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

Date: March 2, 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.”**

Soils remain wet throughout the Fraser Valley. Manure application on wet or frozen ground followed by significant precipitation would present a very high risk of pollution occurring from runoff.

The continued cold weather in the Fraser Valley means established grass fields will take longer than previous years to benefit from manure spreading. Watch the T-Sum, a sum of daily mean temperatures above 0°C, for your area increase at 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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