

**Re: UPDATE to Manure Spreading Advisory #3 - 2011: South Coastal Region**

**Date: May 2, 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.

**Reminder:** Check your local weather forecast and field conditions when planning to spread and see Advisory #3 (March 16, 2011) for details.

With a cold and wet start to spring, nitrogen mineralization (release of nitrogen into plant-available form in soils) may have been delayed but the quantity of nitrogen potentially to be released during the growing season is likely to stay the same.

To help predict timing of nitrogen release, researchers are working with local farmers and the Government of BC on developing a web-based nitrogen management tool (for corn) that will give real-time feedback tailored to individual farms (accounting for temperature, moisture and other factors). Farmers will be able to enter their basic soil information and management practices (e.g. manure applications) confidentially. In turn, the farmer will be able to see on graphical 'gauges' the effects of their actual or potential management decisions on nitrogen and be able to fine-tune their practices. The project developers will ask for feedback from farmers to improve the usability of the tool. This project is expected to finish in 2013, and it may be expanded to other crops later.

**Advisories & Updates can be found online at**  
[www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/ManureAdvisory](http://www.agf.gov.bc.ca/resmgmt/ManureAdvisory) or [www.farmwest.com](http://www.farmwest.com)

For further information, please contact:

BC Ministry of Agriculture

David Poon, PAg

Orlando Schmidt, PAg

604-556-3098

604-556-3101

For questions of a regulatory nature:

BC Ministry of Environment

George Rushworth, PAg

Trevor Hamelin, AScT

604-582-5211

604 582-5275

The Manure Spreading Advisory Committee consists of representatives from the BC Agriculture Council, the Ministry of Agriculture and the Ministry of Environment.