

**Re: Update to Manure Spreading Advisory #4 of 2016: South Coast Region**

**Date: February 1, 2017**

Refer to Manure Spreading Advisory #4 of 2016 (November 7, 2016) for the current Advisory: **“in general, manure application on any crops is not advised.”**

T-Sum values, a sum of daily mean temperatures above 0°C, for the region are listed below. With a colder than average winter, values are lower than last year and the historical average. It will likely take longer than previous years for established grass fields to benefit from manure spreading.

T-Sum as of January 30<sup>th</sup>

	2017	2016	Historical Average
Abbotsford	60	120	87
Chilliwack	76	77	106
North Delta	69	131	120

Watch the T-Sum for your area increase at [Farmwest.com](http://Farmwest.com). The T-Sum is **one** factor used to determine appropriate timing for the first manure application on grass fields. More importantly, however, decisions about the first manure application should consider the overall risks of runoff from the field, not just the state of the grasses. On some but not all fields, conditions will be suitable for manure application before T-Sum reaches 200. On other fields, conditions will not be suitable even after T-Sum reaches 200 (e.g. if fields are still saturated from rains).

Producers are responsible for decisions regarding manure spreading. Legislation gives no specific dates for manure spreading but it does not allow for manure to be spread in a manner that causes pollution.

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For further information, please contact BC Ministry of Agriculture: Jeff Nimmo, P.Ag. 604-556-3109 David Poon, P.Ag. 604-556-3098	For questions of a regulatory nature, please contact the BC Ministry of Environment: To report a spill 1-800-663-3456 To report pollution 1-877-952-7277
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