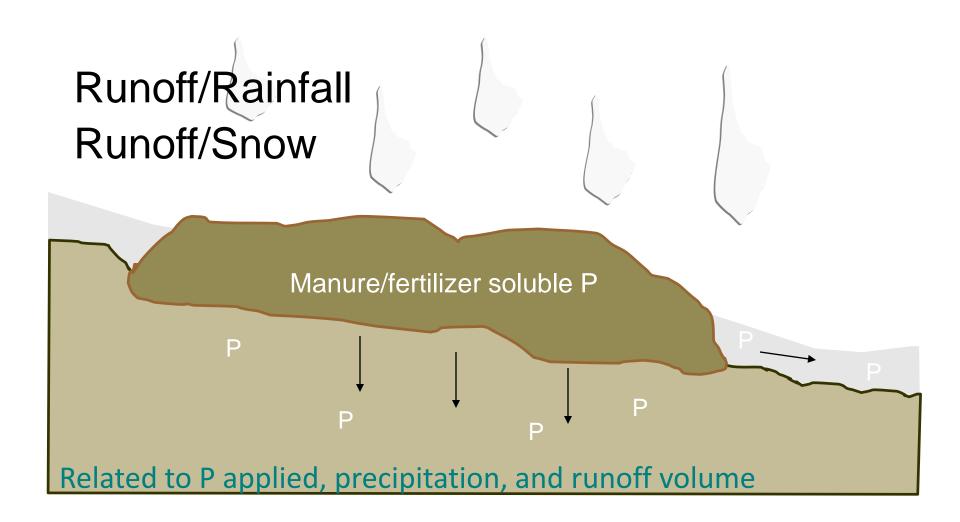
- Sediment P related to Soil total P related to soil organic matter and soil test P
- Runoff dissolved P related to soil test P

