

**NRCS FARM BILL PROGRAM**  
**2012 Practice Implementation Sheet**  
**Nutrient Management (590.6)**  
**Deep N Testing**

---

Farm Bill Participant

---

Contract Number



**Purpose:** To utilize plant available nitrogen in the soil profile below the normal soil testing depth. This will minimize the potential for deep percolations into ground water resources while at the same time potentially reducing the amount of commercial nitrogen and energy used for crop production. This practice applies to cropland only.

**Incentive Level** – A Practice Implementation Payment will be paid for no more than three consecutive years in which the Nutrient Management Plan with Deep Nitrogen Testing will be implemented. Annual implementation will be considered complete when records of the final nutrient applications for the year are submitted.

**NRCS will:**

- Assist participants with the development of realistic yield goals to serve as a basis of nutrient applications.
- Assist participants in preparing a Nutrient Management plan map or overlay that delineates fields where nutrients are applied.
- Provide soil and site specific information regarding sensitive areas and potential nutrient loss pathways.
- Assist with soil sampling procedures, soil sampling locations, numbers and timing.
- Develop a nutrient management plan and budgets based on soil test results. Nutrient recommendations will be based on TAMU soil lab or TAES publications. Nitrogen recommendations will be based on all sample depths submitted. All other nutrient applications will be based on the 0-6 inch sample only.

**Participant will:**

- Determine cropping sequence and yield goal for the crops produced.
- Provide information about planned planting and harvest dates, methods and field operations.
- Control erosion in areas of concentrated flow with grassed waterways or other suitable erosion control measures.

**NRCS FARM BILL PROGRAM**  
**2012 Practice Implementation Sheet**  
**Nutrient Management (590.6)**  
**Deep N Testing**

- Manage field operations to insure that soil loss from sheet, rill, and wind erosion is below established tolerances.
- Send soil samples to a testing laboratory which follows all TAMU testing procedures/methods.
- Soil test at all required depths within 90 days prior to planting each crop. (Sample location, depths, and number of samples will be according to the nutrient management plan). For most crops samples for nitrogen testing will be submitted for 0-6 inch, and 6 -24 inch depths. Fine textured soils will require 0-6 and 6-18 inch samples. Shallow rooted crops may require only 0-6 and 6-12 inch tests.
- **Review soil test results with NRCS or other Certified Nutrient Management Specialists prior to fertilizer applications.**
- Vary nutrient application rates based on soil test results and NRCS nutrient management plan recommendations.
- Provide in-season soil or tissue test results, if needed, to justify additional N application beyond original test recommendations.
- **Provide records of all nutrient applications by field.**

I understand the requirements of this Environmental Quality Incentives Program practice and further understand that a failure to adhere to the above requirements may jeopardize any and all payments.

---

Participant Signature

---

Date