

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT UPDATE

Spring 2021

CERTIFICATE RENEWALS

Because of Covid-19, many certificates set to expire in 2020 were extended until April 30, 2021.

If you are a certificate holder affected by this, make sure you have completed your exam and submitted your application prior to that date.

In-person exams are not currently being offered, but online exams are available.

For more information, go to: www.nutrientmanagement.ca



AGRISUITE DEVELOPMENT

Development continues on the next version of AgriSuite. The development team is very excited about how things are progressing. A number of modules have been released already including:

- A crop nutrient module that will provide the official OMAFRA crop recommendations for many of the field and horticultural crops grown in Ontario
- An organic amendment module that will estimate the nutrient contribution resulting from the application of manure or other organic amendment
- A field management planner that will put together the basics of a simple nutrient management planning exercise. This brings together crop nutrient recommendations, fertilizer applications and manure/organic amendment applications to provide agronomic and crop removal balances that are evaluated against good management practices.

These modules can be found at:

<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/agrisuite.html>.

The modules will work on Chrome and Safari on desktops, laptops and tablets. They will also work on Android and iPhones. You do need internet access or a data signal to access them.

The next module to be released is the manure storage sizing module. It should be available by mid-April.

The regulatory module for preparing Nutrient Management Strategies for approval will be available in early August and the module for preparing NASM plans will be ready by late October.

Developers of Nutrient Management Strategies and NASM Plans will continue to use the current version of AgriSuite to generate submissions for approval until the new platform is available.

ANNUAL REVIEW RESOURCES FOR YOUR CLIENTS

Farms with a Nutrient Management Strategy are required to do an annual review by February 15th each year. Help your clients by them by telling them about www.nutrientmanagement.ca. The resources section has the tools they need to complete a thorough update.

BN9: REMINDER AND TIPS

As part of a broader Ontario Government initiative, the BN9 – Federal Business number is now a requirement when submitting Nutrient Management Strategies (NMS), NASM Plans and amendments to NMS and NASM plans to OMAFRA. This requirement has been in place since 2020.

NMS and NASM Plans are not considered complete and cannot be put into the review queue until a valid BN9 number is provided and verified.

More details on the [BN9 number](#) and FAQs on the program are at www.nutrientmanagement.ca.

To help with providing the required BN9 number, here is a list of the common errors and questions that have come up over the last year.

BN9 COMMON ERRORS

1. The Farm Registration number is provided instead of the BN9 number

- The BN9 number is a specific business number that is issued by the Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).
- The BN9 number is a 9 digit number that can be found on a GST/HST or Corporation Notice of Assessment
- Please review the FAQs at [BN9 number](#)

2. Error/typo issues with the number provided

- Similar to property roll numbers, the BN9 number is checked and verified
- Please ensure 9 digits are provided
- Please double check that the number is entered correctly
- Errors in the BN9 number will delay the submission from being placed in the review queue

3. The ownership information provided in the submission does not match the ownership information associated with the BN9

- Please confirm the information from the GST/HST or Corporation Notice of Assessment
- The business type and legal name associated with the BN9 number should match the information in the submission

BN9 COMMON QUESTIONS

Question 1:

What if the farm unit is a partnership or there is an “Owner” & “Operator” and there is more than one BN9 associated with the Operation?

Answer:

We are required to collect one BN9 number that is associated with each submission (NMS or NASM Plan), if there are multiple BN9 numbers related with the operation, select one that will be linked with the submission.

Question 2:

What if the Nutrient Management Strategy is for a new operation and there currently is no BN9 number.

Answer:

There are exemptions to the requirement to submit a BN9 number. One of the exceptions is a business with no employees and/or earning less than \$30,000 gross revenue. A new business will likely meet this exemption and a BN9 is not required to be submitted, but the “Business Number Collection (BN9) Form” is required to be submitted identifying the exemption.

The form is at www.nutrientmanagement.ca and can be found [here](#). The BN9 number may be required with future submissions if the exemption no longer applies.

FOR YOUR VIEWING PLEASURE...

If you are tired of scanning Twitter and watching TikTok videos in your spare time, here are some links to presentations from a Soil Health event held in eastern Ontario in March, 2020. Great speakers providing relevant information...Enjoy!

[Soil Tests - What is Really Important?](#)

Where can you get the most bang for your buck? - from soil fertility tests to the newest soil health tests.

[Cover Crops, Drainage, Earthworms and More](#)

How can you improve your soil's resilience in bad weather years? Tile drainage is only part of the answer. Cover crops, tillage, and more.

[Handling and Maximizing Manure](#)

Getting the most from manure: incorporation, reducing odour, increasing nutrient content, and no-till practices.

[Erosion: Managing the Field Landscape](#)

What are strategies for a system approach to erosion? In what context are different strategies appropriate?

More videos are available at the [Ontario Soil Health](#) website.