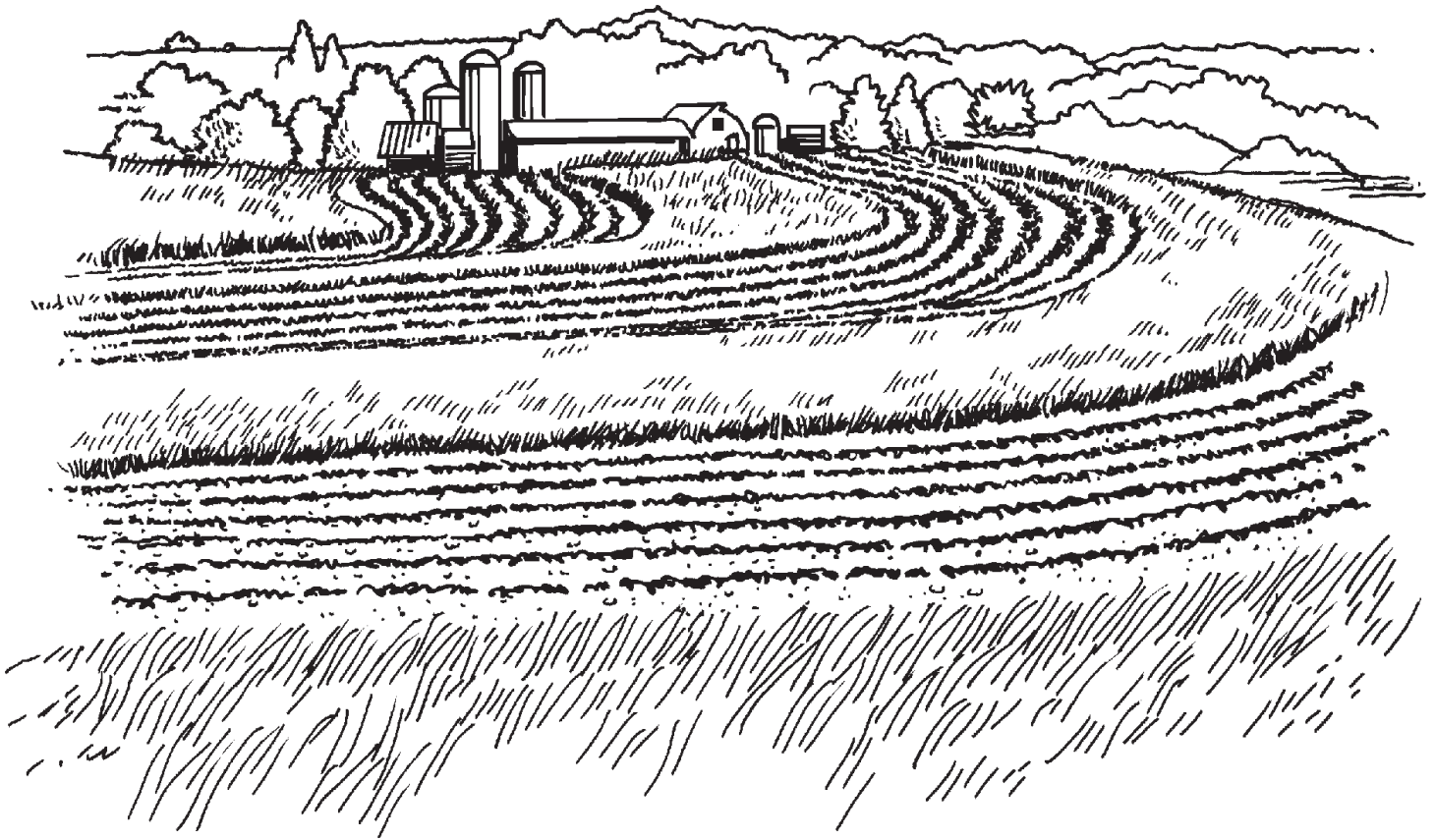

Nutrient Management Practices

Pre-workshop Questionnaire



This questionnaire is intended to be used with the UW-Extension 2006 Nutrient Management Farmer Education Curriculum. The questionnaire asks about farm operations and practices related to nutrient management and is intended to be administered in a face-to-face interview. This questionnaire is a pilot version and will be revised in 2007.

For questions or technical assistance contact the Assessment and Program Evaluation Unit at University of Wisconsin - Cooperative Extension, Environmental Resources Center, Madison, WI (608) 262-0020. (<http://clean-water.uwex.edu/loape/>).

Revised October 2006

Whole Farm Operation



Project No./Name: _____

County: _____

Form Number: _____

Date: _____

For the following questions, please think about your whole farm operation for the last crop year (post harvest through harvest).

