

MM15: Analyse Manure Prior to Application

Description of the measure

In terms of reducing GHGs, the purpose of analysing the manure prior to application is to ensure that the N applied to the crop as organic and inorganic N matches the requirement of the crop. An accurate assessment of the N available from the manure means that the potential for losses of N from the system is minimised. This requires that samples are taken and sent for analysis shortly before application as the period of storage of the manure can affect the N content. This measure assumes that a nutrient management plan is prepared and being followed on the farm.

Applicability

The measure is applicable to all farmers who are applying manure to their land, which is assumed to be approximately 30% of the crop and improved grass area. The measure is applied universally across all crops. Abatement rate

The abatement potential of this measure is expressed as a change in the inorganic fertiliser rates.

Table 1 Data from literature on abatement by HSGs

Abatement	Value	Country	Reference
Fertiliser N	-5.5 kg / ha	UK	BSFP (2018)

Current and additional future uptake

Without relevant data available, the current uptake is assumed to be 23% of the crop and improved grass area – possibly an overestimation, in order not to overestimate the total abatement achievable in reality.

Cost

Manure analysis cost is £15 for a sample (SRUC 2019) and a spring and summer analysis is needed on a farm.

Assumptions used in the MACC

Parameter	Change in value	Notes
Synthetic fertiliser use	-5 kg N ha ⁻¹	
Manure analysis cost	£0.50 ha ⁻¹ year ⁻¹ (assuming an average 60ha farm area)	

References

BSFP (2018) British Survey of fertiliser 2017 – annual report
<https://www.gov.uk/government/statistics/british-survey-of-fertiliser-practice-2017>

Defra (2018) Greenhouse gas mitigation practices - England Farm Practices Survey 2018
https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/710413/fps-ghg2017-statsnotice-24may18.pdf (accessed on 4/2/2019)

SRUC (2019) ASD pricelist