Manure Value, Cost & Time Management Calculator

Nutrient Management Tools and Curriculum

Tool

Manure Value, Cost and Time Management Calculator is a Microsoft Excel-based calculator that helps producers evaluate manure management decisions and answer the following questions:

- What is the value of my manure (in terms of fertilizer replacement)?
- How far can I economically transport it (break-even hauling distance)?
- What are the operating and ownership costs for land application of my manure?
- What is the cost/value of exporting manure?
- How much time (machinery and labor) will it take to spread manure?
- Where are the bottlenecks, and how can I improve manure application efficiency?

The tool was designed to be used at the farm to analyze farm specific manure management alternatives or in the classroom with a producer, extension or student audience to teach concepts associated with manure management strategies. This tool can be used as an extension tool on its own and/or integrated into a complete 4-hour nutrient management curriculum (1-hour lecture, 2-hour engaged activities and 1-hour advanced concepts). All components can be downloaded.

Curriculum

The *Manure Value, Cost and Time Management Calculator* includes six downloadable parts:

Teaching Guides

1. Background Lecture (1 hour)
2. Tutorial Workbook Teaching Guide
    - Software Demonstration (1 hour)
    - Instructional Examples (1 hour)
    - Advanced Exercises (1 hour)

Materials

3. Tool (Software and Data Collection Sheet)
4. User Manual
5. Tutorial Workbook
    - Software Demonstration (1 hour)
    - Instructional Examples (1 hour)
    - Advanced Exercises (1 hour)
6. Glossary

Fact Sheets and Extension Material

- Agronomy Fact Sheet # 4: Nitrogen Credits from Manure
- Agronomy Fact Sheet # 18: Manure Spreader Calibrations
- Agronomy Fact Sheet # 38: Manure Sampling, Handling and Analysis
- Agronomy Fact Sheet # 53: Manure Cost, Value and Time Management Calculator

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