

Feed Management

Virginia Conservation Practice Job Sheet

592



Definition

Managing the quantity of available nutrients fed to livestock and poultry for their intended purpose.

Purpose

Supply the quantity of available nutrients required by livestock and poultry for maintenance, production, performance, 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.

Where Used

Confined livestock and poultry operations with a whole farm nutrient imbalance, with more nutrients imported to the farm than are exported and/or utilized by on-farm cropping programs.

This practice applies to confined livestock and poultry operations that have a significant build-up of nutrients in the soil due to land application of manure.

Confined 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.

This practice applies to livestock and poultry operations seeking to enhance nutrient efficiencies.

Conservation Management System

Feed management is a component of a comprehensive nutrient management plan and conservation management system for agricultural and animal operations. Feed management is used to reduce undesirable nutrient accumulation, ensure animal health and well being, and increase efficiency of the farm. Other facilitating and accelerating practices may be utilized in the system to address natural resource concerns identified during the conservation planning process and to ensure the success of the overall system.

Plans and Specifications

Plans and specifications will be in keeping with the requirements of this standard. The specific feed management practices and/or technologies that are planned for the operation will be described and documented on this Job Sheet.

Operation and Maintenance

The producer/client is responsible for the operation and maintenance of the Feed Management plan. Operation and maintenance activities will address the items described in this Job Sheet.

Feed Management Job Sheet

| | | | |
|-------------------|--|--------------------|--|
| Landowner | | Date | |
| Farm/Tract | | Field(s) | |
| Location | | Acres | |
| Planner | | County/SWCD | |

Design Approval:

Diets and feed management strategies will be developed by professional animal scientists, independent professional nutritionists or other comparably qualified individuals.

FEED MANAGEMENT SPECIALIST WHO DEVELOPED THE PLAN:

Design Approved By: _____ Date: _____

Job Title: _____ Certification No: _____

This plan will be reviewed and/or revised on the following schedule:

Client's Acknowledgement Statement:

The client acknowledges that:

- a. They have received a copy of the feed management plan and understand the contents and requirements.
- b. It is the responsibility of the client to obtain all necessary permits and/or rights, and to comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.

Accepted by: _____ Date: _____

NRCS Certification:

I have completed a review of the documentation provided by the client and certify this practice has been applied.

Certified by: _____ Date: _____

Job title: _____

| Refer to the following conservation practice specifications for additional information needed to integrate Feed Management into the conservation management system. | | | |
|---|--|----------------------------|--|
| Nutrient Management 590 | | Waste Utilization 633 | |
| Forage Harvest Management 511 | | Prescribed Grazing 528 | |
| Fence 382 | | Watering Facility 614 | |
| Conservation Tillage 329 | | Cover Crop 340 | |
| Heavy Use Protection Area 561 | | Waste Storage Facility 313 | |
| Conservation Crop Rotation 328 | | Other: | |

VA-NRCS-592 Specifications

1. Management Objectives

Diets will be formulated to provide the quantities and correct relative ratios of available nutrients required by the animal species to meet the goals for which the plan is being developed. Adjustments to nutrient levels will be provided to meet specific genetic potential, environmental demands, and/or requirements to ensure health, well being, and productivity.

Additional Narrative:

2. Nutrient Reduction Goal(s)

Narrative:

3. Technology, and/or feeding practices that will be used on the operation:

Narrative:

See attached for more information.

4. Feed analyses and ration formulation information prior to and after implementation:

Existing feed analysis and ration formulation: _____

See attached for more information.

Planned feed analysis and ration formulation: _____

See attached for more information.

5. Estimated or measured nutrient content of the manure prior to implementation:

Specify method of estimation or measurements and units (e.g. LBS/animal unit/year).

Narrative: _____

See attached for more information.

6. Estimated impact on manure nutrient content:

| | Planned | Actual |
|------------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Nitrogen Percent Reduction: | _____ | _____ |
| Nitrogen Pounds per Animal Unit: | _____ | _____ |
| Phosphorus Percent Reduction: | _____ | _____ |
| Phosphorus Pounds per Animal Unit: | _____ | _____ |

7. Quantities and sources of nitrogen and phosphorus that will be fed:

Narrative:

See attached for more information.

Feed Management Job Sheet

8. Additional Specifications:

Narrative:

Operation and Maintenance Requirements

Records of plan implementation will be maintained for five years or for a period longer than five years if required by other federal, state, or local ordinances, programs, or contract requirements and will include:

- Periodic plan review to determine if adjustments or modifications are needed.
- Routine feed analysis to document the rates at which nitrogen and phosphorus were actually fed.
- When actual rates fed differ from or exceed the planned rates, records will indicate the reasons for the differences.

Maintain records to document plan implementation. As applicable, records include:

- Records of feed analysis and ration formulation, including the record of ration formulation used prior to implementing the feeding strategy.
- Records of the initial estimate of the impact the feeding strategy was expected to have on reducing manure nutrient content.
- Records of any manure analysis that was done after the feeding strategy was implemented to determine manure nutrient content.

Dates of review and person performing the review and any recommendations that resulted from the review.

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