

Virginia Nutrient Management Verification Form -Planner Document-

Farmer Name _____

Unique Identifier Number of Plan Reported on Your

Activity Report: _____

County(s): if several counties list each with acres: _____

Number of acres covered by the plan: _____

Virginia Nutrient Management Planner Certification Number: _____

Instructions:

In this evaluation the verification period is the most recent previous 12 month period: / / to / /

If all fields in the NMP receiving nutrient applications are not under the operational control of the farmer and/or the owner, the plan needs to be modified to contain only the fields under the operational control of the farmer and/or the owner prior to conducting a verification.

Does farmer have records showing they have implemented the NMP? (No specific format or form is required. Nutrient application rates, dates, methods, etc. should be documented in sufficient detail to reasonably demonstrate that the plan has been followed.)

Yes acres _____; No acres _____

Notes:

Answer all of the questions below to evaluate your client's implementation of their Nutrient Management Plan (NMP). Many of the questions below address the specific activities that the farmer must carry out to implement the NMP. Base your answers on an interview with the farmer and review of the farmer's nutrient application and crop management records. Attaching copies of farmer nutrient records is not required.

Use the "notes" sections (where provided) to explain any "justifiable deviations*" by the farmer from the NMP or other discrepancies between the plan and the farmer's records.

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

A “**justifiable deviation**” would be a situation where the farmer takes action that is not exactly as specified in the NMP, but which follows the Purpose, Nutrient Management Plan Content and Procedures of the Virginia Nutrient Management Program. (4VAC 50-85-20, 130, 140)

Examples would include: applying lower N and P rates than called for in the plan (as long as crop yields are acceptable to the farmer), spreading on snow covered fields only after contacting and working with the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) to best identify low risk fields that should be used for application, to prevent a waste storage facility from overtopping, adjusting the nutrients applied to reflect changes in the crops actually planted if different from what was written in the NMP, etc.

If a Certified Nutrient Management Planner determines that there is a “justifiable deviation”, they must fully document why the deviation is justified. Justification will be based on how closely the deviation still aligns with plan writing criteria. A significant number of justifiable deviation acres indicates that a plan should have been modified or revised prior to the surveyed plan year. Modifications or revisions should be made, ideally, before the actual operation, but at least as soon after the change as possible. Additional follow up communication may be warranted in these situations to ensure the farmer’s planning needs are being adequately addressed and “implemented” acres can show a positive commitment on behalf of the farmer and the planner.

Implemented acres = yes acres + justifiable deviation acres.

Total acres = yes acres + justifiable deviation acres + no acres.

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

Nutrient Management Plan Content

1. Does the NMP cover sheet include a DCR-certified NMP writer's name, certification number, and signature?

Yes No; missing items: _____

Notes:

2. Does the farmer have a current NMP that qualifies for verification?

a. Yes = *plan shall be current or revised, as long as expiration date is equal to or greater than 12 months, following the date of verification, then verification of previous 12 months from the date of verification can be conducted*

b. No = *no verification can be done*

3. a. Date of Verification: _____/_____/_____

b. Plan Begin Date: _____/_____/_____

c. Plan Expiration Date: _____/_____/_____

4. Is the NMP based on up-to-date:

a. Soil Tests: Yes acres: _____ No acres: _____

b. Sample Date Range: _____/_____/_____ to _____/_____/_____

c. Manure Tests: Yes acres: _____ No acres: _____

d. Manure Sample Date(s): _____/_____/_____

5. For the period of verification, do crops in the records match the NMP?

(If the crop does not match the NMP did the farmer adjust his nutrient applications to fit the crop in the field while not over applying nutrients? To accept this deviation, there must be records on the farm, which document the changes made.)

Matching Acres: _____

Justifiable Deviation Acres: _____

Acres not Matching: _____

i. Example: Acceptable - Corn in plan. Sorghum planted, but nutrients applied at Sorghum rate.

ii. Example NOT acceptable: Corn in plan, nutrients applied at corn rate, sorghum planted or field left fallow

Notes:

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

6. Does the farmer follow recommendations in the NMP related to **timing** of inorganic nitrogen (N fertilizer) applications to every field? Specifically, apply no inorganic N fertilizer applications in the absence of an actively growing crop or more than 30 days ahead of planting.

Yes acres: _____

No acres: _____

Notes:

7. Does the farmer follow all **application rate** recommendations for nitrogen (N), phosphorous (P), in the NMP for all fields covered by the NMP? (*Note, if the farmer applies nutrients at a rate lower than indicated in the NMP the farmer is still considered to be following the NMP, as long as crop yields are acceptable**) This includes any P-based restrictions or prohibitions on application of manure.

Yes acres: _____

No acres: _____

Justifiable Deviation Acres: _____

- i. Example: Acceptable P Index indicates 1.5 times P on crop. Farmer applies to meet crop removal.
(Field note indicates farmer intention to apply less than plan recommendation)
ii. Not acceptable: No P added and crop production is less than acceptable yields*.
*(Acceptable yields match yield expectation of farmer)

Notes:

8. Does the farmer own and/or rent fertilizer application equipment to apply his own fertilizer:

Yes

No

(If yes, has the fertilizer applicator equipment been calibrated during the period of verification?

