

Nutrient Management (590) - Pasture Requirements

Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) FY2009

Purpose: To encourage proper application of Nutrient Management on existing pasture. Good managers will be able to reduce nutrient input costs, maintain or increase yields, and reduce nutrient runoff. **Minimum records required: Pasture composition, nutrients (lime and fertilizer) recommended, nutrients applied and date nutrients were applied.**

Eligible Land: Pasture. No additional payment on the same acres will be made for Pasture and Hay Planting in association with this practice. Prescribed Grazing can be applied and paid for in addition to Nutrient Management.

Maximum Acres: 200 acres per year

Producer requirements for payment:

- A soil test analysis must be from UT or a certified lab approved by The North American Proficiency Testing Program (Soil Science Society of America).
- Soil test according to UT publication [UT PB1061](#). Take the soil samples during the same season each year so a trend can be monitored. (Typically the ideal time to soil test is in the fall.) Samples should be collected on no more than 10 acres maximum size unit. Areas of contrasting soils, problem spots or portions of fields where yields are significantly different should be sampled separately, provided the area can be fertilized separately. Examples: bottomland and upland.
- Apply lime as required by soil test.

Requirements for Nutrient Management Incentive

- Apply fertilizer by soil test recommendations according to realistic yield goals (3 out of 5 yr average). Adjust Nitrogen application according to yield goals. Split Nitrogen application as recommended by the University of Tennessee. Fall application of nitrogen on tall fescue pasture is strongly recommended. P2O5 and K2O must be applied as recommended.
- Develop a conservation plan with nutrient management as a component with NRCS assistance. Other practices may be needed to bring the land unit into a minimum resource management system must be included in the conservation plan. This nutrient management payment is used to move individuals into a Resource Management Systems (RMS).

Recordkeeping is needed in all agricultural operations; soil sampling and fertilizer and lime applications are no exception. Record keeping forms are available from the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS), UT Agriculture Extension Service and others in the agriculture community. Use of these records or another appropriate guidebook system will be required as an aid in recordkeeping and presented annually before receiving incentive payments. Minimum records required:

- Pasture composition (i.e. t. fescue/white clover),
- Nutrients (lime and fertilizer) recommended,
- Nutrients applied and
- Date nutrients were applied.
- Copies of the soil test results
- Lime/fertilizer applications are certified applied with date applied

Payment will be received when the minimum records as stated above are submitted and certified by the local NRCS office. Refer to **Record Keeping for Pasture Nutrient Management** for more information.