

**Nutrient Management Protocols
For
Ontario Regulations
Made under the
Nutrient Management Act, 2002**

Draft for Discussion Purposes Only

November, 2002

Part 1 - Introduction

This document is the “Nutrient Management Protocol” referred to in the regulations of the Nutrient Management Act. It is meant to outline technical and scientific details that are in addition to the standards set out in the regulations. The additional information is useful in developing nutrient management strategies and nutrient management plans that demonstrate compliance with the regulations.

1.1 CATEGORIES OF OPERATIONS

All operations that generate, store, use, or transport prescribed materials or commercial fertilizers used in crop production are categorized under the Nutrient Management Act. The categorization of these operations will facilitate implementation of the regulations and are outlined in the regulations.

1. Agricultural operations need to define their farm unit in order to place themselves into a category.
2. Non-agricultural operations are category 6.
3. Intermediate generators are category 9 and may or may not be agricultural operations but nevertheless have their own category because of this unique practice. They must follow the same requirements as agricultural operations.

1.2 TERMINOLOGY AND CONTEXT

A nutrient management strategy describes the management, storage, and the destination of the prescribed materials generated. All generators of a prescribed material are categorized and must complete a nutrient management strategy.

Prescribed materials are listed in the regulations and are broken down into agricultural and non-agricultural sources.

A nutrient management plan describes the management of land application of a prescribed material. If you own or control land that nutrients are applied to then you must complete a nutrient management plan.

Nutrients are both prescribed materials and commercial fertilizer.

Note for agricultural operations: it is possible for the operation to generate prescribed materials and apply them to land so they need to develop a nutrient management strategy and a nutrient management plan. This is further discussed later in this Protocol.