Yes, Date of Calibration: _____/_____/_____

No:

OR

Fertilizer applications are done by a commercial or custom applicator, farmer would not be responsible for verifying calibration but has representative sample of commercial/custom application invoices as part of the records.

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

9. On fields listed in the NMP as **environmentally sensitive** sites, does the farmer follow the more intensive guidelines listed in the NMP for rate, timing of nutrient applications? (In particular, **split** all inorganic nitrogen (N) applications to row crops and small grains.

Yes acres: _____

No acres: _____

Notes:

Animal Waste Production & Utilization

(if no animal waste is produced or used on farm, skip to next section)

1. Are the following NMP numbers within 10% of the current farm operation?

Livestock numbers: Yes No N/A

Poultry Numbers: Yes No N/A

Manure Production: Yes No N/A

Manure allocation: Yes No N/A

If no, the actual amounts are:

Livestock: _____ Manure Prod.: _____ Allocation: _____

Poultry: _____ Manure Prod.: _____ Allocation: _____

Notes: (if the number of animals has changed by 10% or more the plan must be modified to qualify for verification)

2. Is poultry litter exported? Yes No

a. If yes, Tons Produced: _____

Tons Exported: _____

Manure Allocated: _____

3. Does the farmer own and/or rent manure application equipment to apply his own manure:

Yes

No

(If yes, has the manure applicator equipment been calibrated during the period of verification?

Yes: Date of Calibration: _____/_____/_____

No

OR

Manure applications are done by a commercial or custom applicator, farmer would not be responsible for calibration but has representative sample of commercial/custom application invoices, showing volume of manure related to acres applied.

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

4. Does the farmer follow the **spreading schedule** in the NMP for applied manure? (*Less restrictive application timing may be allowed to manage storage constraints on sites that are not environmentally sensitive*)

Yes acres: _____

N acres: _____

N/A Acres: _____ acres

Notes:

5. Does the farmer follow all restrictions in the NMP regarding nutrient applications to **frozen or snow covered ground** as stipulated in the approved NMP?

Yes

No

Notes:

6. Does the farmer follow all NMP recommendations for not spreading manure in designated setback areas?

Yes

No _____ acres = setback acres receiving applications

Notes:

7. Does the farmer follow recommendations in the NMP related to **rate** of organic nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) applications to fields to receive manure?

Yes acres: _____

No acres: _____

Notes:

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge the above information is correct.

Based upon the information collected, I believe that the farmer is implementing the Nutrient Management Plan in accordance with the Virginia NMP standards and criteria to the degree depicted below. DCR will track and report all categories.

A) Yes acres: _____

B) Justifiable Deviation acres: _____

C) No Acres: _____

D) Total Plan Acres = (A + B + C): _____

Percentage implemented = (A+B divided by D then x 100) _____

Planner's signature _____ Date ____ / ____ / ____

Additional Enhanced Nutrient Management BMP's

Advanced N Management Tools:

N 1. Does the farmer apply Nitrogen fertilizer by variable or zone application rate?

Yes acres _____

No

Does the farmer do any of the following for improved Nitrogen (N) management?

N 2. Split sidedress applications (2 or more) of N on corn, cotton?

Yes acres: _____

No

N 2.a Inject N? Yes acres: _____ No

N 2.b Band N at planting? Yes acres: _____ No

N 2.c Incorporate broadcast N? Yes acres: _____ No

N 3. Small Grain Split Spring Topdress Applications (2 or more)

Yes acres: _____

No

N 4. Taken & followed recommendations for following tests?

N 4.a PSNT Yes acres: _____ No

N 4.b CSNT Yes acres: _____ No

N 4.c Fall Soil Nitrate Samples before Small Grain planting Yes acres: _____ No

N 5. Apply N at less than plan recommended rate, on any crop? Yes Acres: _____ No

N 6. Manure Test(s) one year old or less Yes Date: ____/____/____ No

N 6.a Applied Acres based on above manure test: _____

Farmer Name or Tracking Number _____

Advanced Phosphorus Management Tools

P-1. Does the farmer apply Phosphorus fertilizer by variable or zone application rate?

Yes acres _____ No

Does the farmer do any of the following for improved Phosphorus management?

P 2. Follows recommendations of the Environmental Threshold?

Yes acres: _____ No

P 3. Follows recommendations of the P-Index?

Yes acres: _____ No

P 4. Split application (2 or more) of P?

Yes acres: _____ No

P 5. Inject P?

Yes acres: _____ No

P 6. Band P at planting?

Yes acres: _____ No

P 7. Incorporate broadcast P?

Yes: _____ No

P 8. Apply less P than the plan recommends?

Yes acres: _____ No

P 9. Soil Tests are one year old or less Date: ____/____/____ Yes Acres: _____

P 10. Manure Test are one year old or less Date: ____/____/____ Yes Acres: _____

P 11. Farm has been evaluated considering Whole Farm Phosphorus Balance

Yes Acres: _____

I confirm that to the best of my knowledge the above Enhanced BMP acres are correct.

Planner's signature: _____ **Date:** ____/____/____