On-Site Dairy Evaluation: Manure Utilization
Courtesy of Jessica Davis, Environmental Soil Scientist CSU

Is manure applied to cropland managed by the operation? _______yes _______no

My land base for manure application is: _______adequate ______ inadequately

I conduct manure nutrient analysis: _______ annually _______ every 2-4 years _______ >4 years _______ never

I use soil samples to determine nutrient levels in fields where manure will be applied: _______ annually _______ every 2-4 years _______ >4 years _______ never

I base nutrient applications on realistic yield goals: _______ usually _______ sometimes _______ never

I consider runoff potential before manure is applied to frozen or saturated ground: _______ always _______ once in a while _______ never

I apply manure to sloping ground: _______ sometimes _______ only in fields with filter strips _______ never

I consider the distance from wells and surface water when applying manure: _______ always _______ sometimes _______ never

I know my manure application rate: _______yes _______ no

I inject or incorporate manure applications: _______ within 24 hrs _______ within a week _______ never

I keep records of where and when I apply manure: _______ always _______ sometimes _______ never

I know the soil series, acreages, and slopes of my fields: _______ all of them _______ some of them _______ none of them

I apply manure: _______ spring _______ summer _______ fall _______ winter

I apply manure in the late afternoon, on holidays, or on weekends: _______ always _______ sometimes _______ never

I consider wind direction before applying manure near populated areas: _______ always _______ sometimes _______ never

I reduce the use of purchased fertilizers when using manure by: _______ 0-10% _______ 10-25% _______ 25-50% _______ 50-75% _______ 75-100%