1. Estimate the tillable acreage (owned and/or rented) of your farming operation last year.

____, ____ owned tillable acres ____, ____ rented tillable acres

2. How many fields (owned and/or rented) did you manage in your farming operation last year.

____ owned fields ____ rented fields

3. Last year, how many acres of the following did you manage, and how many of these received manure (If none, write "0")?

	Acres managed	Acres received manure
Corn following corn	____ acres	____ acres
Corn following soybeans	____ acres	____ acres
Corn following alfalfa	____ acres	____ acres
Corn following small grains	____ acres	____ acres
Soybeans	____ acres	____ acres
Small grains	____ acres	____ acres
Canning crops	____ acres	____ acres
Alfalfa (new seeding)	____ acres	____ acres
Alfalfa (established stands)	____ acres	____ acres
Clover (red, white, other: _____)	____ acres	____ acres
Pasture	____ acres	____ acres
Set aside or CRP	____ acres	____ acres

4. Please provide information about the types and total numbers of livestock on your farm operation during the past crop year. If none, write "0."

Estimated number of animals

a. Dairy cattle (including heifers and young stock)

___ ___ ___ animals

Which best describes your dairy operation?

- Pastured
- Confined

b. Beef cattle (including young stock)

___ ___ ___ animals

Which best describes your beef operation?

- Cow/calf
- Feeder
- Cow/calf and feeder
- Veal calves
- Stocker

c. Hogs

___ ___ ___ animals

Which best describes your hog operation?

- Farrowing
- Farrow-to-finish
- Feeder pig
- Finishing

d. Poultry

___ ___ , ___ ___ ___ birds

Which best describes your poultry operation?

- Breeder/layer chickens
- Broiler chickens
- Turkeys
- Ducks
- Geese
- Other

e. Other livestock

___ ___ ___ animals

Which best describes your operation?

- Sheep
- Goats
- Other _____

If no manure has been used in your farm operation for the past two crop years, please skip to question 11 on page 4.

5. Which types of manure handling describe your farm situation? (Check all that apply)

- Put manure directly into spreader
- Pile the manure on the ground

- Store solid manure in a concrete wall pit
- Store as liquid in concrete pit
- Store in a slurry system
- Store in a clay lined manure storage basin
- Store in an unlined manure storage basin

- Leave manure in barn/buildings (for more than a few days)

- Other _____

6. When is the manure usually hauled/applied? (Check all that apply)

- Haul daily or frequently throughout the year
- Haul daily or frequently throughout the year, except in winter

- Haul at least once a week for most of the year
- Haul at least once a month for most of the year

- Haul most manure in the spring
- Haul most manure in the summer
- Haul most manure in the fall
- Haul most manure in the winter

7. If you have a manure storage structure, how many days worth of manure can you store before removing?

_____ days

8. Does someone else haul your manure for you (for example, a custom hauler)?

- No --> Go to question 9
- Yes

If yes, how does your hauler determine where to spread the manure? (Check all that apply)

- The hauler follows my nutrient management plan
- I discuss spreading locations with my hauler
- I don't know
- Other _____

9. Do any specific spreading restrictions apply to your farm?

- I don't know
- No
- Yes. If yes, to what extent are you able to follow them?
 - Not at all/ Never
 - Somewhat/ Seldom
 - Mostly/ Often

10. If you apply manure/commercial fertilizer at different rates on different fields on your farm, what are the reasons? (Check all that apply)

- Spreading/fertilizer restrictions
- Distance from manure pit/barn/etc.
- Difference in soil
- Soil test recommendations
- Other: _____

11. How often do you soil test your fields?

- Never
- Every year
- Every two years
- Every three years
- Every four years
- Every five years or more
- No pattern to when I soil test

13. Do you soil test all of your fields?

- No, only certain ones.
(Please explain in the space below) ↓
- Yes

12. When was your most recent test?

_____ year

14. Do you use GIS/GPS grid sampling to soil test your fields?

- No
- Yes

15. Which sources of information do you currently use when making decisions about the use of commercial fertilizers? (Check all that apply)

- Your personal interpretation
- Recommendations of farm supply or fertilizer dealer
- Recommendations of land conservation or NRCS staff
- Recommendations of an independent crop consultant
- UW-Extension's recommended application rates
- Recommendations of other farmers
- Yield Monitor Information

16. **Determining Nitrogen Rates.** A farmer might consider several factors when determining how much nitrogen to apply. How important is each of the following factors in determining the amount of nitrogen to apply to your fields?

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Yield goals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil test results	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nutrient credits from manure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nutrient credits from legumes	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Price of nitrogen fertilizers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Price of crop	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other factor: _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

17. **Determining Phosphorus Rates.** A farmer might consider several factors when determining how much phosphorus to apply. How important is each of the following factors in determining the amount of phosphorus to apply?

