

# 3. Subsurface Phosphorus Placement

#### **Purpose**

- 1. To encourage agricultural producers to utilize nutrient application equipment that places nutrients below the soil surface
- 2. To reduce risk of agricultural nonpoint source pollution of surface water and groundwater resources

# **Applicability**

Applies to cropland acres in the 14-county program area. Acres enrolled in Manure Incorporation are not eligible for Subsurface Fertilizer Placement. Acres receiving payment under any other county, state or federal program (CSP, EQIP, etc.) are not eligible.

# **Specifications**

- 1. The producer has an approved Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan (VNMP) with the local SWCD
- 2. Producer must provide detailed plan of fertilizer and placement equipment to be used to achieve program requirements
- 3. For the length of the agreement, all phosphorus will be placed a minimum of two inches below the surface for each acre contracted
  - a. Phosphorus rates shall not exceed more than two years Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendation
  - b. Phosphorus may be placed in multiple applications, if the total amount does not exceed VNMP
  - c. Wheat starter at removal rate is exempt from the placement requirement, however, no placement payment will be made for that crop year
- 4. Subsurface placement equipment includes, but is not limited to; planter, sidedress, strip-till or nutrient placement toolbars
- 5. Broadcasting and incorporation of phosphorus is not eligible
- 6. Producers will only be paid for acres on which fertilizer is prescribed and applied in accordance with Tri-State Fertilizer Recommendations
- 7. Potassium may be broadcast
- 8. Producers may apply for up to three years of funding for this practice

### **Technical Responsibilities**

#### **Producer Responsibilities**

- 1. Provide VNMP to SWCD
- 2. Provide SWCD with documentation of how the nutrient placement will be accomplished (nutrient application equipment, custom applicator, proposed ag retailer)
- 3. Provide as-applied nutrient application documentation to SWCD for review annually

#### **SWCD Responsibilities**

- 1. Receive application from the producer, determine eligibility, and complete the agreement
- 2. Complete BMP Worksheet to document application plan
- 3. Verify the prescription and as-applied documentation
- 4. Enter all required information into Beehive
- 5. Process payment to the producer

### **Participant Payments**

Producers will receive \$30/ac per year for as-applied acres, for up to three years, after completion of all practice requirements. Funding for 2022 and 2023 is contingent on future funding of the program.

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# **Recordkeeping Requirements**

All applicators/producers shall maintain nutrient application records. For each application of nutrients applied for the primary purpose of agricultural production, the applicator/producer shall document the following information within twenty-four hours of application:

- 1. The date of the application of fertilizer;
- 2. The place of application of fertilizer;
- 3. The number of acres applied;
- 4. The rate of application of fertilizer;
- 5. The total amount of fertilizer applied, by weight or volume;
- 6. An analysis of the fertilizer applied;
- 7. The name of the individual who applied the fertilizer;
- 8. The name of the certificate holder, if applicable;
- 9. The soil conditions at the time of the application;
- 10. The type of application method (soil injected, incorporated, surface, etc..);
- 11. The weather conditions at the time of application, including temperature and precipitation;
- 12. The weather forecast for the day following application; and
- 13. For surface application only, whether the land at the time of application was frozen and/or snow covered.

All individuals acting under the instructions and control of a certificate holder shall transmit all fertilizer application records to the certificate holder within ten days of application.

Nutrient application records shall be maintained for a period of three years. If applicable, the employer of a certificate holder may elect to maintain the nutrient application records. If elected, the employer shall maintain the nutrient application records for a period of three years even if the employee-employer relationship has ended. The employer must make the records available to the certificate holder and the department of agriculture, upon request.

All fertilizer certificate holders shall transmit all nutrient application records to the farm operator within thirty days of application.

Fertilizer certificate holders are not required to submit these records to the director, but the records shall be made available to the director or the director's designee for review upon request.

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