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Nutrient Management **PD-2022-07-04**

Updates for CAFO permits and fertility guidelines

Kirsten Workman and Quirine Ketterings

July 2022 brought three important updates for farmers and nutrient management planners. In particular, they will impact Concentrated Animal Feed Operations (CAFOs) and Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plans (CNMPs).

DEC releases a new CAFO permit:

New York State Department of Environmental Conservation released a new ECL SPDES General Permit for Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) – Permit No. GP-0-22-001. This permit will replace the current ECL CAFO General Permit GP-0-16-001. While it was issued on July 22, 2022 the permit will become effective on January 23, 2023. *Please note that GP-0-16-001 will remain effective for CAFOs who had coverage under that general permit until the effective date of GP-0-22-001. Coverage under GP-0-22-001 will begin 30 calendar days after the Department receives both the completed Request to Continue Coverage form and signed CNMP Certification, but not prior to the effective date of GP-0-22-001.*

What's New?

- This permit term is 10 years. Previous CAFO permits were 5-year permits.
- The Clean Water Act General Permit (GP-0-19-001) will not be renewed and will expire on July 23, 2022. CAFO's who discharge manure, litter or process wastewater to surface waters of the state, must seek coverage under an Individual SPDES permit for Industrial Discharges.
- Electronic submission will be required for all forms related to your CAFO permit
- New small CAFOs may voluntarily seek coverage under the permit
- Notification requirements
- Climate change resiliency
- Non-contact cooling water authorizations
- Construction Stormwater General Permit
- Other changes and definitions for clarification, reporting and updated standards/guidance documents

Learn More

- See the full GP-0-22-001 permit language
- See the accompanying CAFO Fact Sheet GP 0-22-001

Questions? Contact:

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Stay tuned for more information and educational sessions in the near future to discuss these changes, understand how to apply for the new permit, and clarify any of the new or updated portions of the permit.

Nitrogen guidelines for field crops in New York updated

The foundational nitrogen fertility guidelines for field crops in New York have been updated. This new document replaces the earlier version which was released in 2003. Over the past 20 years, additional research has focused on including more crops, new rotations, and reviewing and updating of guidelines and book values for yield indices.

The 2022 edition of the Nitrogen Fertility Guidelines for Field Crops in New York includes:

- A new yield index database and equations for deriving guidelines for corn grown for grain and corn grown for silage reflecting a summary of 230,000 acres of corn yield data collected in the past 5 to 6 years
- N credits for growing crops after soybean and winter cover crop
- Guidelines for N management of BMR forage sorghum and sorghum/sudandgrass
- Guidelines for N management of intensively managed grass
- Guidelines for growing winter cereals such as winter wheat, cereal rye, and triticale as double crops in corn or forage sorghum rotations
- guidelines for N management of teff

Access the new nitrogen manual here:
nmsp.cals.cornell.edu/publications/extension/Ndoc2022.pdf

Phosphorus guidelines for field crops in New York updated

The foundational phosphorus fertility guidelines for field crops in New York have been updated. This new document replaces the earlier version which was released in 2003. No major changes to fertility guidance were made, however, there were a few minor changes that include:

- Classifications of soil test P (Cornell Morgan analysis) now include the following categories: low, medium, optimum, high, very high
- Includes guidance for grid and zone soil sampling and deriving field averages based on those results
- Guidelines for P management of teff
- Updated soil test conversion equations to eliminate labs no longer running tests and reflect reporting changes at individual labs

Access the new phosphorus manual here:
nmsp.cals.cornell.edu/publications/extension/Pdoc2022.pdf

And some good news!

In case you missed it, check out these two What's Cropping Up articles that highlight progress made on New York dairies in their forage crop production sustainability metrics.

Farmers produce more milk with less phosphorus and nitrogen
Olivia Godber, Mart Ros, Agustin Olivo, Kristan Reed, Mike Van Amburgh, Kirsten Workman, and Quirine Ketterings

Homegrown feed for dairy farms in New York
Olivia Godber, Mart Ros, Agustin Olivo, Kristan Reed, Mike Van Amburgh, Kirsten Workman, and Quirine Ketterings