



The Far West Agribusiness Association's Position Regarding A State Required Nutrient Management Plan

- FWAA supports a science-based approach for the responsible use of crop nutrients that is also supported by State Land Grant University research.
- FWAA recognizes specific sensitive areas may need special management practices. A state-wide mandate is unnecessary and could negatively impact both the environment and farm productivity.
- FWAA recognizes that “enhanced efficiency fertilizers” (EEF’s) using products like N-Serve, ESN, and Agrotain control the release of nitrogen and are used in sensitive areas.
- FWAA recognizes that the over-application of nutrients adversely affects net profit; therefore, the amount applied is equal to the amount needed and used to grow the crop to maturity.
- FWAA supports a balanced nutrient program recognizing that too many nutrients as well as too few nutrients can negatively impact the environment.
- FWAA supports the use of 4R nutrient stewardship (use of the Right fertilizer source at the Right time at the Right rate and in the Right place). By using this site-specific, science-based framework, farmers are able to keep nutrients in crops while minimizing nutrient losses into the environment. Further information on 4R nutrient stewardship is available at: <http://www.nutrientstewardship.com/>
- FWAA recognizes that Precision Agriculture – a tool of 4R nutrient stewardship - is enhancing the return on investment (ROI) decisions for fertilizer through improved mapping and application methods.
- FWAA recognizes the need for additional environmental data that document the effectiveness of these nutrient Best Management Practices (BMP) and conservation practices.
- FWAA opposes unnecessary and burdensome additional audits and regulatory requirements for what is often a farmer’s most expensive crop input. This will add additional costs to production for producers.
- FWAA recognizes that the majority of our customers (farmers) are opposed to a State required Nutrient Management Plan.
- FWAA is opposed to additional licensing requirements, exams, and continuing educational requirements for a fertilizer program which would mirror the pesticide programs.