

APPENDIX A

Environmental Stewardship Assessment: Records and Sampling

The goal of this assessment tool is to help you confidentially evaluate environmental issues related to your own land application record and sampling programs. For each issue listed in the left column, read across to the right and circle (or check) the statement that best describes management practices on your farm.

| Issues | High Risk | Moderate Risk | Low Risk |
|---|---|--|---|
| Records | | | |
| | Data collection and record-keeping program is incomplete, inconsistent, or nonexistent. | Data collection and record-keeping program has been developed and will be fully implemented in near future. | Data collection program has been implemented, AND complete records are available for past five years (or will soon be available with current record-keeping program). |
| Manure sampling and analysis | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Soil sampling and analysis | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Plant tissue sampling and analysis | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Record of manure applicator calibration results | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Manure application records | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Crop yield records | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Manure storage level records | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> | <input type="checkbox"/> |
| Use of records | Records on most previous topics are incomplete or nonexistent. | Records on most previous topics are maintained but are available for only the past one or two years OR available but are not used in developing next year's manure utilization plan. | Records on most previous topics are annually reviewed, summarized, and used to modify next year's manure utilization plan. |
| Soil Sampling Practices | | | |
| Soil sample procedures | Two or less of the "Low-Risk" soil sampling practices have been implemented. | Three of the "Low-Risk" soil sampling practices have been implemented. | <p>A single sample should include at least 15 cores taken randomly or on a grid.</p> <p>A single sample should represent no more than 20 acres.</p> <p>Individual samples should represent obviously different slopes, soil colors, and soil textures if those areas are to be fertilized independently.</p> <p>Sample depth is appropriate for specific planned crop.</p> <p>Samples are collected with only stainless-steel, chrome-plated, or plastic tools and buckets.</p> |

APPENDIX A

Environmental Stewardship Assessment: Records and Sampling (continued)

| Issues | High Risk | Moderate Risk | Low Risk |
|---|---|---|---|
| Manure Sampling Practices | | | |
| Frequency of manure sampling | Manure sampling is nonexistent or inconsistent. | Manure sampling is done annually. | Manure samples are collected each season that significant amounts of manure are land applied. |
| Representative Samples Taken? Anaerobic lagoons | Sample is taken from a single location. | Some but not all of "Low-Risk" sampling practices are implemented. | Sample submitted to lab is pooled from eight samples taken from lagoon perimeter at depths of about 1 ft to about 6 ft from the bank. |
| Slurry manure from below barn pit or storage | Sample is taken from single location or single time during pumpout. | A pooled sample includes samples from < eight locations or is sampled < eight times during pumpout. | Sample is taken during or immediately following agitation. OR A pooled sample is collected from eight locations with a sampler that collects a profile base upon depth. OR A pooled sample is collected at eight evenly spaced times during storage pumpout. |
| Solid manure | Sample is taken from single location or single time during open lot cleaning. | A pooled sample includes samples from < eight locations or is sampled < eight times during open lot cleaning. | A pooled sample is collected from eight locations within a manure or compost pile that are representative of the full depth of the pile. OR A pooled sample is collected from at least eight locations of a drylitter or bedded pack manure in a barn. OR A pooled sample is collected at eight evenly spaced times during open lot cleaning. |