FRASER RIVER ACTION PLAN



Sumas and North Matsqui Watersheds -1997 Farm Practices Survey



# Sumas and North Matsqui Watersheds - 1997 Farm Practices Survey

Prepared for Environment Canada Fraser River Action Plan Pacific and Yukon Region North Vancouver, B.C.

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## **Executive Summary**

The Matsqui Slough and Sumas River Watersheds are two economically important areas within the Lower Mainland area of the Fraser River basin. In 1991, the gross farm revenues were greater than 115 million dollars with expenses greater than 80 million dollars. In 1994 an agricultural land use study was conducted in these two watersheds. The goals of the study were to: (1) identify farms that followed the Code of Agricultural Practice for Waste Management and Agricultural Environmental Guidelines, and (2) identify possible contaminant sources that could impact water quality. An inventory of the agrowaste facilities and management in the two watersheds was carried out. Integrated Resource Consultants carried out the survey and devised a scoring system called and Environmental Sustainability Parameter (ESP).

A follow up survey was conducted in 1997. The purpose of this study was to compare the findings in 1994 to 1997 and see what improvements, if any, had been made over the three year period.

# **Farm Surveys**

Based on the 1994 survey, 89% of dairy farms and 70% of hog farms participated again in 1997 (different hog farms participated in 1997). There was an increase in poultry farms participating in 1997.

In 1997, the median number of milking cow equivalent per farm was 100 and 115 in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds respectively. Median manure storage time was 3.3 months, Matsqui Slough and 3.6 months Sumas River. Forty six percent of the manure storage facilities in the Matsqui Slough watershed were concrete, with 3% of all facilities covered. Seventy percent of manure storage facilities were concrete with 16% of all facilities covered in the Sumas River watershed. Farms with an ESP greater than 80% were considered in this study to have a low potential for degrading water quality. Twenty three percent of dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough watershed had an ESP score over 80% while 20% of dairy farms in the Sumas River watershed had an ESP score over 80%. In the Matsqui Slough watershed, no farms scored below 40%, while only 1% of farms in the Sumas River watershed scored below 40%.

The median number of broiler equivalents per farm over both watersheds was 30,500. Eighty two percent of farms reported shipping some or all of their manure off the farm. Fifty five percent of poultry farm had ESP scores over 80%, while 10% of farms scored below 40%.

The median number of sow equivalents per farm over both watersheds was 228. Median manure storage time was 4.1 months. Eighty six percent of hog farms had concrete manure storage facilities, with 57% of all facilities covered. Fifty seven

percent of hog farms surveyed had ESP scores over 80%, while 14% of farms scored below 40%.

#### Fertilizer Use

Detailed fertilizer data was collected from dairy farms. This data was added to manure application data and average application rates over the entire landbase for the farm was calculated. In the Matsqui Slough watershed, 9% of farms were applying nitrogen above the application rate of 350 kg/ha. Fertilizer was the main source of nitrogen. Sixty two percent of farms were applying phosphorus above the application rate of  $100 \text{ kg P}_2\text{O}_5\text{/ha}$ . Manure was the main source of phosphorus. Three percent of farms were applying potassium above the application rate of  $450 \text{ kg K}_2\text{O/ha}$ . Manure was the main source of potassium.

In the Sumas River watershed, 18% of farms were applying nitrogen above the application rate of 350 kg/ha. Manure was the main source of nitrogen. All of the farms surveyed were applying phosphorus above the application rate of 100 kg  $P_2O_5$ /ha. Manure was the main source of phosphorus. Forty eight percent of farms were applying potassium above the application rate of 450 kg  $K_2O$ /ha. Manure was the main source of potassium.

#### Sommaire

Les bassins hydrographiques du marécage Matsqui et de la rivière Sumas sont deux zones économiques importantes des basses terres du bassin du Fraser. En 1991, les recettes agricoles brutes étaient supérieures à 115 millions de dollars, avec des dépenses s'élevant à plus de 80 millions de dollars. En 1994, une étude sur l'utilisation des terres agricoles, menée dans ces deux bassins hydrographiques, visait les buts suivants : 1) déterminer les exploitations agricoles qui respectaient le code des pratiques agricoles pour la gestion des déchets et les lignes directrices en matière d'agriculture et d'environnement et 2) établir les sources probables de contaminants susceptibles d'avoir des effets sur la qualité de l'eau. On a dressé un inventaire des installations de traitement et de gestion des déchets agricoles dans ces deux bassins hydrographiques. Des conseillers en ressources intégrées ont mené une enquête et ont un système de pointage appelé paramètre de durabilité de l'environnement (ESP).

Une étude de suivi a été menée en 1997 en vue de comparer les résultats obtenus entre 1994 et 1997 et de déterminer si la situation s'est améliorée au cours de cette période.

# Enquête sur les fermes

D'après l'enquête de 1994, 89 % des fermes laitières et 70 % des exploitations porcines ont participé de nouveau à l'enquête de 1997 (d'autres exploitations porcines y ont participé en 1997). Un plus grand nombre d'exploitations avicoles ont participé en 1997.

En 1997, le nombre médian d'équivalents vaches en lactation par exploitation dans les bassins hydrographiques du marécage Matsqui et de la rivière Sumas était respectivement de 100 et de 115. La durée moyenne d'entreposage du fumier était de 3,3 mois dans le marécage Matsqui et de 3,6 mois dans le bassin hydrographique de la rivière Sumas. Dans le bassin hydrographique du marécage Matsqui, 46 % des installations d'entreposage du fumier étaient en béton, avec 3 % de toutes les installations couvertes. Dans le bassin de la Sumas, 70 % des installations étaient en béton, dont 16 % étaient couvertes. Dans le cadre de cette étude, les exploitations dont le ESP était supérieur à 80 % étaient considérés comme ayant un faible potentiel d'altération de la qualité de l'eau. Un pointage ESP supérieur à 80 % a été enregistré dans 23 % des fermes laitières du marécage Matsqui et dans 20 % de celles du bassin de la Sumas. Dans le bassin hydrographique du marécage Matsqui, aucune ferme ne présentait un ESP inférieur à 40 %, tandis qu'il était inférieur à 40 % dans seulement 1 % des fermes du bassin hydrographique de la Sumas.

Le nombre médian d'équivalents poulets à griller par exploitation dans les deux bassins hydrographiques était de 30 500. Les exploitants de 82 % des fermes ont

déclaré qu'ils expédiaient tout leur fumier ou une partie de celui-ci hors de leur exploitation. Le pointage ESP était supérieur à 80 % dans 55 % des exploitations avicoles, tandis qu'il était inférieur à 40 % dans 10 % des exploitations.

