

NITROGEN MANAGEMENT – AMENDMENTS



The RDAR On-Farm Climate Action Fund (OFCAF) program supports the adoption of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) to replace a portion of the synthetic nitrogen (N) needed for crop production, including some of the costs associated with the transportation and application of manure, compost or digestate. OFCAF applicants may choose some or all the BMPs listed below and other BMPs related to Nitrogen Management, Cover Cropping, or Rotational Grazing. Costs of multiple new BMPs within each of the three activity categories can be combined to a maximum total grant payment of \$100,000 from all OFCAF funding sources for the period April 1, 2022 to March 31, 2028.

Examples of amendments include manure¹, compost, and digestate from biogas digestion. They provide soil health benefits of increased soil organic matter and improved nutrient cycling. The Agricultural Operation Practices Act (AOPA) provides the land application guidelines² for manure, compost or digestate. These include minimum application setback distances from neighbours, common bodies of water and wells, as well as soil testing and record-keeping requirements. Applications of non-agricultural waste must follow the regulations of Alberta Environment and Protected Areas.

The BMPs supported by OFCAF must be new to your farm or field. Applicants may request funding to support eligible practices listed in the [OFCAF Program Guide](#). Please outline how you will apply these practices on your farm using the BMP Action Plan on page 3 of this form, including labelled maps that show legal land descriptions (LLDs), and field boundaries on an aerial photo or imagery. Any method of outlining and labelling can be used, as long as the fields are visible beneath. The [Guide to Locating and Labeling BMP Action Plans](#) provides further details. Your completed BMP Action Plan must be recommended by a qualified third-party adviser who is a Professional Agrologist (PAg) or Certified Crop Advisor (CCA); please reference the [Guide to Accessing Agricultural Recommendations in Alberta](#). Your BMP Action Plan must be approved in writing by RDAR to be eligible for OFCAF funding.

Please note: Invoices and proof of payment must be after April 1, 2026 and you must receive RDAR's written approval of your application. Paid invoices must include Legal Land Descriptions (LLDs) of approved project fields and with proof of payment by November 30, 2026. Photographs with date stamps and GPS coordinates are required to document conditions before and after completing your project.

Guidelines & eligible costs:

- Transportation and application on project fields that have not had manure, compost, or digestate applied in the previous ten (10) years
- Surface-applied amendments must be incorporated within 48 hours
- Injection is required for liquid manure or digestate product on perennial forage (hay or pasture) to avoid the potential for higher ammonia-N losses and release of soil carbon
- Manure and compost transport must be within 19 miles (30 km) from the amendment source to limit fossil fuel emissions

¹ Section 4.1 Anaerobic Digestion. Pages 29-32. [Beneficial Management Practices: Environmental Manual for Livestock Producers in Alberta](#).

² Manure management guidelines and legislation. [Manure management guidelines and legislation | Alberta.ca](#).

Eligible expenses include:

- Third-party custom or equipment rental costs associated with transportation and application (surface applied or injection) of amendment up to \$75/ac and \$20,000 per year and a total maximum of \$20,000 from 2022 to 2028.
- Manure sampling and analysis by an accredited lab³. Please describe using the "Other" box BMP Action Plan on the next page.
- Soil analysis: Apply using Nitrogen Management - Soil Testing and Mapping template available on the OFCAF website.

Ineligible expenses include:

- The costs of amendments, incorporation, and the cost of transporting to stockpile manure on an annual crop field.
- Solid manure or compost applied to pasture or on perennial cropland.
- Amendments (manure and compost) cannot be applied on native grassland.
- In-kind costs and leasing or rent-to-own arrangements, as listed in the OFCAF Program Guide and below the BMP Action Plan on the next page.
- Breaking perennial forages to apply manure⁴.
- If you have previously been paid a total of \$20,000 for this OFCAF Amendment BMP you are not eligible for additional funding.

Decision support tools:

- [Manure Transportation Calculator](#)
- [Manure Management Planner](#)
- [ManureTracker app](#), available for Androids, iPads or iPhones
- [Other manure management tools](#)

³ Down to Earth Labs Inc., Lethbridge, Alberta; A & L Canada Laboratories, London, Ontario; AGAT Laboratories, Calgary, Alberta; AgVise Laboratories, Manitoba; Element, Edmonton, Alberta; Farmers Edge Laboratories Inc., Winnipeg, Manitoba; Western Ag, Saskatchewan; Midwest Laboratories Inc., Omaha, Nebraska; AgSource, Lincoln, NB, and Ward Laboratories Inc., Kearney, NB

⁴ Manure Application. Alberta Agriculture and Irrigation. Manure application | Alberta.ca (alberta.ca/manure-application.aspx)

NITROGEN MANAGEMENT AMENDMENTS - BMP ACTION PLAN

Please note: all costs must exclude GST. Use extra forms to add information and identify individual fields as needed.

Applicant Name:						
Nitrogen Source – check or fill (Y/N) as appropriate:			Solid Manure	Liquid Manure	Digestate	Compost
Has manure, compost or digestate been applied to any of the fields below in the past 10 years?			Yes	No	Will the amendment be applied to native grassland?	Yes No
Will the amendment be transported less than 19 miles (30 km) from the source?			Yes	No	Other (describe):	
AMENDMENT APPLIED TO NEW FIELDS** up to \$75/ac and \$20,000 per year and a total maximum of \$20,000 from 2022 to 2028						
Field	Field Area	Field in Annual or Perennial Crop?	Amendment	Application Method	Planned Application Date	Cost per Field**
(LLD***)	(ac)	(A or P)	(type)	(injected or surface applied & incorporated)	(mo/yr)	(\$)
Total Area		A) Total Cost of all Field Application** \$				
Name:			PAg/CCA	Phone number:	Date:	
				Email:		
Is this Plan recommended by a Professional Agrologist (PAg) or Certified Crop Advisor (CCA)?			Yes	No	Have you included a labelled map of your project?	Yes No
B) Cost of Other (PAg or CCA costs incurred) * \$						
C) Total Cost of Project (A + B) \$						

*May include the cost of BMP Action Plan recommendation of up to 10% of the total cost of all eligible BMPs, to a maximum of \$2,000 per applicant (total over all years of the OFCAF program). ** Eligible costs for transportation and application only: up to \$75/ac and \$20,000 per year and a total maximum of \$20,000 from 2022 to 2028. In-kind labour and leasing or rent-to-own arrangements are not eligible costs. ***Invoices must include LLDs of approved project fields with proof of payment.

Map on an aerial photo or image showing the project fields, legal land locations, and field boundaries. Any method of outlining and labelling fields may be used as long as the fields are visible beneath. Further details are available in A Guide to Locating and Labelling BMP Action Plans.

