



LINAP Fertilizer Management Workgroup Questionnaire Response Summary

Management Measures to Reduce Fertilizer Requirements

Comprehensive nutrient management plans, when implemented, can reduce nitrogen loads to groundwater and ultimately surface waters. Industry associations - agriculture, commercial, residential, landscaping and golf courses - have recognized the need to manage fertilizers responsibly.

Summary of Findings

- Nutrient Management Plans:
 - The majority of respondents reported that they have recent nutrient (fertilizer) management plans for their agriculture, golf, or landscape/grounds industry.
 - Overall, the majority of respondents believe that there are benefits to being “water quality certified” for their industry.
 - All respondents believe that companies that manage fertilizer do not receive adequate recognition.
 - The majority of respondents support the implementation of incentives to reduce fertilizer use. However, the group was split on whether companies would agree to nitrogen monitoring if incentives were actually implemented.

- Funding Nutrient Management Plans:
 - The group had varied ideas about how management plans should be funded.
 - The use of federal, state and local funds were widely supported.
 - Tax incentives and matching grants were also suggested.
 - Multiple respondents supported the idea of utilizing a combination of funding sources including a combination of public funds, funding from industry associations, manufacturers, trade groups, and research groups.
 - Other suggestions included a pollution surcharge fee on the sale of the products that are found in groundwater and impacting surface water and a surcharge on pesticide business registrations and home improvement licenses.

Fertilizer Management Measures Questionnaire Answers & Analysis

Questions 1 - 6: Management Measures

Affiliation	Q1 (Is there a recent management plan that includes fertilizer for your industry?)	Q2 (Would there be a benefit to companies in your industry to be 'water quality certified'?)	Q3 (Do companies in your industry that do manage fertilizer receive adequate recognition?)	Q4 (Should there be incentives for companies that reduce fertilizer use?)	Q5 (Would companies agree to nitrogen monitoring if there were incentives?)	Q6 (How should management plans be paid for and by whom?)
Advisor 1	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	<p>Several Management Plans are already available: BMPs for Turfgrass were recommended in the Nitrogen Fertilizer Management of Turfgrass in Suffolk County Prepared by R. Portmess and A.M Petrovic, Cornell University, Ithaca, New York. 2010. See also BEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES FOR FERTILIZING LONG ISLAND LAWNS Prepared by Tamson Yeh, CCE – Suffolk County, 11/2008. (Available upon request). For golf courses see SUFFOLK COUNTY NITROGEN MANAGEMENT SUMMARY REPORT, January 19, 2011. Prepared by: Robert Portmess and A. Martin Petrovic, Cornell University. Additional BMPs have been developed LONG ISLAND SPORTS FIELD FERTILIZATION (DRAFT - available upon request).</p>

Affiliation	Q1 cont'd (recent management plan)	Q2 cont'd (water quality certification)	Q3 cont'd (adequate recognition)	Q4 cont'd (incentives)	Q5 cont'd (nitrogen monitoring if incentives)	Q6 cont'd (pay for management plans)
Advisor 2	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	Plans are not as expensive, but implementation can be. The cost to create management plans needs to be derived from public funds guaranteed for several years. This is due to the fact that the certified planners need to be objective in their development of plans and can only be free from bias through guaranteed public funding. Secondly certified plans are only valuable if BMPs are implemented from these plans. A plan is just a comprehensive evaluation of the opportunities available to the farm/industry. Implementation funds need to compliment all conservation plans. BMPs are often very expensive to install and therefor no incentive for a farmer to implement. The SCSWCD uses cost-share programs to help farmers implement practices to voluntarily reduce their impacts. If the goal is to enact change, then we need to focus on providing funds to make these changes.
Advisor 3	Yes	No	No	Yes	No	The development and implementation of management plans can be a costly undertaking. A combination of sources need to be involved in funding plans at all levels of government and industry associations and research groups must be involved as well.
Advisor 4	Yes	No	No	No	No	Note, Q1's answer Yes applies to Ag and golf courses, but not landscape hort. However an Urban Landscape BMP Guide is in the planning stages, to be coordinated by Cornell Univ. Funding through local, state, federal sources.
Environ. 1	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Generic ones should be developed by NYS, counties, SWCD, etc. (perhaps as part of LINAP) but business owners should develop site-specific plans and be required to do so.
Environ. 2	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	
Environ. 3		Yes		Yes		Sorry, I'm not sure about several of these questions. Management plans should be funded by non-corporate entities, such as government/agencies.

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Environ. 4	No	Yes	No	Yes	No	Customer, I'm afraid
Environ. 5			No	Yes		I'm not in the Industry and therefore cannot properly answer this section, except where i did already. These plans should be paid for by a pollution surcharge fee on the sale of the products that are found in groundwater and impacting surface water-- consistent with the principle that the offending product should pay for ameliorating the pollution it causes.
Environ. 6		Yes		Yes		Need incentives that help the bottom line for business. Other comments: Need to carefully, meaningfully, and accurately define water quality certified. It would also be useful to quantify the number of AEM Tier V producers on Long Island/Suffolk County
Environ. 7	Yes	Yes	No	Yes		Companies could voluntarily participate with a tax incentive, and/or pay a tax-deductable fee to use a program logo (a la NOFA) to promote their business as environmentally conscious. Federal funding/matching grants should be explored, program should be spearheaded by DEC
Industry 1	Yes		No	Yes	No	
Industry 2	No	Yes	No	No		All stakeholders should contribute.
Industry 3	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	The professional applicators of fertilizer in the lawn and landscape industry are currently in the process of developing a BMP guidance document to address N and other fertilizer inputs. We are working with Cornell U with local input from CCE Suffolk, Farmingdale State College to address issues here on LI. Funding sources is an impediment, if you have any ideas, please let us know
Industry 4	No	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Should be paid for by State, Counties, Manufacturers, Water Districts, Trade Groups and end users (i.e. a 25 dollar surcharge on pesticide business registrations, home improvement licenses, etc. Not on applicator's licenses though.)

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Industry 5	No	Yes	No	Yes		there is already BMP's for urban landscapes in practice, public money
Industry 6	Yes	No	No	No	No	Plans can and already are set up by local Cooperative Extensions, and incentives for commercial landscaping is calculated by lower fertilizer cost which is related to more profit. Similarly, management plans should be paid for by the initiating entity. Whoever is forcing you to do it, should with affected parties to pay for it.
Industry 7	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Nitrogen management plans should be paid for by members of associations similar to what we as golf courses did in NYS.

Questions 1-6: Analysis