Le nombre médian d'équivalents truies par exploitation dans les deux bassins hydrographiques était de 228. La durée moyenne d'entreposage du fumier s'établissait à 4,1 mois. Les installations de conservation du fumier étaient en béton dans 86 % des exploitations porcines, dont 57 % étaient couvertes. Le pointage ESP était supérieur à 80 % dans 57 % des exploitations porcines étudiées, tandis qu'il était inférieur à 40 % dans 14 % des exploitations.

# **Utilisation des engrais**

Les fermes laitières ont fourni des données détaillées sur l'utilisation des engrais. Ces données ont été ajoutées aux données sur l'épandage du fumier, et on a calculé les taux moyens d'application pour l'ensemble des terres. Dans le bassin hydrographique du marécage Matsqui, la quantité d'azote appliquée était supérieure à 350 kg/ha dans 9 % des exploitations. Les engrais étaient la principale source d'azote. La quantité de phosphore appliquée était supérieure à 100 kg de  $P_2O_5$  par hectare dans 62 % des exploitations. Le fumier était la principale source de phosphore. La quantité de potassium appliquée était supérieure à 450 kg de  $K_2O$  par hectare dans 3 % des exploitations. Le fumier était la principale source de potassium.

Dans le bassin hydrographique du marécage Matsqui, la quantité d'azote appliquée était supérieure à 350 kg/ha dans 18 % des exploitations. Le fumier était la principale source d'azote. La quantité de phosphore appliquée dans toutes les exploitations étudiées était supérieure à 100 kg de  $K_2O_5$  par hectare. Le fumier était la principale source de phosphore. Dans le cas du potassium, la quantité appliquée était supérieure 450 kg de  $K_2O_5$  par hectare dans 48 % des exploitations. Le fumier était la principale source de potassium.

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### 1.0 Introduction

The Fraser River Action Plan (FRAP) was established to reduce the pollution inputs to the Fraser River and restore the natural productivity of the Fraser River basin. The primary goal of the agricultural component of FRAP has been to implement a strategy to reduce the loading of nutrients, bacteria and agrochemicals from agricultural operations to ground and surface waters. Targets and strategies for their reduction were developed in consultation with stakeholders such as producer groups, the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, BC Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, Environment Canada, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and the BC Federation of Agriculture (now the BC Agriculture Council). The first step toward devising a strategy to achieve this goal was to identify the contaminant sources and to determine the loading of specific contaminants. The former was achieved, in part, through a survey completed for FRAP by IRC Integrated Resource Consultants in 1994 (IRC, 1994a,b). As the FRAP program sunsets in Spring 1998, a follow up survey in 1997 was considered useful to measure the accomplishments of FRAP, in conjunction with other concurrent initiatives such as the Canada-BC Green Plan for Agriculture and the provincial Agricultural Waste Control Regulation. All of which, contributed to activities to reduce the loading of nutrients from agricultural operations to ground and surface waters.

The primary objective of this study was to follow up on the survey completed by IRC Integrated Resource Consultants in 1994. This survey focused on livestock operations, dairy, poultry and pork, and their waste management and fertilizer practices. Comparison of data from 1994 and 1997 was utilized to determine whether positive changes have been made in managing agricultural waste and nutrient utilization on the farm. This study was completed in the region of the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds within the City of Abbotsford.

# 2.0 Legislation

In BC, legislative acts, regulations and guidelines that apply to agricultural operations include the federal Fisheries Act, the BC Waste Management Act, the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation and Code of Agriculture Practice for Waste Management, and the Environmental Guidelines for various producer groups developed by the BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food and the producer groups.

The pollution prevention Section (36.3) of the federal Fisheries Act prohibits the release of "deleterious substances" to waters frequented by fish. Deleterious substances are defined by this act as follows:

- Any substance that, if added to any water, would degrade or alter or form part
  of a process of degradation or alteration of the quality of that water so that it is
  rendered or is likely to be rendered deleterious to fish or fish habitat or to the
  use by man of fish that frequent that water, or
- Any water that contains a substance in such quantity or concentration, or that has been so treated, processed or changed, by heat or other means, from a natural state that it would, if added to any other water, degrade or alter or form part of a process of degradation of alteration of the quality of that water so that it is rendered or is likely to be rendered deleterious to fish or fish habitat of to the use by man of fish that frequent that water.

In BC, agricultural operations were recognized as a possible source of contamination and/or pollution to surface and subsurface waters. Consequently, the Agricultural Waste Control Regulation was jointly deposited in April 1992 under the Waste Management Act and Health Act (Agricultural Waste Control Regulation, 1992). The Code of Agricultural Practice for Waste Management attached to the regulation was developed by a committee including representatives from BC Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, BC Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Food, BC Federation of Agriculture, Department of Fisheries and Oceans and commodity group representatives. All agricultural commodity groups had extensive input into the development of the Code and the BC Federation of Agriculture actively supported enactment of the Code.

The purpose of the Code was to reduce the export of substances from agricultural operations to surface and subsurface waters, by describing practices for using, storing, and managing agricultural wastes. Environmental sustainability is dependent on farm operations having properly constructed and located waste storage facilities combined with the use of other environmentally sound management practices. The Code and supporting commodity Environmental Guidelines provide guidance to producers so that the impacts of the individual farm operations on surface and subsurface water quality are minimized. The Waste Management Act defines pollution as "the presence in the environment of substances or contaminants that substantially alter or impair the usefulness of the environment". The Agricultural Waste Control Regulation exempts waste management aspects of agricultural operations from the permit process if these operations conform to the Code.

The BC Ministry of Agriculture and Food, in consultation with the BC Federation of Agriculture and producer groups developed Environmental Guidelines for the various commodity groups including dairy (BCMAFF, 1993a), and poultry producers (BCMAFF, 1993b). The guidelines provide the industry with various options for managing farms in an environmentally sound manner, but are not law.

## 3.0 Study Area

## 3.1 Matsqui Slough Watershed

The Matsqui Slough watershed has an area of approximately 4,200 hectares and is within the City of Abbotsford (Figure 1). The Slough discharges to the Fraser River just downstream of Mission. Most of the agricultural area in the basin has a flat topography with elevations between 5 and 8 meters above sea level. The drainage system for the Slough consists of over 28 km of ditches, sloughs and creeks with one 5.6 kilowatt (7.5 HP), two 11.2 kilowatt (15 HP), one 18.7 kilowatt (25 HP), two 22.4 kilowatt (30 HP) and one 30 kilowatt (40 HP) pumps and 9 check gates. The pumping capacity for the system is 0.71 m³/s. Except for the drainage area on Sumas Mountain and near the base of the mountain, the drainage area has small gradients and the velocities in the creeks are small and largely controlled by pumps and check gates.