Estimated runoff P losses for example field varying soil test P



Soil test P, Dane County 2010-14: 50 ppm average and 500 ppm maximum

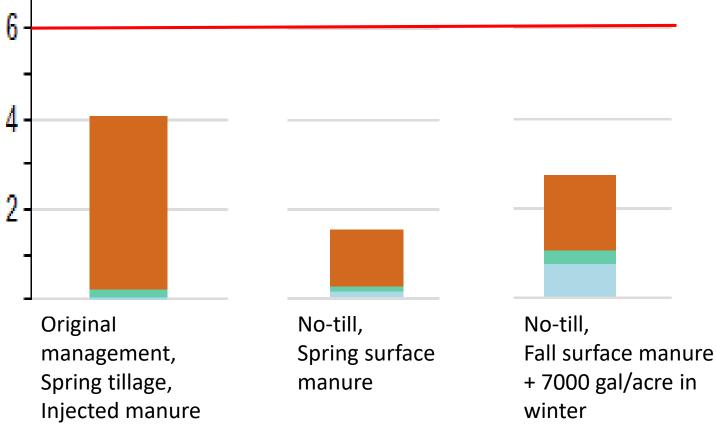
P losses from manure or fertilizer





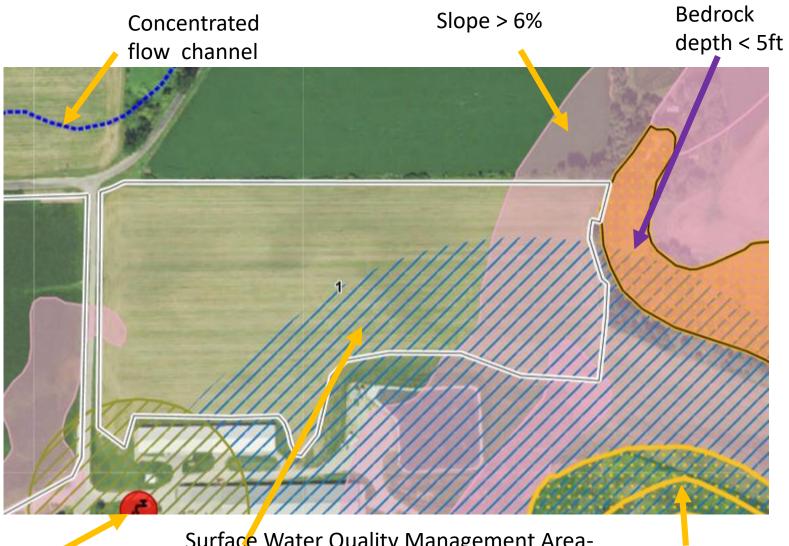
P Index varies with management

Example field with 5-year crop rotation



Eroded soil P
 Dissolved P from soil
 Dissolved P from manure and fertilizer

590: Nutrient application restriction areas



Drinking water well

Surface Water Quality Management Area-1000 ft from a pond

High Leaching Potential Soil

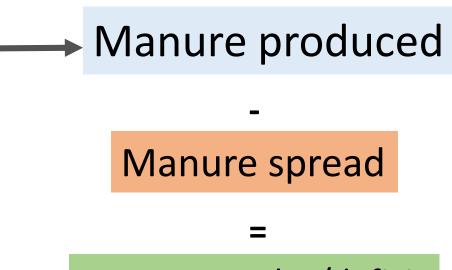
590: Winter spreading restrictions

Additional practices required on fields with concentrated flow channels and slopes greater than 6% Rate limitations No manure



590: Farm-level calculations

- Animal numbers, type and size
- Manure collected and stored



Manure surplus/deficit

All manure produced must be accounted for



Farm level nutrient supply accounting

- Manure (how many animals, when its available, do they have storage in the winter, are their animals out on pasture, where does the manure go?)
- Amount of manure and when it needs to be spread
- Is there enough storage or fields suitable for winter spreading?
- N, P, K content of the manure
- Equipment for spreading (how many tons per acre can it spread?)
- Fertilizers to fill remaining recommendations



Example: Planning for a small dairy farm

70 milk cows + 70 calves/young cows



Manure 2600 tons per year

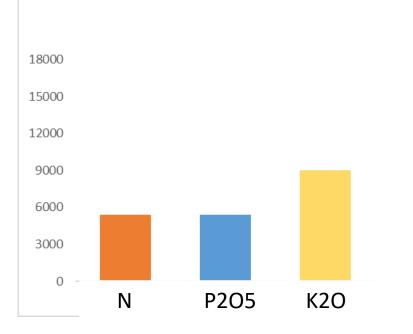


- 1800 tons collected and spread on fields
- 800 tons deposited on pasture

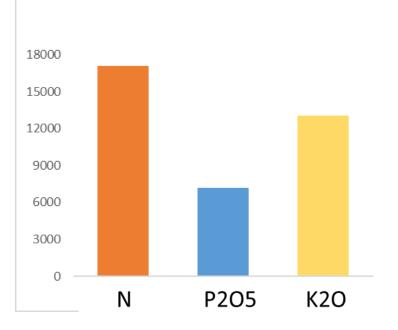


Farm level nutrient supply vs crop need

1800 ton manure Crop-available nutrients in lb.



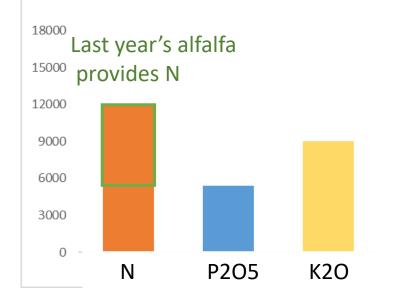
Corn need for 90 acre Required nutrients in lb.



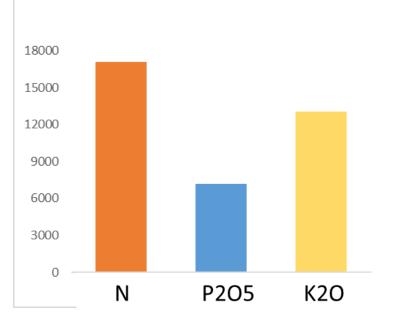


Farm level nutrient supply vs crop need

1800 ton manure Crop-available nutrients in lb.



Corn need for 90 acre Required nutrients in lb.





