



## Cropping System for Fruit Producers -- Verification Checklist

**A boxed risk level** indicates the level required for environmental assurance verification.

**Bold Black print** indicates a violation of state or federal regulation.

**Bold blue italic print** indicates a management practice consistent with a specified 2016 Right-to-Farm (RTF) Generally Accepted Agricultural Management Practices (GAAMPs).

(Revised Date: 9-28-16)

### NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES					
RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>1.00)</b> Has there ever been a formal Right to Farm complaint against the farm?	There has never been a Right to Farm complaint, or the concern was not verified, or the concern was resolved.		There was a formal Right to Farm complaint and the concern has not resolved.	Producer's verbal indication of complaint history.	YES NO N/A
<b>1.01)</b> How often are fields tested for nutrient levels (P, K, Ca, Mg) and pH?	<b><i>All fields</i></b> are <b><i>sampled and tested</i></b> (both tissue and soil) <b><i>on a regular basis</i></b> , at least every four years.	<b><i>All fields</i></b> are <b><i>sampled and tested</i></b> (either tissue or soil) every four years or producer plans to bring tests up to date.	Fields have not been soil or tissue tested within the past four years.	Field names or map. Acres in the cropped portions of the field. Up-to-date soil test and tissue analysis reports, or schedule to bring all tests up to date.	YES NO N/A
<b>1.04)</b> How are all sources of nutrients considered when making fertilization decisions?	<b><i>Credit taken for nutrients supplied by organic matter, legumes and manure or other biological materials</i></b> (biosolids). Fertilizer rates are reduced accordingly.	When organic matter, legumes, manure or other biological materials (biosolids) are used, fertilizer rates are sometimes reduced.	When organic matter, legumes, manure or other biological materials (biosolids) are used, rates are not reduced.	Written records available, showing nutrient credits utilized.	YES NO N/A
<b>1.05)</b> How are fertilizer application rates determined?	<b><i>Consistent with Michigan State University (MSU) recommendations.</i></b> When MSU recommendations are not available, other land-grant university recommendations developed for the region may be used. (Based on site-specific, block-by-block soil and tissue analysis.)	<b><i>Consistent with Michigan State University (MSU) recommendations,</i></b> based on composite analysis representing the whole farm.	Fertilizer rates are not based on tissue or soil analysis.	Applications consistent with MSU recommendations (MSU soil test printout or calculated MSU recommendations on file). When MSU recommendations are not available, applications are consistent with industry standards.	YES NO N/A

Comments:

# NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES – GENERAL (CONTINUED)</b>					
<b>1.06)</b> How are nutrient management plans for each field annually developed and followed?	Annual nutrient plan is developed on a block-by-block basis to meet crop nutrient needs and minimize loss of nutrients to the environment.	A nutrient plan is developed each year for each crop species. Soil or tissue tests are up-to-date.	Nutrient plan is not developed, or the same plan is used for more than four years.	Annual nutrient plan by field or crop grown.	YES NO N/A
<b>1.07)</b> Is fertilizer application equipment checked for proper adjustment?	<i>Application equipment is checked for rate of application and placement.</i> Over- and under-applications are monitored and corrected.		Application equipment is not checked.	Name of person responsible for fertilizer applicator adjustments and the dates of adjustments.	YES NO N/A
<b>1.08)</b> What soil nutrient management records are kept?	<i>Records of soil tests and tissue analysis reports and quantities of nutrients applied to individual fields or blocks are maintained.</i>	Partial nutrient management records are kept. Complete nutrient management records will be kept in the future, for review at time of reverification.	Minimal or no nutrient management records kept.	Three years of records – or five years, if applying manure, - or plans to begin keeping records. - Soil fertility tests and/or plant analysis results. - Previous crop grown and yield harvested. - Date(s) of nutrient application(s). - Nutrient composition of fertilizer or other material used. - Amount of nutrient-supplying material applied per acre. - Method of application and placement of applied nutrients. - The name of the individual responsible for fertilizer applicator, calibrating and the dates of calibration. - Vegetative growth and cropping history of perennial crops.	YES  NO  N/A

