

Nutrient Management Plan And Other Environmental Issues

Bill Rodgers

Brubakers Consulting Service

In the past, Nutrient/Manure Management Plans developed by commercial specialists, local soil conservation district staff, and county extension agents either met a program requirement or improved the nutrient usage on a farm.

Effective October 1, 1997, Pennsylvania required approved Nutrient Management Plans for all Concentrated Animal Operations (CAO) with greater than 2,000 pounds of livestock liveweight per acre of land available for manure production.

Most of these plans are in the implementation stage and must be reviewed once every three years. These plans should be amended if there are significant changes:

- ✓ A net increase of 10% in the animal equivalent units per acre.
- ✓ A decrease of 20% in the amount of nitrogen that can be used on the operation.
- ✓ A change in the use of excess manure utilization.
- ✓ The operation can not achieve at least 80% of the listed yield goal.
- ✓ When a different Best Management Practice (BMP) is planned than listed in the original plan.

The specialist who developed your plan can complete a plan amendment and have it approved by the County Conservation District.

Accurate record keeping can greatly assist the specialist who is completing the three-year review of your nutrient management plan. Each approved nutrient management plan is required to maintain the following records:

- ✓ Manure applications (date, field, manure type, and application rate)
 - ✓ Other fertilizer application records
 - ✓ Crop yields
 - ✓ Soil tests
 - ✓ Manure analysis
 - ✓ Manure production records
- Operations that export manure also need to maintain:
- ✓ The manure export/transport sheets provided by the County Conservation District.
 - ✓ Name, address, and amount of manure that was sold, given, or used by other operators off the farm that produced the manure.
 - ✓ Amount of manure used for other purposes other than land application.

Operations, not considered concentrated animal opera-

(Turn to Page 44)

RETTTEW
ASSOCIATES INC.

*"A Full Service Engineering &
Environmental Consulting Firm"*



- Preparation of Nutrient Management Plans
- Design and Implementation of BMP's
- Land Surveying & Soil Testing
- Blood Analysis
- Stream Restoration

ENGINEERS • PLANNERS • LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTS
ENVIRONMENTAL CONSULTANTS • SURVEYORS

Corporate Headquarters
3020 Columbia Avenue • Lancaster, PA 17603
(717) 394-3721 • FAX (717) 394-1063

E-mail: jbs@rettew.com
cpe@rettew.com

www.rettew.com

"Quality Engineered Through Commitment"



**West Branch
Crop Management
Association**
Successfully Managing
Crops and Environment

10% OFF FOR NEW MEMBERS!

Services provided:

- Nutrient management plans
- Nutrient recommendations
- Herbicide recommendations
- Presidedress nitrogen tests
- Soil sampling
- Manure sampling
- Field measuring
- Yield estimates
- Grain moisture monitoring
- Equipment calibrations (spreaders, planters, drills)
- Insect scouting
- Comprehensive crop record keeping

Contact people
John Flanders (717) 567-7385
Doug Messersmith (570) 753-5729