

## Useful DARD Telephone Numbers

**Environment** 0845 30 44 502

For advice about the Nitrates Action Programme 2011-2014 and Phosphorus Regulations, or general information on Nitrates Directive.

**Education and Training** 0845 30 44 501

Education and training courses provided by College of Agriculture, Food and Rural Enterprise (CAFRE).

**DARD Corporate Services** 0845 30 44 510

DARD Headquarters, Press Office, information services and systems, human resources and facilities management.

**Textphone** 0845 30 44 511

For people with hearing difficulties.

**Calls from non-UK numbers or networks/international calls** +44 (0)28 9037 8418

A list of DARD contact Numbers can be obtained by visiting the Contact Us section of the DARD Web-Site - [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk)

CAFRE Farm Nutrient Management Calculators available on-line at [www.ruralni.gov.uk](http://www.ruralni.gov.uk) are designed to help you meet the requirements of the NAP.

## Department of the Environment (DOE) Northern Ireland Environment Agency

Internet: [www.ni-environment.gov.uk](http://www.ni-environment.gov.uk)

Water Management Unit, 17 Antrim Rd, Lisburn, BT28 3AL

General Enquiries Tel: 028 9262 3100

Nitrates Regulations Tel: 028 9262 3184

SSAFO Regulations Tel: 028 9262 3102

Groundwater Authorisations Tel: 028 9262 3445

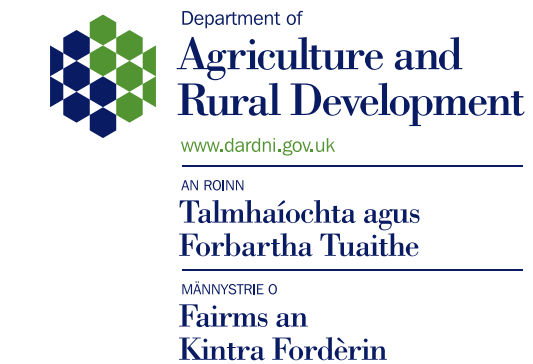
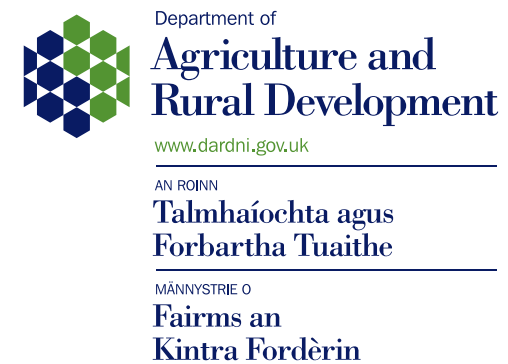
Sewage Sludge to Land Tel: 028 9262 3445

Water Pollution Hotline Tel: 0800 80 70 60

(A 24-hour confidential hotline for reporting pollution incidents)

Fax: 028 9262 3011

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## Summary

# Nitrates Action Programme 2011-2014 & Phosphorus Regulations

Full Details of all the measures can be found in the Guidance Document and at [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk) and [www.ni-environment.gov.uk](http://www.ni-environment.gov.uk)

## Summary of Nitrates Action Programme 2011-14 and Phosphorus Regulations

Verifiable standards	Key Measures
<b>Closed Spreading Periods</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Chemical nitrogen fertiliser must not be applied from midnight 15 September to midnight 31 January.</li> <li>Organic manures, including slurry, poultry litter, sewage sludge and abattoir waste, must not be applied from midnight 15 October to midnight 31 January.</li> <li>Farmyard manure (FYM) must not be applied from midnight 31 October to midnight 31 January.</li> <li>There is no closed spreading period for dirty water. Land application restrictions listed below apply to spreading of all fertilisers, including dirty water.</li> </ul>
<b>Land Application Restrictions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>All fertilisers, <u>chemical and organic</u>, must not be applied:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>on waterlogged soils, flooded land or land liable to flood;</li> <li>on frozen ground or snow covered ground;</li> <li>if heavy rain is forecast in the next 48 hours;</li> <li>on steep slopes (that is an average incline of 20% or more on grassland or an average incline of 15% or more on all other land) where other significant risks of water pollution exist. Risk factors to be considered include the proximity to waterways, the length of time to incorporation, the type and amount of fertiliser being applied and / or the soil and weather conditions.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Prevent entry of fertilisers to waters and ensure application is accurate, uniform and not in a location or manner likely to cause entry to waters.</li> <li>Chemical nitrogen fertilisers must not be applied within 2m of any waterway.</li> <li>Organic manures including dirty water must not be applied within:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>20m of lakes;</li> <li>50m of a borehole, spring or well;</li> <li>250m of a borehole used for a public water supply;</li> <li>15m of exposed cavernous or karstified limestone features;</li> <li>10m of a waterway other than lakes; this distance may be reduced to 3m where slope is less than 10% towards the waterway and where organic manures are spread by bandspreaders, trailing shoe, trailing hose or soil injection or where adjoining area is less than 1 ha in size or not more than 50m in width.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Application rates:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>No more than 50m<sup>3</sup>/ha (4500 gal/ac) or 50 tonnes/ha (20t/ac) of organic manures to be applied at one time, with a minimum of 3 weeks between applications;</li> <li>No more than 50m<sup>3</sup>/ha (4500 gal/ac) of dirty water to be applied at one time, with a minimum of 2 weeks between applications.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Slurry can only be spread by inverted splashplate, bandspreaders, trailing shoe, trailing hose or soil injection.</li> <li>Dirty water to be spread by same methods as slurry and by irrigation.</li> <li>Sludgigators must not be used.</li> </ul>
<b>Chemical Phosphorus Fertiliser</b>	Can only apply chemical fertilisers containing phosphorus if soil analysis shows a requirement as determined by the latest edition of RB209. ***

