

Nutrient Management Subcommittee Meeting minutes of December 20, 2018 held at the Louisa County Farm Bureau Office, Louisa VA.

The meeting was called to order at 9:00 am by David Kindig, the subcommittee chair.

Voting members present were: David Kindig, Jim Riddell, Keith Burgess. Non-voting committee members were: Ms. Blair Gordon, Scott Ambler.

Enough voting members were present to make a quorum.

Members present were asked if they had any comments concerning the minutes of the previous nutrient management subcommittee meeting held October 29, 2018, at the Louisa County Farm Bureau Office. With no objections to those minutes, the meeting advanced to the next order of business.

An agenda with an updated list of items to be address by this committee was distributed.

Item 12N - word "smithing" to be consistent language addressing cost share participant. "Producer" was agree to be the word choice for this practice.

Item 8N - When presented to the full TAC, there were two points of discussion that sent it back to this committee. They were whether a plan should be required for the lifespan of the practice, which is currently the language, and the inclusion of 60% cover as a requirement in subsequent years after establishment, in lieu of having a current plan, AFTER the year of establishment. After some discussion of the subcommittee, the following language was agreed upon for final submission to the Full TAC.

Item number/ Decision	Description of Item	
8N Amend -Passed	The NMP requirement for SL-1 practice is overkill	Change spec to require NMP at time of planting to assure field fertility prepared to promote a successful establishment of the crop. NMP for following years of practice life is optional. Practice remains in compliance as long as cover is maintained at 60% cover

Name of Practice: LONG TERM VEGETATIVE COVER ON CROPLAND
DCR Specifications for No. SL-1

This document specifies terms and conditions for the Virginia Department of Conservation and Recreation's long term vegetative cover on cropland best management practice, that are applicable to all contracts, entered into with respect to that practice.

A. Description and Purpose Grass and/or legume vegetation will be established on cropland with existing cover of less than 60% converting it to pasture or hay land to reduce soil erosion and enhance water quality. State cost-share is intended to promote conversion of cropland to fields with a healthy, well maintained sod.

B. Policies and Specifications

1. In order to be eligible for cost-share or tax credit, producers must be fully implementing a current Nutrient Management Plan (NMP) on all agricultural production acreage contained within the field that this practice will be implemented on, *during the year of establishment*. The NMP must comply with all requirements set forth in the Nutrient Management Training and Certification Regulations, (4VAC50-85 et seq.) and the Virginia Nutrient Management Standards and Criteria (revised July 2014), must be prepared and certified by a Virginia certified nutrient management planner, and must be on file with the local District before any cost-share payment is made to the participant. Plans shall also contain any specific production management criteria designated in the BMP practice (4VACV50-85-130G).

14N Recommend	Create Practice to promote consistent private planner verification.	Set up as separate practice to help support extra involvement of private planners. Set up as verification form, instead of record keeping. Set up single payment based on size of operation plan acres. 100-399 acres \$225. 400 – 999 acres \$400; 1,000+ \$600. (Private planners contractual acres not eligible)
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The meeting adjourned at 12:30 pm.

The next nutrient management subcommittee meeting will be held:

Date: to be determined

Time: 9:00 am – 2:30 pm

Location: Monacan SWCD

2748 Dogtown Road
Goochland, VA 23063

Office Phone: 804-556-4936

Submitted by: David Kindig
Nutrient Management Subcommittee Chairman

Attachment: Draft of NM- 6V; Nutrient Management Plan Verification Practice.

NM -~~2V~~-6V

Nutrient Management Plan Verification ~~Using Form Number DCR199-244~~.Practice.

This document specifies the terms and conditions for the Va DCR's verification procedure used for compliance with required verification of Virginia nutrient management plans by Virginia Nutrient Management Certified Planners.

Description & Purpose

- A. The implementation of nutrient management plans is needed to indicate how primary nutrients are to be managed on farm fields and other land for crop production and in ways which protect groundwater and surface water from excessive nutrient enrichment. Completion of the nutrient management verification form is accepted documentation to prove the farmer is following a nutrient management plan.

The purpose of this practice is to provide financial assistance to farmers and private certified nutrient management planners that follow the procedures to complete the nutrient management verification form (DCR 199-244) which includes a review of nutrient application records of each field in the plan. The expectation is that the field records will match the field recommendations shown on the plan "balance sheet". (4VAC50-85-130.D)

B. Policies & Specifications

1. Eligibility

- i. This practice applies to cropland regardless of the nutrient source. Hay and pasture land are also eligible for cost-share under this practice. Cropland is defined in the Nutrient Management Training and Certification regulations as land used for the production of grain, oilseeds, silage, or industrial crops. Hay is defined as a grass legume, or other plants, such as clover or alfalfa, which is cut and dried for feed, bedding or mulch. Pasture is defined as land that supports the grazing of animals for forages.
- ii. In order to be eligible for cost share, nutrient management plans must be prepared by Virginia certified nutrient management planners. Nutrient Management Plans must be written to comply with all requirements as set forth in the Nutrient Management Training and Certification Regulations 4VAC 50-85-et seq.
- iii. Cropland which may receive applications of biosolids is eligible.
- iv. The participating producer *has agreed* to fully implement the nutrient management plan through the period of verification. This period is usually the previous 12 months from the date of verification. A copy of the completed verification form will be required for payment. Only one payment per program year, per producer.
- v. For this cost-share practice the nutrient management plan must include all eligible acreage of the tract for which the plan is written.

- vi. Participants may redirect their cost-share payment to the private certified nutrient management planner by signing a written statement to that effect. A sample statement is attached to this specification.

2. Ineligible

- i. Nutrient management plans implemented for farms having or requiring VPA or VPDES or other required federal, state, or local animal waste permits do not qualify for cost-share for completing the verification process.
 - ii. Cost-share payments for plan verification will not be made until a completed verification form (DCR 199-244) and a copy of the “balance sheet” used for the plan verification have been received by the SWCD.
 - iii. This practice and not be used for acres that have not had a NMP written for them within the last 12 months.
 - iv. Any plan that is part of a DCR contract is not eligible for payment under this practice.
3. The time period of the plan reviewed represents a ~~most recent~~ previous-12 month period, usually four seasons of a plan. (spring, summer, fall, winter)
 4. A copy of the Balance Sheet of the plan showing a previous 12 months reviewed, a copy of the signed Plan Identification sheet (4VAC50-85-130.B), and a completed nutrient management verification form (DCR 199-244), for each plan must be submitted to the SWCD to receive cost-share payment.
 5. Copies of all documents listed in item 4 along with record sheets used to complete the nutrient management verification form (DCR 199-244) must be maintained by the farmer for a one year period following payment and are subject to spot-check and verification by the SWCD or DCR. The Nutrient Application Field Record form attached to this specification may be reproduced and utilized to satisfy the record sheet requirement.

C. Rates for completed nutrient management verification forms (DCR 199-244)

The Cost Share payment will be based on the following scale *of total planned acres per producer, regardless of the number of individual plans*:

100*-399 acres - \$225.00 (* a combination of ~~small~~ plans less than 100 acres may be combined to meet the 100 acre minimum, only. Each individual plan will have all of the items listed in B.4.)

400-999 acres - \$400.00

1,000+ acres - \$600.00

D. Technical Responsibility

Technical responsibility is assigned to SWCDs with consultation with the Virginia certified Nutrient Management Planner. All component practices used in the development of this practice are subject to spot check procedures and any other quality control measures