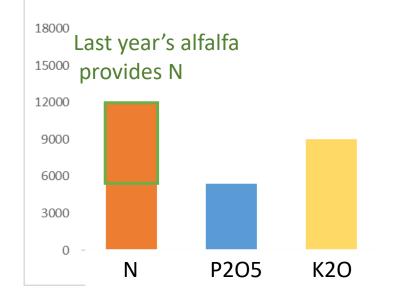
Farm level nutrient supply vs crop need

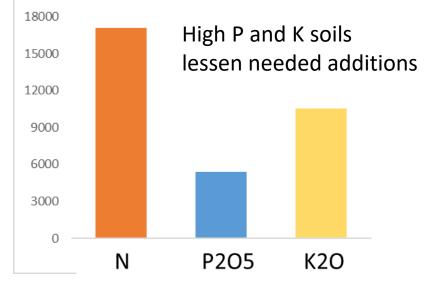
1800 ton manure

Crop-available nutrients in lb.

Corn need for 90 acre

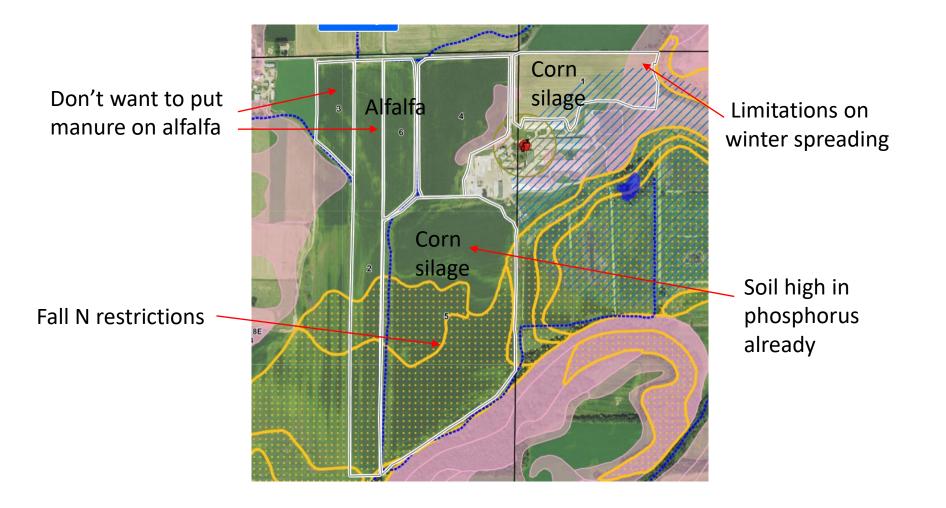
Required nutrients in lb.





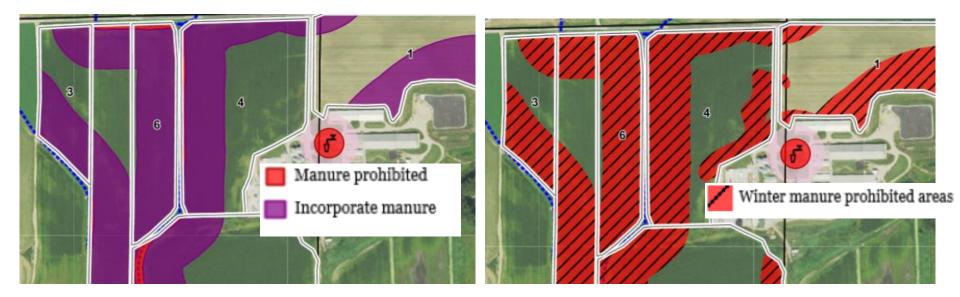


Challenge to get farm plan to work at field level every year



CAFO plans more restrictive

- No winter spreading of liquid manures
- Limitations on winter spreading solid manures
- Manure prohibition setbacks on conduits to groundwater and concentrated flow channels



Who does NM Planning in Wisconsin?

Certified Crop Advisers Lab Agronomists Coop Agronomists Independent crop consultants

Farmers in NM training



Who sees the plans?

Farmers - Data confidentiality is an increasing concern. Once in the public record, all of data is available for review.

