

Subsurface Phosphorus Placement

Purpose

- To encourage agricultural producers to utilize nutrient application equipment that places phosphorus below the soil surface.
- To reduce risk of agricultural nonpoint source pollution of surface water and groundwater resources.

Applicability

Subsurface Phosphorus Placement applies to cropland acres in the H2Ohio program area. Acres enrolled in the Manure Utilization practice are not eligible for the Subsurface Phosphorus Placement practice in the same crop year. Acres receiving payment for in-field practices under any other county, state, or federal program (EQIP, H2Ohio, MWCD, etc.) are not eligible. Cropland enrolled in CSP and receiving payment for NRCS Practices 590 are not eligible.

Specifications

1. The producer has an approved Voluntary Nutrient Management Plan (VNMP) or Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP) with the local SWCD.
2. Eligible acres must have a non-zero phosphorus recommendation in the approved VNMP, and the amount of phosphorus fertilizer applied must be equal to or less than the recommendation.
3. Phosphorus may be placed in multiple applications in one crop year if the total amount does not exceed the phosphorus recommendation in the approved VNMP, and all applications meet the requirements of this standard.
4. The producer must provide a detailed plan of fertilizer source, and placement equipment to be used to achieve program requirements. Subsurface placement equipment must use the “Injected” application method and equipment types include, but are not limited to; planter, side-dress, strip-till, or nutrient placement toolbars.
5. All phosphorus applied must be injected. Fields that receive broadcast applications of phosphorus fertilizer are not eligible for this practice until the broadcast nutrients are utilized through crop removal. Approved phosphorus fertilizer application options include:
 - a. Direct Subsurface Placement: phosphorus fertilizer shall be placed a minimum of two inches below the soil surface for each applied acre.
 - b. No Application: phosphorus fertilizer is not applied, even though phosphorus is recommended.
6. All phosphorus applications must comply with Ohio Revised Code Section 905.326.

Participant Payments

- Producers will receive \$20/ac per year, for up to two years, after completion of all practice requirements. Only one payment will be made for this practice in a single crop year, regardless of the number of phosphorus applications. If a 2-year rate application is made that complies with this standard, the producer will receive a payment each year, if the recommendation is not exceeded, and no surface broadcast applications are made in the two crop years.