Verifiable standards	Key Measures						
<b>Chemical Nitrogen (N) Fertiliser Crop Requirement</b>	<p style="text-align: center;">Maximum kg N/ha on grassland</p> <table style="margin-left: auto; margin-right: auto;"> <tr> <td>Dairy farms*</td> <td style="text-align: center;">272</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(8 ¼ bags**/ac)</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Other farms</td> <td style="text-align: center;">222</td> <td style="text-align: center;">(6 ¾ bags**/ac)</td> </tr> </table> <p>(N from organic manures other than livestock must be subtracted)                      *More than 50% of N in livestock manure comes from dairy cattle                      **Approximate number of 50kg bags of a 27% N type fertiliser                      For non-grassland crops, the crop requirement as determined by the latest edition of RB209.</p>	Dairy farms*	272	(8 ¼ bags**/ac)	Other farms	222	(6 ¾ bags**/ac)
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Other farms	222	(6 ¾ bags**/ac)					
<b>Livestock Manure and Silage Effluent Storage Requirements</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>26 weeks livestock manure storage capacity for pig and poultry enterprises.</li> <li>22 weeks for other enterprises.</li> <li>Provided certain criteria are met there are allowances for out-wintering, animals in bedded accommodation, separated cattle slurry, renting additional tanks, poultry litter stored in a midden or field heap and exporting manure to approved outlets.</li> <li>Livestock manure and silage effluent storage must be maintained and managed to prevent seepage or run-off.</li> <li>New or substantially enlarged or reconstructed stores must comply with the Silage, Slurry and Agricultural Fuel Oil (Northern Ireland) (SSAFO) Regulations, 2003.</li> <li>FYM storage:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>FYM may be stored in middens with adequate effluent collection facilities.</li> <li>FYM maybe stored in field heaps where it is to be applied.</li> <li>Until 31 December 2012, FYM may be stored in field heaps for a maximum of 180 days.</li> <li>From 1 January 2013, FYM may be stored in field heaps for a maximum of 120 days.</li> <li>FYM field heaps must not be located on land that is waterlogged, flooded or likely to flood.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Poultry litter storage:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Poultry litter may be stored in middens with adequate effluent collection facilities.</li> <li>Poultry litter may be stored in field heaps until 30 September 2011.</li> <li>Poultry litter may only be stored in field heaps for a maximum of 180 days in the field where it is to be applied and must be covered with an impermeable membrane as soon as possible and within 24 hours of placement in the field.</li> <li>Field storage of poultry litter is to be reviewed in 2011.</li> </ul> </li> <li>FYM and poultry litter field heaps must not be stored:                             <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>in the same location of the field year after year;</li> <li>within 50m of lakes;</li> <li>within 20m of a waterway;</li> <li>within 50m of a borehole, spring or well;</li> <li>within 250m of a borehole used for a public water supply;</li> <li>within 50m of exposed cavernous or karstified limestone features.</li> </ul> </li> <li>Provide storage for dirty water during periods when conditions for land application are unsuitable.</li> </ul>						
<b>Land Management</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Crop and soil management to minimise soil erosion and nutrient run off.</li> </ul>						

Verifiable standards	Key Measures
<b>Livestock Manure Nitrogen Limits</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>170kgN/ha/year farm limit.</li> <li>Farms with at least 80% grassland may apply annually by 1 March to NIEA for a derogation to permit the land application of up to 250kg N/ha/year from grazing livestock manure. Additional conditions and Cross-Compliance verifiable standards will apply. Further guidance is available from NIEA.</li> </ul>
<b>Record Keeping</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Agricultural area, field size and location.</li> <li>Cropping regimes and areas, Soil Nitrogen Supply (SNS) index for crops other than grassland.</li> <li>Livestock numbers, type, species and time kept.</li> <li>Organic and chemical fertiliser details including imports and exports.</li> <li>Evidence of a phosphorus requirement if chemical phosphorus fertiliser sown. ***</li> <li>Storage capacity, and where applicable, associated evidence to support allowances to reduce capacity.</li> <li>Evidence of control over the agricultural area and the right to graze common land.</li> </ul> <p>Many of these records already exist on farms, for example, SAF / IACS form, farm maps, herd and flock records and fertiliser receipts.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Records to be ready by 30 June each year for period 1 January to 31 December of previous year.</li> <li>Records to be available for inspection from previous five calendar years.</li> <li>If you operating under an approved derogation, you must keep your fertilisation plan on farm and have it ready for inspection by 1 March for that calendar year. Your fertilisation account for the previous calendar year must be submitted to NIEA by 1 March.</li> </ul>

\*\*\* Not a verifiable standard under Cross-Compliance, but compliance with the Phosphorus Regulations is a legal requirement

**Note:**

- Each of the sections of summarised measures, excluding measures relating to chemical phosphorus fertiliser application, is a Cross-Compliance verifiable standard. An additional verifiable standard under the NAP Regulations not listed in this summary document is compliance with a Notice served.
- Additional requirements apply to farms operating under an approved derogation. Please refer to specific NAP Derogation Guidance.

Full details of all measures can be found in the NAP Guidance Document 2011-2014 and at [www.dardni.gov.uk](http://www.dardni.gov.uk) and [www.ni-environment.gov.uk](http://www.ni-environment.gov.uk)