Haulers and applicators (sometimes)

County Land Conservation Department may receive (depending on program and cost-sharing):

- Complete plan on paper
- SnapPlus database
- Checklist (for updates)

CAFO plans – DNR requires complete plan with maps

Nutrient Management Checklist

DATCP collects checklists

ARI)							
		Yes	No	NA			
(n. Make no untreated manure applications to areas within 1000' of a community potable water well or within 100' of a non- community potable water well (ex. church, school, restaurant) unless manure is treated to substantially eliminate pathogens.						
	o. Make no manure applications to areas locally delineated by the Land Conservation Committee or in a conservation plan as areas contributing runoff to direct conduits to groundwater unless manure is substantially buried within 24 hours of application.						
	 p. Make no applications of late summer or fall commercial N fertilizer to the following areas UNLESS needed for establishment of fall seeded crops or to meet UWEX Pub. A2809 with a blended commercial fertilizer. N applied in a blended commercial fertilizer shall not exceed 36 lbs. N/acre on: Sites vulnerable to N leaching PRW Soils (P=high permeability, R= bedrock < 20 inches, or W= wet < 12 inches to apparent water table); Soils with depths of 5 feet or less to bedrock; Area within 1,000 feet of a community potable water well. On P soils, when commercial N is applied for full season crops in spring and summer, follow A2809 and apply one of the following: A split or delayed N application to apply a majority of crop N requirement after crop establishment. Use a nitrification inhibitor with ammonium forms of N. 						
	 Use slow and controlled release fertilizers for a majority of the crop N requirement applied near the time of planting. q. Limit manure applications in late summer or fall using A2809 and the following 590 levels, whichever is less, on PRW Soils. Use ≤ 120 lbs. available N/acre on: P and R soils on <u>all crops, except annual crops</u>. Additionally, manure with ≤ 4% dry matter (DM) wait until after soil temp. < 50°F or Oct. 1. Use either a nitrification inhibitor OR surface apply and do not incorporate for 3 days. W soils or combo. W soils on <u>all crops</u>. Additionally, manure with ≤ 4% DM on <u>all crops</u> use at least one of these practices: 1. Use a nitrification inhibitor; 2. Apply on an established cover crop, an overwintering annual, or perennial crop; 3. Establish a cover crop within 14 days of application; 4. Surface apply & don't incorporate for at least 3 days; 5. Wait until after soil temp. < 50°F or Oct. 1. Use ≤ 90 lbs. available N/acre on: P and R soils on <u>annual crops</u> wait until after soil temp. < 50°F or Oct. 1. Additionally, manure with ≤ 4% DM use either a nitrification inhibitor OR surface apply ad on ot incorporate for at least 3 days; 5. Wait until after soil temp. < 50°F or Oct. 1. Use ≤ 90 lbs. available N/acre on: P and R soils on <u>annual crops</u> wait until after soil temp. < 50°F or Oct. 1. Additionally, manure with ≤ 4% DM use either a nitrification inhibitor OR surface apply and do not incorporate for 3 days. W soils or combination W soils manure with ≤ 4% DM on <u>all crops</u>. 						
	 r. Use one or more of the following practices on non-frozen soils for all nutrient applications including manure, or organic by-products with >11% dry matter within Surface Water Quality Management Area (SWQMA) 1000' of lakes/ponds or 300' of rivers: 1. Maintain > 30% cover after nutrient application; 2. Effective incorporation within 72 hrs. of application; 3. Establish crops prior to, at, or promptly following application; 4. Install/maintain vegetative buffers or filter strips; 5. Have at least 3 consecutive years no-till for applications to fields with < 30% residue (silage) and apply nutrients within 7 days of planting. 						
1	5. Limit mechanical applications to 12,000 gals/acre of unincorporated liquid manure with 11% or less dry matter where subsurface drainage is present or within SWQMA 1000' of lakes/ponds or 300' of rivers. Wait a min. of 7 days between sequential applications AND use one or more of the practices on non-frozen soils listed in (1.r. practices 1. to 5.).						
	ເທງມະເລທິງ ເປົາຍະເພາ <mark>g 1 sample per 5'acies</mark> ຫຼາມ ເຫຍີຣ. " ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ ຳ						

WDATCP Instructions to NM planners:

- Review NM plan annually
- Make changes if needed
- Submit checklist annually to your county
- Use as a NM plan review form

Who checks implementation?

