

Re: UPDATE to Manure Spreading Advisory #2 - 2011: South Coastal Region

Date: March 1, 2011

The following advisory is produced by government, in partnership with industry, to provide guidance to farmers regarding the *Agricultural Waste Control Regulation* and the *ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT ACT*. If a discrepancy arises between this document and the legislation, the legislation takes precedence. Following this advisory does not relieve anyone from their obligations under the LEGISLATION. The Province of British Columbia does not guarantee the accuracy or completeness of the information referenced here from legislation, and in no event is the Province liable or responsible for damages of any kind arising out of its use.

A recent cold snap means that manure spreading is not advised on most sites because of frozen or cold and wet soils. These conditions increase the likelihood of compaction from heavy equipment, surface runoff of manure nutrients if it rains, and reduces the potential for immediate crop uptake of manure nutrients. Please refer to the current Spreading Advisory (February 15, 2011) for more information.

Currently, the next Spreading Advisory is expected to be released within a week, based on today's 14-day trend weather forecasts.

Current conditions and forecast

Weather: Rain and showers are in the five-day forecast. Temperatures are expected to warm to seasonal averages during this week.

Crops: When the T-Sum increases to 200, that is one indication of optimal timing for the first fertilizer application on well-established grasses (see [farmwest.com](http://www.farmwest.com)). However, it has always been just one indicator: manure spreading is generally not advised until weather and soil conditions improve. Cool-season grasses, legumes and most perennials will green up very quickly on most sites as soil temperatures increase. The T-Sum is 218 at the Abbotsford Airport and 189 in Agassiz.

Soil: Some soils are frozen. Soil temperature is about 2°C in Abbotsford.

Advisories & Updates can be found online at

www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/ManureAdvisory or www.farmwest.com

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