

356 MountainView Drive, Colchester, Vermont 05446

August 8, 2003

TO: All Users of the Vermont Field Office Technical Guide

VERMONT TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE NO. 17

PURPOSE: Notice of GIS Nitrate Leaching Index data layers for SSURGO-Certified Counties on local F Drives.

(For example, the Windham county site is: `f:\geodata\soils\nleach_a_vt025.shp`)

EXPIRATION DATE: Upon Receipt

BACKGROUND: These GIS-compatible Nitrate Leaching Index* maps replace the manual review of precipitation/leaching maps based on the Hydrologic Soil Group of each soil for counties in VT that have SSURGO-Certified soils data (Addison, Bennington, Franklin, Lamoille, Orange, Rutland, Washington, Windham, and Windsor counties). They are stored on the F drive of local servers under Geodata/Soils.

Counties without SSURGO-Certified soils data are not affected by this notice (Caledonia, Chittenden, Essex, Grand Isle, and Orleans counties).

*For implementation of the nitrate leaching index, see Nutrient Management Code 590, page 4, Nitrogen application (eFOTG Section 4, A. Conservation Practice Standards/Agronomic Standards).

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The level of nitrogen management will be based on the nitrate leaching index in Section II of the NRCS FOTG.

Leaching Index	Response
<2	No specific constraints
2-10	Nutrient management practices such as split nitrogen application rates, presidedress nitrogen testing and use of nitrification inhibitors should be considered
>10	Requires intense nitrogen management to minimize nitrate movement, including: careful management of applied nitrogen, avoidance of fall spreading on bare ground, precise timing to match crop utilization, conservation practices that restrict water percolation and leaching, and cover crops that capture and retain nutrients in the upper soil profile.

FILING INSTRUCTIONS: File this notice with other Field Office Tech Guide notices in Section I of the FOTG. As a reminder, a copy could be filed with paper-copy Nitrate Leaching Index material in Section II-A, Soils Information (1)(a). For more information, contact Martha Stuart, Soil Database Specialist, in the White River Jct. Field Office.



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