



**TRIED  
&  
TESTED**

**October 2010**

**The Tried & Tested newsletter is written by the Tried & Tested Team and is published bi-monthly.**

It's been another busy couple of months for the Tried & Tested Team, with attendance at the **Dairy Event and Livestock Show** and publication of the **Nutrient Management Practices Report**. We have also developed a **new SNS calculator tool** to help you in your nitrogen planning, application and record keeping. The new version of **PLANET** is available for those of you who prefer to keep electronic records. Our Tried & Tested **USB memory sticks** are still available and we will be attending a number of **events** over the upcoming weeks. Don't forget to visit our **website** to keep up to date with the latest news and events and if you are using, or have used the Tried & Tested nutrient management plan, please **let us know how you got on**.

### **Tried & Tested launch new SNS calculator**

You can use our SNS calculator to help determine the Soil Nitrogen Supply of your soil. This calculates the SNS index, which is used for working out crop nitrogen rates recommended in the Fertiliser Manual (RB209). You can find the SNS calculator [here](#).

### **Nutrient management practices report**

This report from the Professional Nutrient Management Group reviews the evidence of nutrient management planning during the period following publication of the Tried & Tested nutrient management plan in 2009 and identifies gaps in advice. The key findings were that over half of farms have a nutrient management plan, with 10% of these using Tried and Tested but grazing livestock (beef and sheep) farms are least likely to have one and there is scope for improving use of nutrients in organic manures on all farms types. Click [here](#) to read more.

### **PLANET v3 now available**

The new PLANET version 3.0 has been released and is now available for downloading. Click [here](#) to go to the PLANET website to find out how to get your copy.

### **Tried & Tested memory sticks still available**

Due to their popularity, we have produced another batch of memory sticks; these ones include our new SNS calculator as well as electronic Tried & Tested record sheets, The Fertiliser Manual (RB209), the Environment Agency's 'Think Soils' and NVZ booklets.

### **Tried & Tested at the Dairy Event and Livestock Show**

Tried & Tested resources were available at the NFU stand at this years' Dairy Show. The move to the NEC seemed to be a success and lots of you came along to get your free nutrient management resources. Don't worry if you missed us, the team will be at more events over the next few months.

## Upcoming Events:

The Tried & Tested team will be at the following event with free nutrient management resources to take away:

- 11<sup>th</sup> November Fertilising your soils workshop  
Tried & Tested will be attending this free Farming Futures workshop. The rising cost of fuel and fertiliser coupled with the increased regulation of the environment and coping with the impacts of climate change means new methods of enhancing soil fertility and your yields are on the horizon. Click [here](#) to find out more.
- 8<sup>th</sup> December Cutting the Cost of Carbon; A Farm Carbon Event  
To find out more click [here](#) to go to the Farming Futures website.

Don't forget to check our [website](#) for the latest events!

## Tell us what you think!

Your feedback on the Tried & Tested Nutrient Management Plan is extremely valuable and will help us evaluate the plan in the future. Please help us by taking a few minutes to complete our online survey [here](#).

## The nutrient management website

Please visit [www.nutrientmanagement.org](http://www.nutrientmanagement.org) for our new one-stop-shop for nutrient management advice, events, news and much more. You can [contact us](#) if you have any feedback or ideas for publications, events etc. that we should feature on the site. We look forward to hearing from you!

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Tried & Tested is part of a project to provide advice on nutrient management to farmers and advisers through a strategic partnership between the Professional Nutrient Management Group (NFU, FWAG, LEAF, AIC and CLA) and the England Catchment Sensitive Farming Delivery Initiative (ECSFDI)