## 3.2 Sumas River Watershed

The Sumas study area is located between Sumas Mountain to the northwest and Vedder Mountain to the southeast, with the International Canada/USA border as the south boundary and the Vedder Canal the eastern boundary (Figure 2). The Sumas Prairie has an area of approximately 10,000 hectares. Drainage from the prairie flows to the Fraser River just east of Sumas Mountain. The basin is characterized by small gradients in the drainage system with resultant low velocities in the creeks and drainage canals.

The Sumas River watershed consists of the Sumas River and Sumas Drainage Canal, Arnold and Stewart Sloughs, and Marshall and Saar Creeks. Sumas River, Arnold Slough and Saar Creek flow north form their headwaters in the USA into BC. Approximately one-half of the 277 km² Sumas River watershed is in British Columbia (Hutton, 1987). The Sumas River receives sewage treatment plant effluent form communities in Washington State before entering Canada. A large portion of the Sumas River, from No. 2 Road to Hougen Park, is dyked (91%) and passes through agricultural land. Peak discharges at the international border occur in December/January and minimums in August/September. Sumas River stream gradients vary from 0.06% at the international border to 0.02% downstream (Hutton, 1987). The north side of Arnold Slough is dyked from Vye Road to the Saar Creek junction. From the Saar Creek junction the north side of Saar Creek is dyked until it meets the Sumas River. The BC portion of Saar Creek is 6 km in length and has an approximate watershed area of 44.5 km² (Hutton, 1987).

In 1924, a shallow lake occupying part of Sumas Prairie was artificially drained after construction of the Sumas Drainage Canal and exposed terraced beach sands around its perimeter (Halstead, 1986).

Gravity drain floodgates at Barrowtown pump station control the level in the Sumas River for irrigation purposes. Irrigation water is stored in the Sumas River from May 24 through to September 15 by closing the floodgates (IRC, 1994b). For the area West of the Sumas Drainage Canal, the water level in the Sumas River and its tributaries are controlled by three inlet valves (81 cm diameter valves and 91 cm diameter pipes) on the Sumas River which are opened from 35% to 50% of their maximums. Two of these valves are operated by the City of Abbotsford and the third valve by an independent group of farmers known as the East Sumas Irrigation District. For the area East of the Sumas Drainage Canal, four lift pumps into the canal regulate the water level. Considerable seepage from the Vedder Canal into the Sumas River watershed and land base around the Sumas Drainage Canal occurs. During the winter months the Sumas River floodgates can be closed to prevent flooding if the Fraser River rises above 4.5 to 5.0 m (Hutton, 1987). A large part of the Sumas Prairie has an elevation of less than 6 m (Halstead, 1986) and much of the Prairie is 1 to 2 meters below the Sumas Drainage Canal elevation. There are 212 km of municipal drainage/irrigation ditches and the Sumas Drainage Canal is 9 km in length.

The most Western portion of the Sumas study area (West of Sumas Way) has been developed for light industry. The remainder of the study area lies in the Sumas Prairie and is intensively used for agricultural production. Dairy, poultry and hog farms are scattered throughout this area, with the central northern portion (area bounded by McDermott Road, Campbell Road, Tolmie Road, No. 3 Road and Highway 1) being used for rotation of vegetable and bulb crops. The northeast corner of the Sumas Prairie includes Yarrow in the District of Chilliwack and Stewart Slough, which drains into the Sumas Drainage Canal. Stewart Slough provides irrigation for farms in this area.

### 4.0 Methods

### 4.1 Overview

The survey was completed by means of a questionnaire. The questionnaire was developed in consultation with the Ministry of Agriculture and Food, Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks, Environment Canada and members of the three Producer Conservation Groups. Producers were mailed an introductory letter explaining the purpose of the project. Producers were then contacted by telephone and an appointment was made to interview the producer on their farm. Data was collected on the farm during a farm visit.

# 4.2 Questionnaire

The main components of the questionnaire were based upon a previous survey completed in 1994 by IRC Integrated Resource Consultants. Following consultation with the three Producer Conservation Groups (Hog Sustainable Producers Group, Sustainable Poultry Farming Group and the Dairy Producers' Conservation Group) a revised questionnaire was completed incorporating additional questions regarding the past performance of the conservation groups and fertilizer use (Appendix A). The Producer Conservation Groups requested that farm data be published in a manner representing the industry overall, and not on an individual farm basis. Only summary statistics are reported within this document. The survey was completed around the late summer harvest schedule of the participating producers.

#### 5.0 Results and Discussion

#### 5.1 Individual Farm Data

The completed questionnaires were arranged in binders by commodity group. Some hog producers requested that their names and addresses not be included on the actual questionnaire form. Information was obtained from 117 dairy, 29 poultry and 14 hog farms in both watersheds. These farms utilized 8,510 hectares of their own or rented land, or 59% of the total land base, within the two watersheds. The Ministry of Environment, Lands and Parks will retain the questionnaires.

# **5.2** The Application of the Environmental Sustainability Parameter (ESP)

Integrated Resource Consultants (IRC, 1994a,b) developed the method of comparing the potential for contamination of surface and ground water from agricultural operations in both watersheds. A farm ranking system was developed using the information from the completed questionnaires. This produces a single score for the farm, called and Environmental Sustainability Parameter (ESP). Of the farm operations, the manure storage capacity and disposal methods were determined to have the greatest potential for contaminating surface and ground waters (IRC, 1994a,b). An evaluation of these manure management methods accounted for a large portion of the overall ESP value. The basis of the evaluation process are the methods recommended in the Code of Agricultural Practice and relevant Environmental Guidelines.

Table 1 summarizes ESP scores for the dairy, hog and poultry groups. Data was combined for the poultry and hog farms in both watersheds as sample sizes were relatively small and descriptive statistical analysis was more accurate for these groupings.

Table 1. ESP Summary Scores, 1994 vs. 1997

Group	Region	Median Score 1994 ESP (SE)*	Median Score 1997 ESP (SE)*
Dairy	Matsqui	61 (3)	65 (2)
	Sumas	65 (1)	64 (1)
Poultry	Both	72 (5)	85 (4)
Hog	Both	64 (5)	81 (7)

<sup>\*</sup> Standard Error

In most cases, ESP scores improved. For the dairy group in the Sumas River watershed there was no apparent change in ESP scores, however, manure storage time did improve in this region (see Table 2). Both the poultry and hog groups made improvements over the three years between surveys.