Comments:










## NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (CONTINUED)

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>MANURE MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (IF MANURE IS NOT USED, SKIP THIS SECTION.)</b>					
<b>1.25)</b> How are fields selected for spreading on frozen and snow-covered ground?	No applications on frozen or snow covered ground without injection or incorporation.	Manure application risks index (MARI) has been completed for each field receiving manure on frozen or snow covered ground. Frozen or snow covered fields receiving manure have met MARI criteria for Low or Very Low rating and <i>no liquid manure is applied on slopes greater than 3%, and no solid manure is applied to slopes over 6%.</i>	Applications are made to fields where runoff to water resources may occur.	MARI completed for each field receiving winter manure application, or spreading plan does not include winter spreading.	YES  NO  N/A
<b>1.26)</b> How are field tiles managed to prevent manure discharge to surface water?	<i>Liquid manure is prevented from reaching tile lines.</i> Management practices are in place to prevent runoff to surface inlets. Tile line outlets are monitored.		Tile outlets are not monitored for manure discharge.	Tiled fields identified on map. Records of tile flow before and after application (flow, rate, color and odor).	YES NO N/A
<b>1.28)</b> How are biosolids with pathogens prevented from contacting crops grown for human consumption?	Biosolids with pathogens present (Class B biosolids) are applied only to non-bearing trees and plant areas, or harvest restrictions are followed.  (Class A biosolids are essentially pathogens free with no restrictions for land application. Class B biosolids have low levels of pathogens and have restrictions and harvest intervals when land applied.)		<b>Biosolids with pathogens present (Class B biosolids) are applied to active fruit production areas without regard to harvest restrictions.</b> <sup>4</sup>	Application records kept for Biosolids applications and can be compared with fruit production records.	YES NO N/A
<b>1.29)</b> Has nutrient content information on the biosolids applied to the farm been received?	Received laboratory analysis for percent dry matter (solids), ammonium N (NH <sub>4</sub> -N), and total N, P and K, and utilize nutrient credits when planning nutrient program.		Have not received any biosolids analysis information.	Biosolids analyses on file.	YES NO N/A

Comments:

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## PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (CONTINUED)

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>PESTICIDE APPLICATION (CONTINUED)</b>					
<b>3.30)</b> How are agricultural pollution emergencies handled?	Call 911, sheriff, fire or emergency services department for personal safety issues. <b>All uncontained spills or releases should be reported to the MDARD Agriculture Pollution Emergency Hotline: 1-800-405-0101</b> , or the MDEQ Pollution Emergency Alerting System: 1-800-292-4706.		<b>No contact to state or local authorities. Spill discharges directly to surface water.</b> <sup>4</sup>	Farm emergency plan on file, or local emergency telephone numbers immediately available.	YES NO N/A

## WATER USE

<b>4.01)</b> If the groundwater and surface water pumps have a combined capacity to pump more than 100,000 gallons per day (70 gallons per minute) for agricultural purposes, has water use been registered and reported to the State of Michigan?	Pump capacity is less than 100,000 gallons per day (70 gallons per minute). Or, Register and report annual water use to Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development by April 1.		<b>Pump capacity is greater than 100,000 gallons per day (70 gallons per minute) and water use is not reported to the State of Michigan.</b> <sup>13</sup>	Farm records indicate compliance.	YES NO N/A
<b>4.02)</b> Have new or increased large quantity water withdrawals been registered (pumping capacity greater than 70 gpm or 100,000 gallons per day for systems established after July 9, 2009)?	The Water Withdrawal Assessment Tool (WWAT) was used to determine if a proposed withdrawal or expansion is likely to cause an Adverse Resource Impact, and to register the water withdrawal with MDEQ, prior to beginning the withdrawal. The WWAT and registration site is: <a href="http://www.miwwat.org/">http://www.miwwat.org/</a>		<b>Pump capacity is greater than 100,000 gallons per day (70 gallons per minute) and water use is not reported to the State of Michigan.</b> <sup>13</sup>	Producer's verbal indication of compliance with regulation.	YES NO N/A