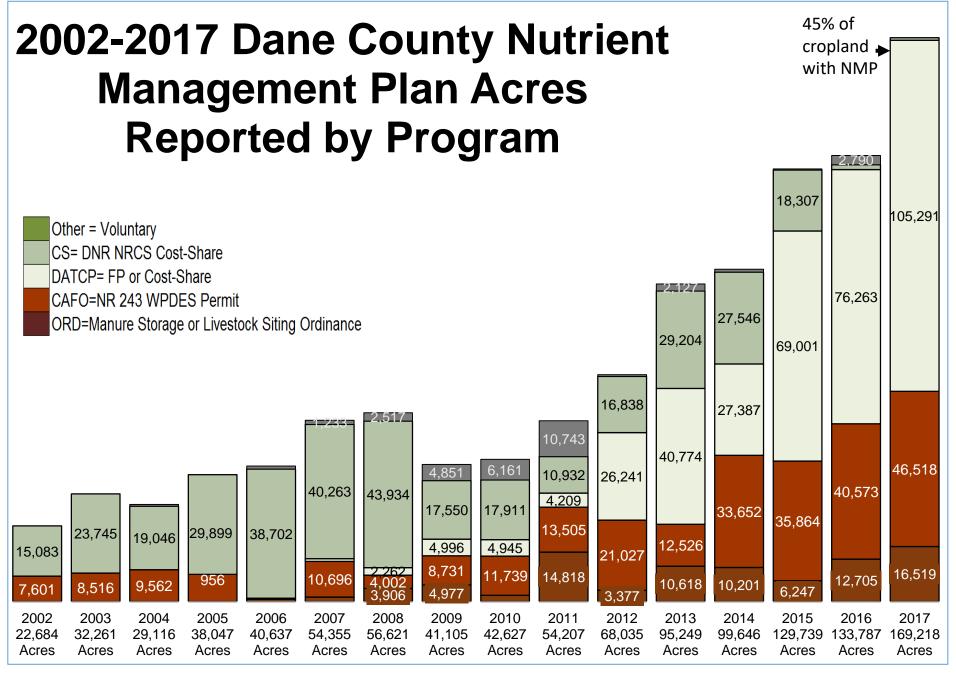
- Each plan review can take 2 -5 hours. Additional follow up is usually needed.
- Requires agronomic credentials to engage farmers and plan writers on crop production issues.



Can implementation be accurately checked?

NMP Incentives

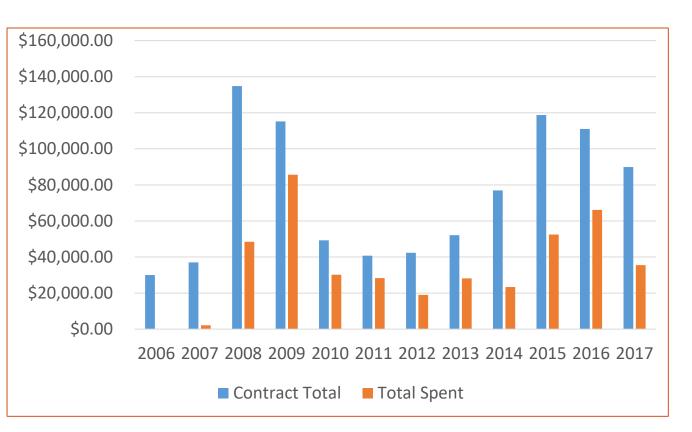
- Cost-sharing
- Tax Credits
- Permit/ordinance requirements
- Save \$



