

## Manure Testing Pays Off

It certainly pays to laboratory test on-farm manure regularly for nutrient content. If you already test manure regularly on your farm, then you probably have discovered that your manure has relatively consistent nutrient values. With consistency documented for your on-farm manure, it is easy to place faith in the actual fertilizer value, when applied to your crops.

The following is the average manure nutrient values as tested for dairy farm manure, generated over eight years of testing at the U. S. Naval Academy Dairy Farm in Gambrills, Maryland. A 10 ton surface manure application per acre of the average stockpiled manure would be equivalent to an application 30 lbs of nitrogen, 70 lbs of phosphorus and 160 lbs of potassium fertilizer per acre plus micronutrients. (For informational purposes only.)

### Average Manure Analysis 1989-1997

<u>Available Nutrient</u>	<u>Stockpile lbs/ton</u>	<u>Lagoon lbs/1000gal</u>
N	3.0	0.24
P	7.0	1.34
K	16.0	5.02
Ca	8.0	1.13
Mg	3.0	0.69
S	1.5	0.05
Mn	0.08	0.004
Zn	0.05	0.002
Cu	0.02	0.003



Note: Values shown are the readily available nutrient amounts for an unincorporated application.



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