

Conservation Security Program Enhancement Sheets

Nutrient Management Enhancements Minnesota, 2005

Soil sampling that represents an area no larger than 20 acres on large, uniform fields or 5 acres or less on hilly or rolling ground to better utilize nutrients and address water quality concerns

Definition

Determine the relative nutrient supplying power of soil.

Purpose

Accurately account for nutrients provided by soil when determining planned nutrient applications. Determine within-field soil fertility variability.

Where Used

All fields receiving nutrient applications.

Operation and Maintenance

- Samples collected at least once every four years (more frequently for nitrate samples) according to NRCS guidelines.
- The required number of composite samples per field is initially 1 per 5 acres on complex terrain and 1 per 20 acres on simple terrain. The number of samples can decrease in subsequent years dependent on initial results and ability or lack of ability to account for within-field variability.
- Samples packaged and submitted to Minn. Department of Agriculture Certified soil testing laboratories according to those lab's recommended procedures. At a minimum, samples are analyzed for soil pH, Buffer Index, organic matter (%), elemental P (ppm), and elemental K (ppm).

Sampling procedures can be located at the following site:

<http://www.mn.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ecs/nutrient/plant%20nutrient/plantnutrient.htm>

Payment

A payment per acre per acre on acres on which samples will be taken during the contract.

Documentation Required

Copies of soil test reports. Help NRCS update your CSP Water Quality Benchmark form "Cropping History and Soil Fertility Inventory" contained in our files.

Signature _____ Date _____



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