Comments:


## PEST MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (CONTINUED)

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>4.03)</b> Is there an unused well located in the cropping area?	No unused well, or abandoned well properly sealed.	Unused well temporarily abandoned properly: -Meets minimum isolation distances -Is disconnected from any water distribution piping. -Has the top of the casing securely capped.	<b>Unused, unsealed well in cropping area.</b> <sup>1</sup>	Unused well(s) properly sealed or temporarily abandoned.	YES NO N/A

## IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

### SYSTEM MANAGEMENT (IF IRRIGATION IS NOT USED, SKIP THIS SECTION.)

<b>5.01)</b> Are all sprinkler systems operated to minimize drift and off-target application?	<i>All sprinkler systems are operated to minimize drift and off-target application.</i> No off-target irrigation application present.	Most sprinkler systems operated to minimize drift and off-target application. Few off-target irrigation applications occur.	Sprinkler systems are often operated under windy conditions. Water is sprayed over roads, adjacent property or structures.	No field evidence of off-target applications.	YES NO N/A
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### RECORD KEEPING

<b>5.03)</b> Are proper irrigation system management records collected and retained for use in decision-making and for reference in case of complaints?	Irrigation system management records are collected and retained, including: - <i>Crop type and location.</i> - <i>Source of the water used.</i> - <i>Date, method and amount of each irrigation water application.</i> - <i>All system inspections and repairs that influence uniformity and leaks.</i> - <i>Calibration of fertigation and chemigation equipment, if used.</i> - <i>Records on system uniformity evaluation.</i>	Most of irrigation system management records are collected and retained. Plan to maintain complete irrigation records.	Few or no irrigation system management records are collected or retained.	Irrigation records on file, or plans to maintain records.	YES NO N/A
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Comments:

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# IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT PRACTICES

## IRRIGATION SCHEDULING (IF IRRIGATION IS NOT USED, SKIP THIS SECTION.)

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>5.04)</b> How is irrigation scheduling used to determine when it is necessary to irrigate and how much water should be applied during each irrigation event?	Irrigation water is scheduled on the basis of: - <i>Available soil water for each unit scheduled.</i> - <i>Depth of rooting for each crop irrigated.</i> - <i>Allowable soil moisture depletion at each stage of crop growth.</i> - <i>Measured, estimated or published evapotranspiration data to determine crop water use.</i> - <i>Measured rainfall in each field irrigated.</i>	Irrigation water is scheduled on the basis of observed soil moisture content and/or daily water crop usage.	Irrigation water is applied at a set rate per week if no precipitation is received.	Scheduling system evident by records.	YES NO N/A

## APPLICATION PRACTICES TO AVOID RUNOFF AND LEACHING

<b>5.05)</b> Is there a rain gauge in every irrigated field?	<i>Every field is being managed for irrigation has a rain gauge in the field.</i> Rain events are observed and used in conjunction with irrigation scheduling.	Most fields have a rain gauge; plan to have gauge in all fields.	No rain gauges OR only one rain gauge at the farmstead.	Rain gauges in all irrigated fields, or plan to maintain in all fields.	YES NO N/A
<b>5.06)</b> Is irrigation water runoff and ponding minimized?	<i>Sprinkler application rates are below the soil infiltration rate.</i> Nutrient leaching is minimized.	Most sprinkler application rates are below the soil infiltration rate. Some runoff and ponding is present.	Sprinkler application rates exceed the soil infiltration rate. Runoff and ponding is commonly visible.	No indication of significant runoff or ponding in irrigated fields.	YES NO N/A
<b>5.07)</b> Have all irrigation systems been evaluated for application uniformity?	<i>All irrigation systems have been evaluated for uniformity.</i> Corrections are made to the system to improve uniformity.	Some irrigation systems have been evaluated for uniformity. Remainder of systems scheduled to be evaluated.	Irrigation system uniformity has not been evaluated.	Uniformity tests on file. Schedule for evaluating systems that have not been evaluated.	YES NO N/A

