



## 2. Variable Rate Phosphorus Application

### Purpose

1. To maximize nutrient use efficiency
2. To budget, supply, and conserve nutrients for plant production
3. To minimize risk of agricultural nonpoint source pollution of surface water and groundwater resources
4. To maintain or improve the physical, chemical, and biological condition of soil

### Applicability

Applies to cropland acres in the 14-county program area. 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)
2. Grids may be no greater than six acres, zones may be no greater than 12 acres
3. All phosphorus nutrients will be variable rate applied, consistent with prescription provided
4. Phosphorus prescriptions and applications shall not exceed two-year crop recommendations
5. Producer is eligible for payment in fields where phosphorus variable rate application is completed
6. If prescription calls for no phosphorus application, that field is not eligible for variable rate application
7. Broadcast applications of wheat starter are ineligible
8. A geo-referenced as-applied map will be submitted to the local SWCD
9. 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 variable rate application will be accomplished (nutrient application equipment, custom applicator, proposed ag retailer)
3. Provide geo-referenced as-applied nutrient application map 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 \$8/ac per year, for up to three years, after completion of all practice requirements. Funding for 2022 and 2023 is contingent on future funding of the program.

## 2. Variable Rate Phosphorus Application

### 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.