WHAT'S NEW

The following are highlights of the updates to the software and reference material since the October 2005 release of the Nutrient Management Planning subprogram of the Canada-British Columbia Environmental Farm Plan Program:

- Nutrient management planning software for forage crops using imperial units (in addition to a metric version)
- Support for field vegetables, raspberry and blueberry crops
- Ability to enter all laboratory report values on one (forage) or two (vegetable) worksheets
- Ability to compare soil test phosphorus and potassium results of different laboratory extraction methods
- Updated soil test ratings for phosphorus and potassium to better reflect soil test interpretations developed for British Columbia soils
- Updated factsheets and new factsheets on understanding different soil test methods
- "Agronomic Balance" and "Crop Removal Balance" concepts redefined to support decisions about nutrient optimization
- Ability to enter up to three manure sources per field
- Manure application rates are no longer automatically adjusted to use manure excesses (that are less than 10% of total manure production); instead, manure excesses/deficiencies or requirements are estimated by weight/volume for each manure type to be used and these are to be evaluated along with estimated nutrient balances
- Ability to enter nutrients from chemical fertilizers
- More accurate manure generation estimates for dairy farms: washwater and rainwater contributions to liquid manure handling systems are integrated into the spreadsheet
- Expanded and updated lists of book values for comparison with laboratory results – manure nutrient contents, ammonia retention factors (for manure spreading), and solid manure densities – see References for more information
- New assumptions about first-year nitrogen mineralization factors, nitrogen fertilizer credits from previous practices, and manure phosphorus availability – see References for more information
- Ability to generate printouts of field record sheets to compare actual nutrient application practices and expected yields with plans
- Software programs designed for Microsoft Excel 2007 and compatible with Microsoft Excel 2003.

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