# **5.2.1** Dairy

# **5.2.1.1 Dairy ESP**

As in 1994, the median grass crop yield (12 tonnes/hectare) with a nitrogen application capacity of 360 kg/ha was used to determine the allowable spreading rate of manure per hectare without supersaturating the soils with nitrogen (BCMAFF, 1993a). This computation is based on an average manure production of 77 L per day per milking cow. Milking cow equivalents were determined as the total number of dairy animals divided by 1.52. In order to simplify animal units per hectare in this report all units were converted to kg of nitrogen produced per hectare per year (kg N/ha/yr) for the entire farm. Manure storage capacity was determined using storage facility dimensions, a 77 L/d/MCE manure production factor, a 27.3 L/d/MCE factor for milk parlour waste (IRC, 1994a,b) and rainfall input of 1091mm/6 months for storage that is uncovered. Storage facility dimensions were taken from the questionnaire sheet as reported by the producer and were not verified by measurement. In the case of solid manure storage, height of waste piles was assumed to be 8 feet.

The contribution of yard and roof runoff was not included in the manure storage calculation. Yard and roof drainage is subject to individual management practices and can vary dramatically between farms. For example a farm that has no gutters on barn roofs, and no yard drains diverting clean rainwater away from manure storage can have significant rainfall input to manure storage. The quantity of this input can only be determined through detailed measurements of yard and roof areas for each farm. This was not done in this survey.

For the dairy farms in the Lower Fraser Valley, a storage time of six months is recommended. This allows the manure to be stored during periods when manure application to the land is not desirable in the winter, rainy period when surface and ground water contamination is most likely to occur (BCMAFF, 1993a). Manure pit storage time of equal to or greater than six months was given a ranking of zero. Those farms with less than six months storage received higher rankings from 1 to 5 (see Table 9). Covered concrete facilities were given a ranking of zero. Concrete uncovered and steel uncovered waste storage facilities were considered equivalent in their potential to prevent agricultural waste pollution and both received the same weighted rank of 5. Earthen pits were considered to be more of a risk because of the possibility of exfiltration in sandy soils and were given a weighted rank of 15. For future studies an additional ranking of 25 has been added for earthen lagoons that are known to be seeping. This survey, as in 1994, did not identify whether seepage was occurring in earthen lagoons.

The Environmental Guidelines for Dairy Producers recommends that solid manure be stored in a concrete, covered facility. Dairy farms that followed this recommendation, or had no solid manure received a ranking of zero.

Waste from the milk parlour and runoff from the yard and silage bunker should go to the manure storage facility. Runoff from any of these three factors to a ditch is undesirable and could contribute to water contamination. These practices were scored the maximum possible ranking for their respective category. Yard runoff refers to the runoff from any uncovered concrete areas on the farm. In the case where clean rainwater was diverted to a ditch a ranking of zero was scored. Not all dairy farms have concrete areas outside of the barns. Some dairy farms store silage in watertight plastic bags from which there is no runoff. Silage drainage is seasonal, occurring following the loading of a silage storage area at harvest.

Figures 3 and 4 show the distribution of ESP scores in 1994 and 1997. A shift to the right has occurred in both the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds, indicating an improving trend in waste management handling.

### **5.2.1.2 Dairy Manure Storage**

Manure storage has the highest weighting in the ESP scoring system. Figures 5 and 6 indicate the distribution of manure storage time for dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds. In both figures there is a trend to the right, or there is a trend for manure storage to increase. Table 2 indicates the mean and median storage times for both areas.

Table 2. Manure Storage Mean and Median Times for Matsqui Slough and Sumas River Watersheds.

Region		1994	1997	Region		1994	1997
		months	months			months	months
Matsqui	Mean	3.4	3.6	Sumas	Mean	3.1	3.9
	Median	2.6	3.3		Median	2.8	3.6
	SE*	0.5	0.4		SE*	0.2	0.2

<sup>\*</sup>Standard Error

While there is a notable improvement of manure storage time, these storage times are not adequate to get producers through the rainy winter months. In 1997 only 20% of dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough watershed had greater than 5 months storage; 28% in the Sumas River watershed.

# 5.2.1.3 Dairy Livestock densities and manure production

Livestock density (MCE/ha) had the second highest weighted ranking in the ESP calculation. While this study used MCE/ha as a factor in the ESP scoring system, for ease of comparison between the different livestock commodities, MCE/ha has been converted to kg nitrogen produced on the farm per hectare per year (kg N/ha/yr). Of the manure produced by 1 milk cow equivalent, 77% of nitrogen excreted remains in the manure in storage and 83% of that is incorporated into the soil following manure application to the land. This calculates out to 74.1 kg N/MCE/yr (BCMAFF, 1993a). Manure production was compared to the land available for application on each farm and kg N/ha/yr was calculated. Table 3 indicates the mean and median livestock manure application rates for dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds. Farms that utilized more than one source of manure had the total nitrogen per hectare per year for all manures added and accounted for in the statistics where applicable.

Table 3. Dairy Manure Application Rates for Matsqui Slough and Sumas River Watersheds.

Region		1994	1997	Region		1994	1997
		kg	kg			kg	kg
		N/ha/yr	N/ha/yr			N/ha/yr	N/ha/yr
Matsqui	Mean	207	89	Sumas	Mean	185	193
	Median	193	82		Median	185	185
	SE*	15	7		SE*	7	7

<sup>\*</sup>Standard Error

Average and median values for Matsqui Slough watershed show a drastic decline in the amount of nitrogen in manure that is being applied to the land. This indicates that farmers have acquired more land to apply manure to (see Table 12 for survey summary data). There is no noticeable change in the Sumas River watershed. Figures 7 and 8 show the distribution of manure nitrogen application rates in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds. In both watersheds, the median amount of nitrogen applied to the land in manure is well below annual forage crop requirements of 360 kg N/ha (BCMAFF, 1993a).

# 5.2.2 Poultry

# 5.2.2.1 Poultry ESP

Manure production for poultry operations is based on the number of broiler equivalents (BE) per cycle. For other poultry units, it was assumed that layers were equivalent to 1.55 BE, pullets = 0.94 BE and turkeys 2.26 BE based on nitrogen output in their manure (BCMAFF, 1993b). As in the dairy ESP, the permissible manure loading per hectare was based on a median grass crop yield (12 tonnes/hectare) with nitrogen removal of 360 kg/ha (see Table 10 for poultry ESP scoring system). The manure handling on poultry farms differs substantially from dairy farms due to the differences in the nature of the operations. Manure is normally cleared out of the barns at the end of a cycle (10 to 12 weeks for broiler/roasters and 12 months for layers). The manure is then removed within days to make room for the next cycle.

