

Farmers and Certified Crop Advisers

Farmers and Certified Crop Advisers in select Southern Minnesota counties are being sought to participate in on-farm nutrient management evaluations during the 2008 crop year.

Project objectives:

- 1) comparing farmer's current nutrient management practices to nutrient management techniques recommended by the USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service. (NRCS)
- 2) provide educational information and assisting farmers with tailoring nutrient management on their own operations
- 3) providing yield and economic results that will assist USDA-NRCS in verifying nutrient management guidance



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
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Minnesota
Nutrient
Management
Initiative

On-Farm Nutrient Management Evaluation Program

Sponsored by:
USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service



In collaboration with:



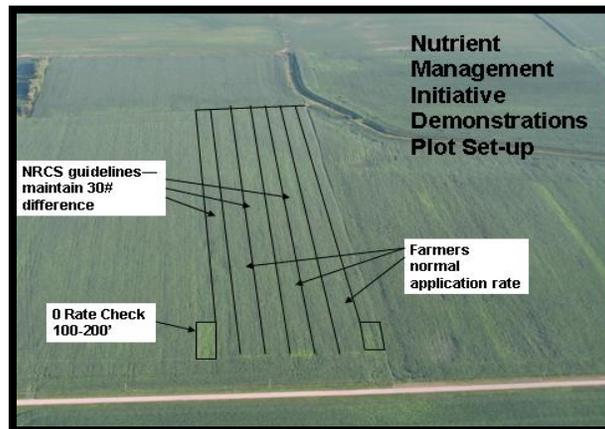
Program Highlights

- A self-evaluation tool for farmers to compare their nutrient management programs under their management systems with nutrient rates recommended by USDA-Natural Resources Conservation Service.
- Farmers will be compensated \$1200 for program participation from the USDA-NRCS in Minnesota upon completion of data submittal.
- Farmers are required to work with a Certified Crop Adviser to validate the results. Crop management and harvest information must be submitted to USDA-NRCS for evaluation.
- Results will evaluate economic performance using farmer's actual input costs and yield information.
- Farmer will receive individual result information upon completion.
- Individual farmer rate trial results will be kept confidential and used only for overall educational purposes.



On-Farm Nutrient Rate Trial Protocol

- Farmer can have a nitrogen or phosphorous rate plot.
- Comparison between two rates and replicated 3 times. Nitrogen rate sites must include a 0 rate (minimal area).
- Nitrogen rate sites must maintain at least a 30# per acre rate differential.
- Corn/soybean or corn/corn rotation.
- No manure or alfalfa history within the last 5 years.
- High yielding sites are preferred with high or very high testing soils.



Sign-up Agreements and Protocol are posted on the Minnesota Department of Agriculture's Web Site at:

www.mda.state.mn.us/protecting/soilprotection/nmi.htm



How Do I Sign-up?

- Farmer must complete a Producer Agreement accompanied by an EQIP contract prior to nutrient applications. (See USDA-NRCS at your county Ag Service Center)
- Provide proposed nutrient application information.
- Complete and submit Crop Management information by July 1st.
- Complete and submit Harvest Data Information by December 1st.

For more information contact:

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