
Re: Update to Manure Spreading Advisory #1 of 2017: South Coast Region

Date: July 6, 2017

Refer to [Manure Spreading Advisory #1](#) of 2017 (April 3, 2017) for the current Advisory. The following Update does not change the Advisory. Continue to use a minimum buffer distance of 5 meters from wet watercourses and ditches or 3 meters from dry watercourses and ditches during summer.

[Last month's update](#) related to the loss of nitrogen (N) from manure during warm weather and continues to be relevant throughout the summer.

Manure Nutrient Composition

Particularly during seasonal conditions where ammonia volatilization may be higher, it is important to remember that more nutrients than N are supplied with each manure application. Unlike N, these other nutrients are not volatilized, and their proportions relative to N will change if significant amounts of N are lost during application.

Animal manures have more total phosphorus (P) per unit of total N compared to the P and N which a crop removes in a growing season. Using manure exclusively and repeatedly to meet crop N needs tends to result in over-fertilization of P, a nutrient of environmental concern in surface water.

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.

This Update is produced by government, in partnership with industry, to provide guidance to farmers regarding the *Agricultural Waste Control Regulation* and the *Environmental Management Act*. If a discrepancy arises between this document and the legislation, the legislation takes precedence. Following this advisory does not relieve anyone from their obligations under the legislation. The Province of British Columbia does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information referenced here from legislation, and in no event is the Province liable or responsible for damages of any kind arising out of its use.

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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