Poultry manure spreading practices are also different from dairy operations. Poultry manure is dry and solid and therefore easier to handle than liquid manure. Storage of poultry manure is also easier as it can be piled on concrete or on the field, and is not limited to the dimensions of liquid storage facilities.

ESP scores were combined for both watersheds due to smaller number of farms. Table 4 shows the mean and median ESP scores in 1994 and 1997. The median scores improved substantially over the three years between surveys. This is due to an increase in the export of manure off of poultry farms to other locations within the Lower Fraser Valley and outside of the region. The success of this export program is due to the work of the Sustainable Poultry Farming Group, who are now in the process of arranging the transport of poultry manure to the cattle ranches in the Interior of BC and to vegetable farms in South Surrey and Delta, BC.

Table 4. ESP Mean and Median Scores 1994 and 1997.

	1994 ESP	1997 ESP
Mean	68	75
Median	72	85
SE*	5	4

<sup>\*</sup>Standard Error

Figure 9 indicates the difference in distribution of ESP scores for poultry farms between 1994 and 1997. There is a trend to the right, or an improving trend amongst poultry farms with regards to waste management practices.

# **5.2.2.2** Poultry Livestock Densities and Manure Production

Livestock density (BE/ha) holds the highest weighted ranking in the ESP score for poultry farms. While BE/ha was used in the ESP calculations, for ease of comparison between commodities, BE/ha was converted to kg N/ha/yr. Seventy-seven percent of nitrogen excreted is retained in poultry manure and 90% of that nitrogen is incorporated into the soil following manure application to the land (BCMAFF, 1993b). This calculates out to 0.24 kg N/BE/yr. Manure production was compared to the land available for application on each farm and kg N/ha/yr was calculated. Table 5 indicates the mean and median livestock manure application rates for poultry farms in both of the watersheds. Farms that utilize more than one source of manure had the total nitrogen per hectare per year for all manures added and accounted for in the statistics where applicable.

Table 5. Poultry manure application rates for Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds.

	1994 (kg N/ha/yr)	1997 (kg N/ha/yr)
Mean	767	436
Median	525	345
SE*	142	96

<sup>\*</sup>Standard Error

Average and median values for poultry manure application rates show a significant decline in the amount of manure applied nitrogen that was applied to the land. This indicates that farmers have adopted the practice of shipping manure off of their farms. In 1994, 35% of producers reported shipping some or all of their manure off the farm. In 1997, 86% of producers reported shipping some or all of their manure off the farm, an increase of 51%. Figure

10 shows the distribution of manure nitrogen application rates in 1994 and 1997. The median amount of nitrogen applied to the land was within the annual forage crop requirement of 360 kg N/ha in 1997, a reduction of 34%.

# 5.2.3 Hog

# **5.2.3.1** Hog ESP

There are four types of hog operations in the Lower Fraser Valley: farrow to finish, farrow to wean, finishers and farrow to round hog. In farrow to finish operations, sow farrowed piglets are raised on the farm to maturity (100 kg mature weight). On farrow to wean farms, sows farrow the piglets which are raised on the farm until they are weaned (20 kg weight). They are then sold to finisher operations or to market. Finisher operations raise the weaner pigs to maturity for sale to market. Hogs are raised to 50 kg when marketed as round hogs.

As with the dairy ESP, the median grass crop yield (12 tonnes/hectare) with a nitrogen removal capacity of 360 kg/ha was used to determine the allowable spreading rate of manure per hectare without supersaturating the soils with nitrogen. This calculation is based on an average manure production of 72 L per day per sow equivalent (SE) (BCMAFF, 1997). Manure storage capacity was determined using the storage facilities dimensions, a 72 L/d/SE animal manure factor and rainfall input of 1091 mm/6 months when storage was uncovered. For finishers, which represent 14% of a sow equivalent, an animal waste production factor of 10.1 L/d was used (R. Van Kleeck, pers comm., BCMAFF). Storage facility dimensions were taken from the questionnaire sheet as reported by the producer and were not verified by measurement.

For the hog farms in the Lower Fraser Valley, a storage time of six months is desirable. This allows the manure to be stored during periods when manure application to the land is not desirable in the winter, rainy period, when surface and ground water contamination is most likely to occur (BCMAFF, 1997). Manure pit storage time of equal to or greater than six months was given a ranking of zero. Those farms with less than six months storage received higher rankings from 1 to 5 (see Table 11). Covered concrete facilities were given a ranking of zero. Concrete uncovered and steel uncovered waste storage facilities were considered equivalent in their potential to prevent agricultural waste pollution and both received the same weighted rank of 5. Earthen pits were considered to be more of a risk because of the possibility of exfiltration in sandy soils and were given a weighted rank of 15. For future studies an additional ranking of 25 has been added for earthen lagoons that are known to be seeping. This survey, as in 1994, did not identify whether seepage was occurring in earthen lagoons.

Table 6 indicates the mean and median ESP scores in 1994 and 1997. ESP scores have improved over the three-year period, indicating an improving trend in waste management handling. Figure 11 shows the improving trend distribution for all farms surveyed in 1994 and 1997. The distribution of farms is shifting towards the higher ESP scores.

Table 6. Hog ESP mean and median scores for both watersheds.

	1994	1997
	ESP	ESP
Mean	61	72
Median	64	81
SE*	5	7

<sup>\*</sup>Standard Error

# **5.2.3.2** Hog Manure Storage

Manure storage has the highest weighting in the ESP scoring system for hogs. Figure 12 indicates the distribution of manure storage time for hog farms in both watersheds. There is a trend towards a reduction in manure storage time. Median manure storage time dropped from 4.3 months in 1994 to 4.1 months in 1997. However, some of the farms sampled in 1994 declined participation in the 1997 survey. Some farms that weren't surveyed in 1994 were added in 1997, with fewer farms participating overall in 1997. This may account for the statistical reduction in manure storage time.