	Not important	Somewhat important	Important	Very important
Yield goals	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Soil test results	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Nutrient credits from manure	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Price of phosphorus fertilizers	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Price of crop	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>
Other factor: _____	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>	<input type="radio"/>

The following questions ask about nutrient applications to corn fields in the last crop year. If you do not grow corn, please skip to question 25 on page 7.

18. On what percent of your corn acres did you apply a starter fertilizer? _____%

19. What was the rate you applied the starter fertilizer? _____/acre

If manure was applied to ALL of your fields skip to question 21 on page 6.

20. For the corn fields that **did not receive manure** this past crop year, what was the type and composition of the commercial fertilizers applied to each rotation below. Write "X" next the rotation if it does not apply.

a. Corn following corn

i. Product type _____ (_____ N- _____ P- _____ K)

ii. What was the total amount per acre the of commercial fertilizer? _____lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____gallons/acre of product

b. Corn following soy beans

i. Product type _____ (_____ N- _____ P- _____ K)

ii. What was the total amount per acre of the commercial fertilizer? _____lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____gallons/acre of product

c. Corn following alfalfa/clover

i. Product type _____ (_____ N- _____ P- _____ K)

ii. What was the total amount per acre of the commercial fertilizer? _____lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____gallons/acre of product

d. Corn following small grains

i. Product type _____ (_____ N- _____ P- _____ K)

ii. What was the total amount per acre of the commercial fertilizer? _____lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____gallons/acre of product

If you do not apply manure to any of your fields please skip to question 25 on page 7.

21. For the corn fields that **did receive manure** this past crop year, please answer the questions for each rotation. Write "X" next to the rotation if it does not apply.

a. Corn following corn

- i. How much manure per acre to did you apply? _____ tons/acre of manure **AND/OR**
_____ 1000 gal/acre of manure
- ii. What type and composition of commercial fertilizer was applied?
Product type _____ (_____N-_____P-_____K)
- iii. What was the total amount per acre of the commerical fertilizer? _____ lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____ gal/acre of product

b. Corn following soybeans

- i. How much manure per acre to did you apply? _____ tons/acre of manure **AND/OR**
_____ 1000 gal/acre of manure
- ii. What type and composition of commercial fertilizer was applied?
Product type _____ (_____N-_____P-_____K)
- iii. What was the total amount per acre of the commerical fertilizer? _____ lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____ gal/acre of product

c. Corn following alfalfa/clover

- i. How much manure per acre to did you apply? _____ tons/acre of manure **AND/OR**
_____ 1000 gal/acre of manure
- ii. What type and composition of commercial fertilizer was applied?
Product type _____ (_____N-_____P-_____K)
- iii. What was the total amount per acre of the commercial fertilizer? _____ lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____ gal/acre of product

d. Corn following small grains

- i. How much manure per acre to did you apply? _____ tons/acre of manure **AND/OR**
_____ 1000 gal/acre of manure
- ii. What type and composition of commercial fertilizer was applied?
Product type _____ (_____N-_____P-_____K)
- iii. What was the total amount per acre of the commercial fertilizer? _____ lbs/acre of product **OR**
_____ gal/acre of product

22. What type of manure do you apply? (Check all that apply)

- Dairy Beef Hog Poultry Sheep/goat

23. How is this manure applied to these cornfields? (Check all that apply)

- Spreader Tank wagon Drag hose Irrigation Other

24. Are the application rates of commercial fertilizer above less than normal because of the manure application?

- No
 Yes

Nutrient Management Planning

25. Do you have a nutrient management plan for your farm operation?

- No --> Please skip to question 31 on page 8.
- Yes

If yes, does your nutrient management plan meet the NRCS technical standard 590 criteria?

- I don't know
- No
- Yes

26. In what year was your current nutrient management plan developed? _____ year

27. Who developed your current nutrient management plan?

- My county Land Conservation Department, UW-Extension, or NRCS Office
- A private-sector agronomist or crop consultant
- I created my own plan
- I don't know
- Other _____

28. What percent of your cropland is covered by the nutrient management plan?

- 25% or less
- 26% - 50%
- 51% - 75%
- 76% or greater

29. What motivated you to develop your nutrient management plan?

- To qualify for a government program
- Potential cost savings
- Local Ordinances/Zoning
- Environmental Protection
- Other _____

30. In general, how well do you understand your nutrient management plan?

- Not at all
- Somewhat
- Well
- Very well

You are finished. Thank you for your time and assistance!

Answer the following questions if you do not have a nutrient management plan for your operation.

31. If you are (or are considering) developing a plan now, what is motivating you to develop your plan?

- To qualify for a government program
- Potential cost savings
- Local Ordinances/Zoning
- Environmental Protection

- Other _____

32. If you are considering developing a nutrient management plan, how do you believe the plan will impact your operation?

You are finished. Thank you for your time and assistance!