

Certification Requirements for Conservation Practice 590 Nutrient Management

Complete the following checklist during review and certification of 590 Nutrient management. A copy of the NMP (hard copy or electronic) must be obtained from the Customer or TSP to facilitate completion of the plan review.

The following shall be submitted from the participant to NRCS:

Nutrient Application Records for the crop year using a format which provides all necessary information required by the NM 590 practice standard. Acceptable formats include: 'NRCS recordkeeping format', records from GoCrop, records from VTAAF, records written in the farmer's notebook which can be easily interpreted by reviewers.

CROP YEAR: _____

EQIP Contract #: _____ EQIP CIN #(s): _____

NMP prepared by: (Print Name) _____

Review nutrient application records for a minimum 10% sample of the acres included in the NMP. This should be accomplished through selection of fields of various sizes and of varying crop types, if applicable.

For subsequent 590 certifications (following fiscal years), select different acreage/fields to review, if applicable. The fields selected should be the most critical (High PI, steep, in proximity to surface or groundwater sources, etc.)

Document Tract number(s) and Field number(s) selected for this review:

Nutrient Applications According to NMP:

- Verify nutrient applications for Nitrogen (N) did not exceed recommendation per soil test results and management strategy. Note any discrepancies.
- Verify nutrient application setbacks for Nitrogen (N) (water source protection-wells) are being followed. Note any discrepancies.
- Verify nutrient applications for Phosphorus (P₂O₅) did not exceed recommendation per soil test results and management strategy. Note any discrepancies. (For high and very high PI rated fields, see Nutrient Risk Assessment below.)
- Verify the vegetated setbacks as described in the NMP are in place. A review of aerial photos may provide this information but in many cases, a field check will be needed. Indicate on the conservation plan map where the vegetated setbacks are located. Note any discrepancies.

Notes:

Soil Erosion Control Criteria

Verify cropland erosion control requirements of the NMP are being followed to meet soil loss criteria (T).

- Verify the required crop rotations have been implemented and are being followed. FSA Crop records should be used for this to the extent possible. A rotation is considered implemented when the least erosive crop in the rotation has been established (generally hay/legumes). Note any discrepancies for minor adjustments needed based on weather, soil conditions, etc.

- Verify additional conservation practices needed to meet 'T' and as determined by the NMP are being utilized (for example, cover crops, row arrangement, forage and biomass planting, residue management-no till or reduced till, etc.). Note any discrepancies.
- Verify concentrated flow channels are vegetated and areas of gully erosion have been addressed as required by the NMP. A field visit maybe necessary. Note any discrepancies.

Notes:

Soil Test Criteria

- Verify Modified Morgan's soil test analyses were conducted within the last 3 years. If it is obvious the participant needs new soil tests by the next crop year, inform the participant that a nutrient management plan update may be needed.

Notes:

Manure Testing

- Verify manure test analyses were conducted according to the NM 590 standard. If the plan was created using manure book value data, and no manure tests have been taken, the participant needs to take manure tests ASAP (the next time the manure storage is agitated or emptied). Inform the participant that a nutrient management plan update may be needed upon results of the manure test.

Notes:

Nutrient Risk Assessment

Nitrogen: Verify High Nitrate Leaching Index fields (>10 inches) are following appropriate N application criteria:

- N applied in split application.
- No manure applied on bare ground in the fall.
- Other: _____
- N/A

Phosphorus: Verify appropriate P management strategies were followed and adjustments made on recommendations. Verify the results of VT Phosphorus Index:

- Verify the annual soil loss was used in the Phosphorus Index.
- 75-99 (HIGH) Field (s): _____
- ≥ 100 (VERY HIGH) Field (s): _____

I certify that Nutrient Management was applied according to all criteria of this standard and the NMP.

Name: _____ Date: _____
 (Certified Conservation Planner)