# **5.2.3.3** Hog Livestock Densities and Manure Production

Livestock density (SE/ha) had the second highest weighted ranking in the ESP calculation. While this study used SE/ha as a factor in the ESP scoring system, for ease of comparison between the different livestock commodities, SE/ha has been converted to kg nitrogen produced on the farm in manure per hectare per year (kg N/ha/yr). Of the manure produced by 1 sow equivalent, 77% of nitrogen excreted remains in the manure in storage and 83% of that is incorporated into the soil following manure application to the land (BCMAFF, 1997). This calculates out to 80.5 kg N/SE/yr. Manure nitrogen production was compared to the land available for application on each farm and kg N/ha/yr was calculated. The Median application rate of nitrogen was reduced between 1994 and 1997 (515 kg N/ha/yr and 193 kg N/ha/yr respectively). Figure 13 indicates the difference in distribution of the application of nitrogen between 1994 and 1997. Farms that utilize more than one source of manure had the total nitrogen per hectare per year added and accounted for in these statistics when possible. The reduction of nitrogen application rates per hectare per year is due to the fact that hog producers have acquired more land over the threeyear period between surveys. In 1994, 16 hog farms reported utilizing 520 hectares of their own or rented land (not including neighbors), while in 1997, 14 hog farms reported utilizing 1,870 hectares of their own or rented land (not including neighbors). On average, this equates to an increase of 100 hectares of land per farm. Again, one needs to consider that the farms surveyed in 1994 and 1997 were different, and fewer farms were surveyed in 1997. The median application rate for manure applied nitrogen was below the annual forage crop requirements of 360 kg N/ha.

### 5.5 Fertilizer Use

Fertilizer data was collected for all farms surveyed. Type of fertilizer, acreage, application rate, and crop the fertilizer was applied to was collected for the different crops grown on the farm. Dairy producers were the only group reporting using fertilizers as well as manure on their crops. In some instances producers did not know the blend of the fertilizer that they had applied. This was the case with those producers who used liquid fertilizer. Assumptions were made for those farms not knowing the fertilizer blend used on their farm. Table 7 outlines the assumptions made with fertilizers.

Table 7. Fertilizer assumptions for those farms not reporting fertilizer blend used.

Type	Crop	Blend	Source
Liquid	Forage Grass and Silage Corn	26.3-0-0+2.5S	Apperloo, T., pers
	Sidedress		comm
	Forage Grass first crop	23-7-0+5S	Apperloo, T., pers
			comm
	Corn Starter	15-13-2.5+2.5S	Apperloo,T., pers comm
Granular	Forage Grass	40-0-0+5S	DeJong, J., pers comm
	Forage Grass plant starter	31-0-0+7S	DeJong, J., pers comm
	Corn Starter	9-40-4	DeJong, J., pers comm

### **5.5.1 Total Nutrient Application**

# **5.5.1.1 Nitrogen**

Nutrient application rates were broken down into chemical fertilizer applications and manure applications. Chemical fertilizer applications were calculated from data collected in the survey. In most cases fertilizer application rates varied between fields and crops on individual farms. For comparison purposes nutrient applications were balanced over the entire area of the farm. For example, if a farm reported applying 50 kg/ha of 40-0-0 to 20 hectares of

forage grass, on each application for 4 applications per year, and 100 kg/ha of 9-40-4 to 20 hectares of corn in the spring, the total amount of nitrogen applied to the entire farm (40 hectares) was 45 kg N/ha

# **Example Calculation**

- (i) 50 kg/ha of 40-0-0 = 20 kg N/ha x 4 applications/yr = 80 kg N/ha x 20 ha = 1600 kg N
- (ii) 100 kg/ha of 9-40-4  $\,=9$  kg N/ha x 1 application/yr  $\,=9$  kg N/ha x 20 ha  $\,=180$  kg N
- (iii) Balanced N Application =  $1780 \text{ kg N} \div 40 \text{ ha} = 45 \text{ kg N/ha}$ .

Manure nutrient applications were calculated from the livestock density on the individual farm. Nutrients in dairy manure are listed in Table 8.

Table 8. Typical Nutrient Content of Stored Dairy Manure.

Housing System	Moisture Content (%)	Total Nitrogen kg/tonne	Phosphorus Total as P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub> Kg/tonne	Potassium Total as K <sub>2</sub> O kg/tonne
Free Stall	91.4	2.9	2.1	4.5

(BCMAFF, 1993a)

Manure nutrient applications were also balanced over the entire farm. For example, if the same farm as in the previous example had an livestock density of 2.0 MCE/ha and 1 MCE produces 74.1 kg of nitrogen that is incorporated into the soil per year, and no manure is exported from the farm, that farm applies 148 kg N/ha in manure, over the course of a year. The total nitrogen applied to crops, averaged over the total land base, would be 193kg N/ha (45 kg N/ha from fertilizer and 148 kg N/ha from manure).

The nitrogen application rates for dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watershed are shown in Figures 14 and 14a and 15 and 15a, respectively. These figures show the mean rate of applied nitrogen in both fertilizers and manure, broken down by 50 kg N/ha application rate ranges. The (a) designated figures report the same information, but in a form easier to see the relative differences between fertilizer and manure application rates. The distribution of farms amongst the application rate ranges is reported as a percentage of farms surveyed. The percentages are additive, for example, in Figure 14 the percentage of farms with an application rate  $\leq 200$  kg N/ha is 52%.

In the Matsqui Slough Watershed, chemical fertilizer was the primary source of nitrogen (Figure 14a). Nine percent of the farms surveyed were applying

nitrogen above the application rate range of 350 kg N/ha (Figure 14 and 14a). The crop nutrient requirement for forage grass (yielding 12 tonnes/ha) is 360 kg N/ha (BCMAFF, 1993a). Manure was the primary source of nitrogen applied to crops in the Sumas River Watershed (Figure 15a). Eighteen percent of the farms surveyed were applying nitrogen above the application rate range of 350 kg N/ha (Figure 15 and 15a).

## 5.5.1.2 Phosphorus

Phosphorus applications were calculated in the same manner as nitrogen. 1 MCE produces 84 kg of phosphorus (as P<sub>2</sub>O<sub>5</sub>) per year (BCMAFF, 1993a).

The phosphorus application rates for dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds are shown in Figures 16 and 16a and 17 and 17a, respectively. These figures show the mean application rate of applied phosphorus in both fertilizers and manure, broken down by  $50 \text{ kg P}_2\text{O}_5$ /ha application rate ranges. The distribution of farms amongst the application rate ranges is reported as a percentage of farms surveyed.

In the Matsqui Slough Watershed, manure was the primary source of phosphorus applied to crops (Figure 16a). Sixty two percent of the farms surveyed were applying phosphorus above the application rate range of  $100 \text{ kg P}_2\text{O}_5$ /ha (Figure 16 and 16a). The crop requirement for forage grass is  $90 \text{ kg P}_2\text{O}_5$ /ha (Bittman, S. et al, in preparation). Manure was also the primary source of phosphorus in the Sumas River Watershed (Figure 17a). All of the farms surveyed were applying phosphorus above the application rate range of  $100 \text{ kg P}_2\text{O}_5$ /ha (Figure 17 and 17a).