Source: Sara Walling WDATCP

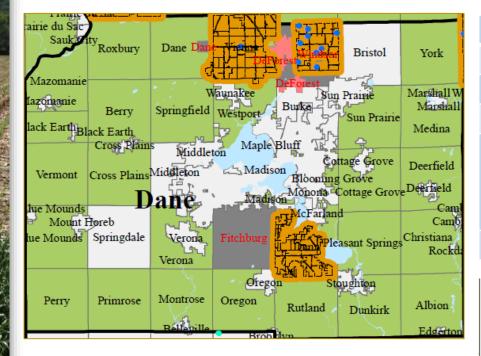
State Cost-Sharing in Dane County





Source: Sara Walling, WDATCP

Dane County Farmland Preservation



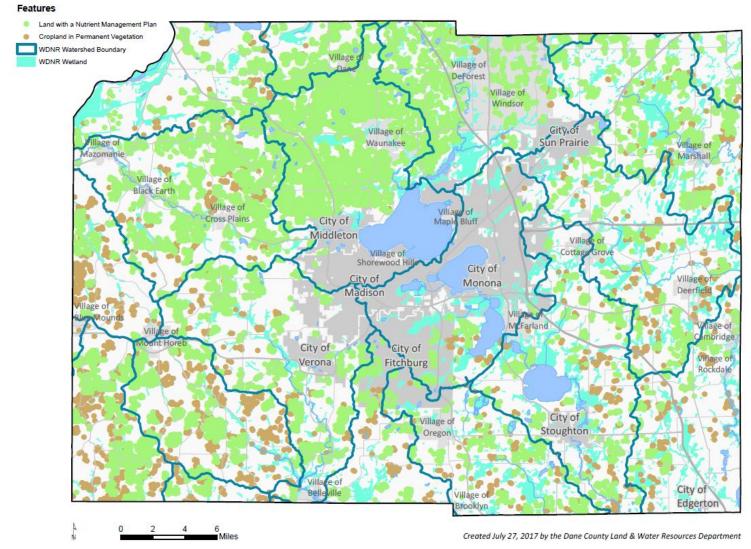
2015 Tax Year Stats f	or Dane County
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Number of Claimants	Nearly 1,400
Acres Claimed	~233,000
Total Credits Received	\$1.68 Million
Credits per acre per year	\$5 – Agreements \$7.50 – Zoned Ag \$10 – Agreement <u>and</u> Zoned Ag
Agreement Expiration Year	Zoning Administered By: County Town



Source: Sara Walling, WDATCP

Nutrient Management Plans in Dane County



Dane County Land Conservation:

Increasing documentation and improving tracking of nutrient management Adding ~14,000 acres of NM documentation annually Building a spatial based dataset 590 NMP: Part of state agricultural runoff performance standards (NR151)

Basic NR 151 requirements related to NM planning:

- Soil loss meets T
- Develop and follow NMP
- Meet P Index standard:

Average P Index no greater than 6, Annual P Index no greater than 12

Important caveats:

- 590 plan NOT required unless a valid offer of cost-sharing is made
- Must maintain 590 plan in "perpetuity"

Clean water act livestock permitting

- Large farm (1000+ animal units)
- Medium (300-99 animal units and discharge via "man-made conveyance)
- Documented Discharge



Runoff P loss practice assessment with the P Index

To determine viable options, need to understand

- Current situation
- Farm goals
- Potential reductions

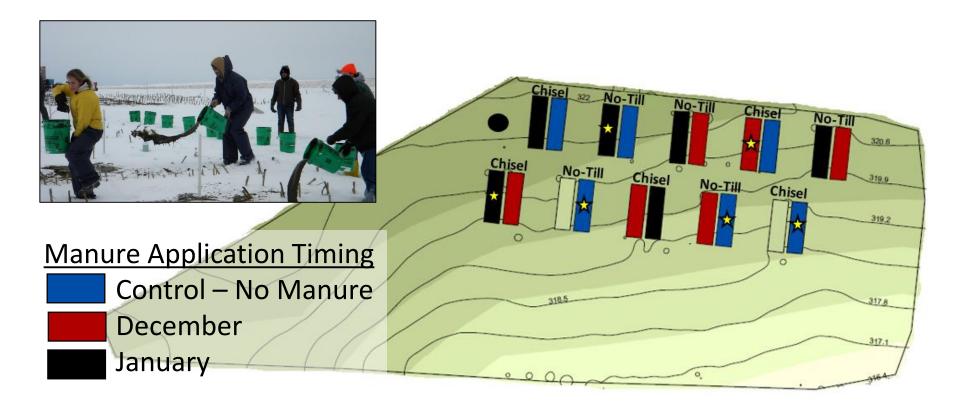
No practice is always "Best" everywhere



Example: Does manure injection in no-till help reduce runoff P losses? Answer: Yes but not on steeper slopes where the injection leads to greater eroding sediment P losses

