

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

New Tried & Tested guides Think Manures and the New to Nutrient Management Guide available now

Tried & Tested have launched two new documents to aid nutrient management.

- Think Manures - A companion to the Tried & Tested nutrient management plan giving practical advice to encourage improvements in manure storage, handling and spreading practices. Think Manures has been produced with the Environment Agency, Catchment Sensitive Farming and Industry partners.
- New to Nutrient Management Guide – A short leaflet taking you through the nutrient management steps one by one.

Grassland derogation for 2012 now open

Farmers in Great Britain can be granted a derogation from strict nitrogen limits under Nitrate Vulnerable Zones legislation. Applications must be in by 31st December and farmers will need to meet a list of criteria which includes:

- 80% of agricultural area must be in grass
- Must have a whole farm stocking rate equivalent to no more than 250 kg/N ha (about 1 dairy cow/acre)
- Farmers must apply each year
- No manures on grassland that is to be autumn cultivated
- Ploughed grass must be followed by an N-hungry crop
- P fertilisation plan for each field
- Each farm must have N and P soil analysis results

For more information click [here](#).

Ian's Blog

Ian has written another superb blog, this time on the Grassland derogation. If you're not sure about applying or don't fully understand the implications, read [Ian's blog](#).

Defra Farm Practices survey results

The latest National Statistics from the Defra Farm Practices Survey show that 62% of farmers have completed a nutrient management plan for their holding and that 17% of those are using Tried & Tested. Of those who have a nutrient management plan 43% have seen a financial benefit, while 30% have seen an environmental benefit. One of the biggest barriers to completing and using a nutrient management plan is the perceived complexity of doing so and 14% of farmers without a nutrient management plan stated that they would be motivated to create one if the process was simpler. If you fall into this category or would like some guidance on creating and using a plan you could benefit from Tried & Tested's [New to Nutrient Management Guide](#).

Free soil analysis from Soils for Profit

Farmers in the South West region who register with Soils for Profit will receive a soil kit allowing up to five soil samples to be analysed. Results will be sent to a Soils for Profit adviser who will provide

tailored soil and nutrient advice as part of an on-farm visit. The adviser will also produce a written action plan to identify what actions will deliver the greatest economic and environmental returns for the farm. To request a free Soils for Profit farm advisory visit and soil analysis pack or for further info on the project call: 0300 060 1244 or email soils4profit@naturalengland.org.uk

Events

Right now there are over 70 events and workshops promoted on the nutrientmanagement.org website including:

- Monday 24th October **AD demonstration workshop**. A Free workshop for farmers interested in anaerobic digestion will be held at Cockle Park Farm near Morpeth, Northumberland.
- Tuesday 25th October **NVZ workshop**, Exeter. A free workshop from FWAG including how to calculate and keep records of manure storage and use.
- Wednesday 26th October **CSF workshop**, Cumbria, focusing on nutrient management planning.

If you are planning to hold a relevant workshop and you think others should know about it, [get in touch](#) so that we can add the details to our events page and promote your event.

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](#).

Blog your views on nutrient management

Would you like to share your views and experiences on nutrient management? We are looking for a farmer to contribute to a monthly column for the new Tried & Tested website. A small remuneration is on offer. Please contact Rebecca Wells on rebecca.wells@nfu.org.uk for details.

The nutrient management website

Please visit www.nutrientmanagement.org for your one-stop-shop for nutrient management advice, events, news and much more. You can contact us [here](#) 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 Catchment Sensitive Farming (CSF)