### 5.5.1.3 Potassium

Potassium application rates were calculated in the same manner as nitrogen and phosphorus. A single MCE produces 180 kg of potassium (as  $K_2O$ ) per year (BCMAFF, 1993a).

The potassium application rates for dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watershed are shown in Figures 18 and 18a and 19 and 19a, respectively. These figures show the mean application rate of applied potassium in both fertilizers and manure, broken down by 50 kg  $K_2O/ha$  application rate ranges. In both watersheds the majority of potassium is applied in manure (Figure 18a and 19a).

The distribution of farms amongst the application rate ranges is reported as a percentage of farms surveyed. In the Matsqui Slough watershed, 3% of farms surveyed applied potassium above the crop requirement for forage grass of 450

kg/ha K<sub>2</sub>O (Bittman, S. et al, in preparation) (Figure 18). In the Sumas River Watershed, 48% of farms surveyed were applying potassium in above the application rate range of 450 kg K<sub>2</sub>O/ha (Figure 19). Manure was the main source of potassium in both watersheds.

Potassium does not tend to leach out of the soil and therefore is not of great environmental concern. However, forage grasses are luxury consumers of potassium. That is, forage crops will take up excess potassium in the soil. Research has shown that excess potassium in the diet in dairy cattle results in decreased magnesium absorption, lower plasma levels of calcium, decreased levels of calcium in milk and an increased risk of milk fever (Bittman, S. et at, in preparation).

#### 6.0 Conclusion

A similar method of surveying producers was undertaken in 1997 as was used in 1994. An explanatory letter was sent to each producer prior to the collection of data. This was followed up with the survey that was completed on the farm. Part of the success of the data collection laid in the fact that a surveyor well known to the industry completed the data collection for the dairy and poultry farms. Eightynine percent of dairy producers surveyed in 1994 completed the survey again in 1997.

Different questionnaires were used for the different livestock commodities. These three commodities differ significantly in their waste management practices, thus different questions were asked of each group relevant to their situation. As was the case in 1994, most producers do not maintain records on their manure production, manure application rates, crop yields and protein levels and in the case of poultry and hog operations, fertilizer application rates. In most instances, poultry and hog operations did not utilize chemical fertilizers.

Data was collected for dairy, poultry and hog operations in the Matsqui Slough and Sumas River watersheds. There were relatively smaller numbers of poultry and hog operations participating in the survey than dairy farms and so data within these two commodities was grouped together within the two watersheds.

An ESP score, which is a measure of the likely extent of the adherence of farm practices to the Code of Agricultural Practice for Waste Management, was calculated for each farm. It should be noted that the ESP rating system has not been calibrated with actual measurements of the levels of environmental contamination exported from a farm. Twenty three percent of dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough watershed had an ESP score of greater than 80% (up from 11% in 1994), with no farms scoring below 40% (14% were below 40% in 1994).

Twenty percent of dairy farms in the Sumas River watershed had an ESP score of greater than 80% (up from 14% in 1994), with 1% scoring below 40% (4% were below 40% in 1994). Fifty five percent of poultry farms surveyed scored over 80% (up from 42% in 1994), while 10% scored below 40% (19% were below 40% in 1994). Fifty seven percent of hog farms scored over 80% (up from 19% in 1994), while 14% scored below 40% (19% were below 40% in 1994).

Manure storage time was an important component of the ESP score for dairy and hog farms. Twenty one percent of dairy farms in the Matsqui Slough watershed had manure storage for five months or more (up from 16% in 1994) and 42% had less than three months storage (55% in 1994). Twenty eight percent of dairy farms in the Sumas River watershed had manure storage for five months or more (up from 13% in 1994) and 34% had less than three months storage (53% in 1994). Thirty eight percent of hog farms surveyed had manure storage for five months or more and 30% had less than three months storage. This component of the ESP scoring system caused the greatest loss of score for farms in all commodities. A combined investment of \$3.45 million was reported as spent on improving manure storage between 1994 and 1997 on the farms surveyed.

Detailed fertilizer data was collected from dairy operations (poultry and hog operations did not use any commercial fertilizer). The amount of fertilizer (kg) used on the farm was averaged over the total hectares farmed. This was then added to the manure nutrients supplied to the total hectares of the farm for a total, average, application rate of nitrogen, phosphorus and potassium.

In the Matsqui Slough watershed, 9% of farms were applying nitrogen above the application rate of 350 kg/ha. Fertilizer was the main source of nitrogen. Sixty two percent of farms were applying phosphorus above the application rate of 100 kg  $P_2O_5$ /ha. Manure was the main source of phosphorus. Three percent of farms were applying potassium above the application rate of 450 kg  $K_2O$ /ha. Manure was the main source of potassium.

In the Sumas River watershed, 18% of farms were applying nitrogen above the application rate of 350 kg/ha. Manure was the main source of nitrogen. All of the farms surveyed were applying phosphorus above the application rate of 100 kg  $P_2O_5$ /ha. Manure was the main source of phosphorus. Forty eight percent of farms were applying potassium above the application rate of 450 kg  $K_2O$ /ha. Manure was the main source of potassium.

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Table 9. Environmental Sustainability Factors and Factor Ranges for Dairy Operations

Factor	Range	Rank	Weighting	Weighted Ranks	Relative % or Priority
Manure Pit Storage Time	> 6 months	0	15	0	
C	5 – 6 months	1		15	
	4-5 months	2		30	
	3-4 months	3		45	
	2-3 months	4		60	
	< 2 months	5		75	32.5%
Milking Cow Equivalents per Hectare	≤ 2.5	0	18	0	
(MCE/ha)	2.5 to 3.25	1		18	
	3.25 to 4	2		36	
	> 4	3		54	23.4%
Dry Manure Storage	none	0	5	0	
	concrete/covered	0		0	
	concrete/uncovered	1		5	
	field/covered	2		10	
	field/uncovered	4		20	10.8%
Manure Pit Facility Type	concrete/covered	0	5	0	
	concrete/uncovered	1		5	
	steel/uncovered	1		5	
	earthen	3		15	
	earthen/seepage	5		25	8.7%
Woodwaste Storage	none	0	5	0	
	inside	0		0	
	covered outside	1		5	
	uncovered	2		10	8.7%
Milk Parlour Discharge	none	0	4	0	
	manure pit	0		0	
	tile field	2		8	
	field surface	3		12	
	ditch	5		20	5.2%
Yard Drainage	none	0	3	0	
	manure pit	0		0	
	tile field	1		3	
	field surface	2		6	
	ditch	4		12	4.3%
Silage Runoff	none	0	3	0	
	manure pit	0		0	
	tile field	1		3	
	field surface	2		6	0.00
	ditch	3		9	3.9%
Proximity of Watercourse to Storage	> 60 m	0	2	0	
Facility	30 to 60 m	1		2	
	15 to 30 m	2		4	2.60
m . 1	< 15 m	3		6	2.6%
Total				231	100%