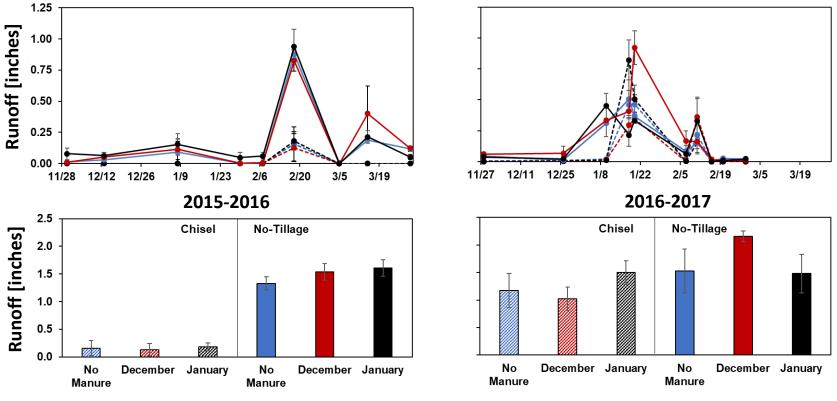
Research: Winter manure application effects on runoff P

Current research at Arlington Research Station



Courtesy of Melanie Stock, Dept. of Soil Science, UW Madison

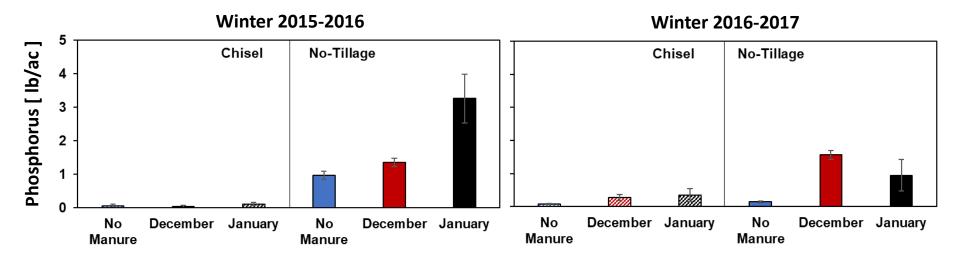
Fall tillage reduced snowmelt runoff



Manure Application Timing

Courtesy of Melanie Stock, Dept. of Soil Science, UW Madison

Fall tillage reduced snowmelt phosphorus loss



Manure Application Timing

Courtesy of Melanie Stock, Dept. of Soil Science, UW Madison

Summary points

Nutrient management planning:

- Requires detailed information and recordkeeping for all of the nutrients applied on a farm
- Promotes awareness of manure nutrient value
- Requires matching manure and fertilizer applications to crop needs
- Can identify fields with high soil loss or runoff P loss potential
- Provides farmers with options for addressing problems
- Is replacing conservation plans for estimating and addressing sheet and rill soil erosion, identifying ephemeral erosion

NRCS 590 Nutrient Management Conservation Practice Standard:

https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/WI/590 Standard-(2015-12).pdfNRCS Agronomy

NRCS Conservation Planning Technical Note #1 Nutrient Management:

https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/references/public/WI/Conservation Planning-TN-1.pdfutrien

2015 Updates Wisconsin 590 Nutrient Management Practice Standard

https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/NM590Summary2015.pdf

2015 Nutrient Management Plan Checklist

https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/NM590Checklist2015.docx

Nutrient Management Plan Detailed Review Guidance:

https://datcp.wi.gov/Documents/NMSelfPlanReview.pdf

UWEX A-2809 Nutrient Application Guidelines for Field, Vegetable and Fruit Crops in Wisconsin

http://learningstore.uwex.edu/Assets/pdfs/A2809.pdf

University of Wisconsin SNAP+ website (download software and user information)

https://snapplus.wisc.edu/

Wisconsin Department of Agriculture, Trade and Consumer Protection Nutrient Management References:

https://datcp.wi.gov/Pages/Programs_Services/NutrientManagement.aspx

EPA/USDA Unified National Strategy for Animal Feeding Operations

https://www3.epa.gov/npdes/pubs/finafost.pdf

Wisconsin's Runoff Rules: What farmers need to know

https://dnr.wi.gov/topic/nonpoint/documents/farmersneed.pdf