

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT



Nutrient Management (USDA NRCS CPS 590) is a 3-year practice involving the management of the rate, source, placement, and timing of plant nutrients and soil amendments to reduce environmental impacts.

Part of California Farm Bureau's Healthy Soils Block Grant Program, learn more online at: cfbf.com/HSP

This practice aims to:

- Improve crop productivity.
- Improve soil organic matter (SOM).
- Help with soil erosion
- Reduce greenhouse gas emissions.
- Reduce excess nutrients in surface and ground water.

Criteria:

- Reduce fertilizer application rate by 15%.
- Practice applies to all fields where plant nutrients and soil amendments are applied. Does not apply to one-time nutrient applications at the establishment of permanent vegetation.
- Nutrient management plans should be regularly reviewed and updated with each soil test cycle. This includes adjustments for changes in manure management, plant species, crop management, and volume or analysis of nutrients applied.
- Maintain records for at least five years to document the implementation of these plans.
- Develop a comprehensive nutrient management plan covering nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K). This plan should account for all measurable nutrient sources and removal methods, including commercial fertilizers, animal manures, legume fixation, green manures, crop residues, compost organic by-products, biosolids, wastewater, organic materials, estimated soil nutrients, and irrigation water.
- Apply irrigation water efficiently to minimize nutrient loss to water bodies.
- All nutrient management activities must comply with national, state, and local water quality regulations.

Appendix A: Standard Payment

Basic nutrient management: \$17.80 / acre

Implementation Guidelines:

- A nutrient management plan for each field and/or crop based on soil tests analysis and University of California or CDFA recommended rates.
- A farming log records all fertilization activities (fertilizer name, nitrogen content, application rate & date) during each project year.

Verification Requirements:

- Crop name(s) and age or yield target.
- The farming log must demonstrate that nitrogen application rate is 15% less than what was used in the past 3 years or UC recommended rate.
- Receipts of nitrogen fertilizer purchased as applicable.
- Verification is at the end of the project year or end of fertilization cycle as applicable.

Additional Resources:

[USDA NRCS. \(2019\). 590 CPS Nutrient Management](#)

[Overview CPS Nutrient Management](#)

[Appendix A: Practice Scenarios, Rates, Requirements, and Implementation Guidelines](#)