



Conservation Practice Standard Overview

September 2016

Feed Management (Code 592)

Feed management is the practice of managing the quantity or quality of available nutrients, feedstuffs, or additives fed to livestock and poultry for their intended purpose.

Practice Information

Feed management is used on livestock and poultry operations with a whole-farm nutrient imbalance, with more nutrients imported to the farm than are exported and/or utilized by cropping programs. It is effective on livestock and poultry operations that land-apply manure and do not have a land base large enough to allow nutrients to be applied at rates recommended by soil tests and utilized by crops in the rotation.

The purpose is to supply the quantity of available nutrients required by livestock and poultry for maintenance, production, and reproduction; while reducing the quantity of nutrients, especially nitrogen and phosphorus, excreted in manure by minimizing the over-feeding of these and other nutrients and improve net-farm income by feeding nutrients more efficiently.

Feed management is also used to prevent excess pathogens and chemicals from manure, biosolids or compost applications by reducing their quantity and viability in manure. Feed management can be used to increase air quality by reducing odor, particulate matter, and greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions from animal feeding operations.

Common Associated Practices

Feed Management (Code 592) is commonly applied with the conservation practice standard Nutrient Management (Code 590).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.