Comments:


## IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (CONTINUED)

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>APPLICATION PRACTICES TO AVOID RUNOFF AND LEACHING (IF IRRIGATION IS NOT USED, SKIP THIS SECTION.)</b>					
<b>5.08)</b> How is the amount of irrigation water delivered accurately determined?	<b>All water applications are accurately determined:</b> -by knowing actual flow delivered (GPM) and time of application. -or, by using a flow meter. -or, by average output caught with system evaluation.	Water applications are estimated or based on rates given by the irrigation vendor or installation company.	Water application amounts not determined. Excess application occurs.	Irrigation water delivered by irrigation system is accurately determined.	YES NO N/A
<b>5.10)</b> How far is the fertilizer/pesticide chemigation storage or fertigation/chemigation system located from surface water (ponds, streams, rivers, drains, etc.)?	<b>200 feet or greater.</b>	Less than 200 feet with appropriate security measures.	Less than 200 feet.	Appropriate chemigation storage or fertigation/chemigation system isolation from surface water.	YES NO N/A
<b>WELLHEAD PROTECTION</b>					
<b>5.12)</b> Is the irrigation well adequately protected from contamination from pesticides and fertilizers when fertigation and chemigation are used?	<b>Anti-backflow device is installed</b> , including a reduced pressure zone (RPZ) valve, double check valve assembly, or chemigation valve with an internal air gap, and agricultural chemical/fertilizer storage and preparation areas are at least 150 feet from the well, or at least 150 feet from the well, or at least 50 feet from the well, with secondary containment. Air gap is twice the diameter of the fill pipe or six inches, whichever is greater.	<b>Anti-backflow device is installed</b> , including a reduced pressure zone (RPZ) valve, double check valve assembly, or chemigation valve with an internal air gap, and agricultural chemical/fertilizer storage and preparation areas have secondary containment, but <b>storage and preparation areas are less than 50 feet from the well.</b> <sup>1</sup> Air gap is twice the diameter of the fill pipe or six inches, whichever is greater.	<b>No anti-backflow device</b> , no secondary containment and <b>less than 150 feet isolation distance from irrigation well.</b> <sup>1</sup>	Adequate protection of the well provided.	YES NO N/A





## IRRIGATION MANAGEMENT PRACTICES (CONTINUED)

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK – 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	RECORDS OR EVIDENCE FOR MAEAP VERIFICATION	MEETS CRITERIA
<b>WELLHEAD PROTECTION (CONTINUED)</b>					
<b>5.15)</b> Is a horizontal sock well (HSW) present in the cropping system?	-HSW outlets are clearly identified as not being suitable for human consumption. -HSW is completely separated (no common piping) from any potable water supply system. -HSW meets isolation distance requirements the entire horizontal length of the HSW -Both ends of the HSW are identified.	-HSW outlets are clearly identified as not being suitable for human consumption. -HSW is completely separated (no common piping) from any potable water supply system. -HSW meets isolation distance requirements the entire horizontal length of the HSW, except for chemigation/fertigation systems during active use season that have <b>backflow prevention device installed</b> , including a reduced pressure zone (RPZ), double check valve assembly, or chemigation valve with an internal air gap installed and secondary containment. -Both ends of the HSW are identified	<b>HSW is being used for human consumption, shares common piping with a potable water supply, does not have both ends clearly identified, or does not meet State of Michigan, for isolation distances, or MAEAP Standard, for its entire horizontal length.</b> <sup>1,3</sup>	Low or medium risk criteria are present or demonstrated.	YES   NO   N/A

## OTHER ENVIRONMENTAL RISKS IN THE CROPPING SYSTEM

<b>6.04)</b> Are there other activities, products, processes/equipment, services, byproducts and/or wastes in the cropping areas that pose contamination risks to groundwater or surface water?	No risk(s) identified.	Risk(s) identified and plan to mitigate the contamination risk(s).	No plan to mitigate contamination risk(s).	No other environmental risks found in cropping areas.	YES   NO   N/A
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Comments:
