



Nutrient Management Fact Sheet: Florida

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Nutrient Management Plans

Topic	Summary
Coverage	<p>Dairy operations located in basin management action plan (BMAP) areas¹ are required to implement agricultural best management practices². An NRCS approved Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) or a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) approved by the Florida Department of Environmental Protection fulfills some of the BMP requirements.³ More information here.</p> <p>Nutrient Management Plans are required for agriculture operations in the Northern Everglades that land apply animal manure at a rate that exceeds one ton per acre per year.⁴</p> <p>CAFOs requiring an NPDES permit are required to have a management plan (Nutrient Management Plan) prepared in accordance with NRCS standards.⁵ Agricultural sites requiring a biosolids land application permit must have a written nutrient management plan.</p>
Content	<p>The Florida NRCS 590 Nutrient Management Conservation Practice Standard includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Soil, manure and tissue sampling. - Nutrient application rates, sources, application timing and placement. - Nutrient budget for nitrogen, phosphorus, and potassium. - Manure applications, location of nearby residents. - Guidance for implementation, operation, maintenance, and recordkeeping.
Frequency of Updates	<p>Under the FL NRCS 590, plans should be reviewed to determine if adjustments or modifications are needed. At a minimum, plans will be reviewed and revised with each soil test cycle and changes in manure volume.</p>
Paperwork	<p>CAFOs are asked about the status of the management plan on the permit application. Farms enrolled in the BMP program must maintain applicable records as identified in the manual for five years.</p>
Planner Qualifications	<p>If required for permitting purposes, the NMP must be developed by USDA-NRCS, a Technical Service Provider, or a Florida licensed professional engineer experienced in this area. CNMPs are developed by NRCS or a Technical Service Provider following NRCS criteria.</p>

Manure Storage and Application

Topic	Summary
Overview	<p>Water Management Districts in Florida may have additional requirements. More information on the Districts can be found here.</p>



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	Dairy operations in the Lake Okeechobee Drainage Basin have additional requirements and specific setbacks. More information can be found here .
Storage	<p>Facility Siting/Setback</p> <p>The BMPs state that producers must ensure that there is no discharge from manure storage areas into watercourses, lakes, wetlands, drinking water wells, or sinkholes, and that could include a 30-foot vegetative buffer, constructing an impervious base, using a berm upgradient of the manure pile to deflect incoming flow, and/or covert the pile with a tarp.</p> <p>Under the BMPs, install or maintain a minimum 25-foot non-fertilized vegetated buffer upland of the landward boundary of all wetlands and lands. Install a filter strip to treat runoff from concentrated livestock areas.</p> <p>Structure</p> <p>Under the BMPs, there are recommendations and flowcharts to determine waste storage pond requirements in Appendix 3 and on page 20.</p>
Application	<p>Spreading</p> <p>Under the BMPs, wastewater should not be applied to saturated fields, except in an emergency.</p> <p>Land application requirements for the Northern Everglades can be found here.</p> <p>Testing</p> <p>The BMPs recommend annual soil samples for land application areas.</p>

Technical Assistance

Topic	Summary
Software Tools	Manure Management Planner (MMP) is a software tool created by Purdue University that includes state-specific information for Florida producers to create manure management plans for crop and animal feeding operations.
Guides / Handbooks	<p>University of Florida IFAS Extension offers this article to assist in dairy manure management: Dairy Manure Management: Strategies for Recycling Nutrients to Recover Fertilizer Value and Avoid Environmental Pollution.</p> <p>FL NRCS nutrient management 590 standard.</p> <p>Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) provides a brochure explaining how to get involved in their Agricultural BMP program that provides financial and technical assistance to farmers for BMP implementation (including Nutrient Management practices).</p>



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Classes / Trainings	For producers interested in becoming commercial fertilizer applicators, click here for more information.
Tailored Expert Assistance	FDACS provides technical assistance in their Agricultural BMP program for practices that provide the most significant water resources benefits (including Nutrient Management practices).

Financial Assistance

Summary

FDACS works with multiple partners to provide cost-share funding to help producers implement BMPs in their [Agricultural BMP program](#).

- Contact FDACS for currently available cost-share funds.

FL NRCS provides assistance through:

- Environmental Quality Incentives Program ([EQIP](#)) - offers financial cost-share assistance to farmers for the adoption of conservation practices and development of nutrient management plans.
- Conservation Stewardship Program ([CSP](#)), which gives producers financial assistance to implement new conservation management practices and enhancements.

¹ <https://www.flsenate.gov/Laws/Statutes/2015/373.4595>

² <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=5M-17>

³ <https://www.fdacs.gov/Agriculture-Industry/Water/Agricultural-Water-Policy-FAQ>

⁴ <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ruleno.asp?id=5M-3.004>

⁵ <https://www.flrules.org/gateway/ChapterHome.asp?Chapter=62-670>