Table 10. Environmental Sustainability Factors and Factor Ranges for Poultry Operations

Factor	Range	Rank	Weighting	Weighted Ranks	Relative % or Priority
Broiler	contract haulier/neighbor	0	14	()	Friority
Equivalents per	≤ 1130	0	17	0	
Hectare (BE/ha)	1131 to 1514	1		14	
Ticetare (BE/IIa)	1515 to 1899	2		28	
	1900 to 2279	3		42	
	> 2280	4		56	48.3%
Manure	contract haulier	0	14	0	
Disposal	neighboring farms	0		0	
	on farm	1		14	12.1%
Dry Manure	none	0	10	0	
Storage	concrete/covered	0		0	
	concrete/uncovered	1		10	
	field/covered	2		20	
	field/uncovered	3		30	25.9%
Woodwaste	none	0	5	0	
Storage	inside	0		0	
	covered/outside	1		5	
	uncovered	2		10	8.6%
Proximity of	> 60 m	0	2	0	
Watercourse to	30 to 60 m	1		2	
Storage Facility	15 to 30 m	2		4	
	< 15 m	3		6	5.1%
Total				116	100%

Table 11. Environmental Sustainability Factors and Factor Ranges for Hog Operations

Factor	Range	Rank	Weighting	Weighted	Relative % or
	J			Ranks	Priority
Manure Pit Storage Time	> 6 months	0	15	0	
	5-6 months	1		15	
	4-5 months	2		30	
	3-4 months	3		45	
	2-3 months	4		60	
	< 2 months	5		75	44.1%
Sow Equivalents per Hectare (SE/ha)	≤ 2.1	0	18	0	
	2.1 to 2.7	1		18	
	2.7 to 3.3	2		36	
	> 3.3	3		54	31.8%
Manure Pit Facility Type	concrete/covered	0	5	0	
	concrete/uncovered	1		5	
	steel/uncovered	1		5	
	earthen	3		15	
	earthen/seepage	5		25	14.7%
Woodwaste Storage	none	0	5	0	
	inside	0		0	
	covered outside	1		5	
	uncovered	2		10	5.9%
Proximity of Watercourse to Storage	> 60 m	0	2	0	
Facility	30 to 60 m	1		2	
	15 to 30 m	2		4	
	< 15 m	3		6	3.5%
Total				170	100%

Table 12. Summary Statistics

	Commodity Group					
	Dairy – Matsqui	Dairy – Sumas	Poultry	Hog		
Number of Survey Participants	30	87	28	14		
Total Hectares	1380	4650	610	1869		
Median Hectares	42	53	11	100		
Range	14.2 to 101.2	8.1 to 168.8	3.5 to 139.3	10 to 417		
Total Animals	5257	17371	941,442 per cycle	30,239		
Median Animals	127	149	30,500 per cycle	1,647		
Range	47 to 410	17 to 740	15,500 to 75,335	170 to 11,580		
Median Animal Equivalents	100 MCE**	115 MCE**	30,500 BE**	228 SE**		
Median Animal Equivalents/hectare	1.1 MCE/ha	2.5 MCE/ha	1436 BE/ha	2.4 SE/ha		
Median manure storage capacity (months)	3.3	3.6	1 cycle	4.1		
Range (months)	0.7 to 9	0.5 to 10.5	-	1.3 to 10.5		
Main Storage Facility Type	3% concrete/cov	16% concrete/cov	72% concrete/cov*	57% concrete/cov		
	43% concrete/uncov	54% concrete/uncov	17% concrete/uncov	29% concrete/uncov		
	53% earthen	30% earthen	7% field/cov	14% earthen		
			3% field/uncov			
Spreading Practice	97% splash plate	96% splash plate	25% contract haulier	93% splash plate		
	3% solid spreader	3% solid spreader	21% neighbor	7% irrigation		
		1% irrigation	18% on farm			
			36% on farm & neighbor			
Regular Soil Test	93%	89%	21%	43%		
Regular Manure Test	7%	7%	0%	14%		
Amount invested in storage facilities 1994 to	\$1,195,700	\$2,139,800	\$81,150	\$34,400		
1997						

<sup>\*</sup> includes poultry farms that store manure in housing barn
\*\* 1 MCE = 309 BE = 0.92 SE based on Nitrogen (BCMAFF, 1993a,b; BCMAFF, 1997)

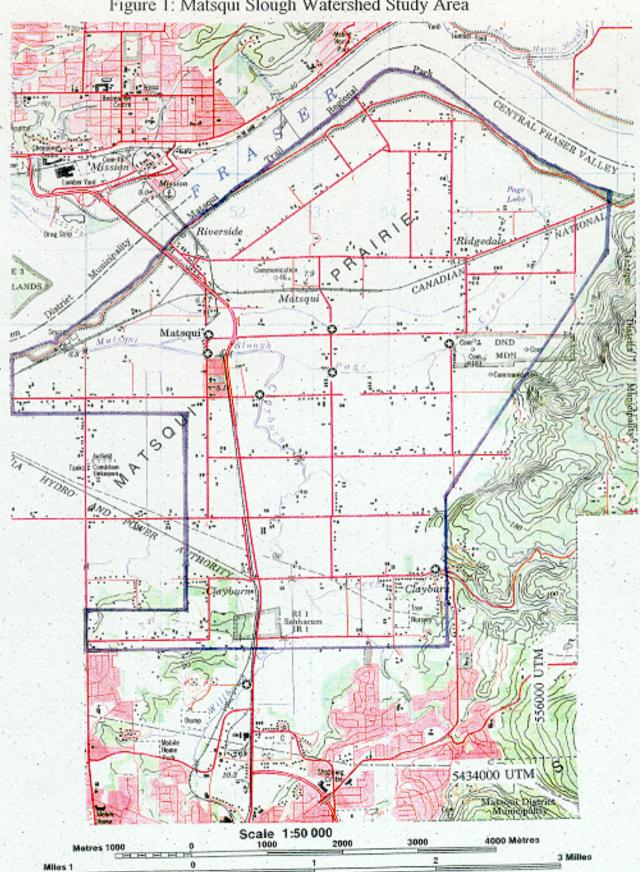
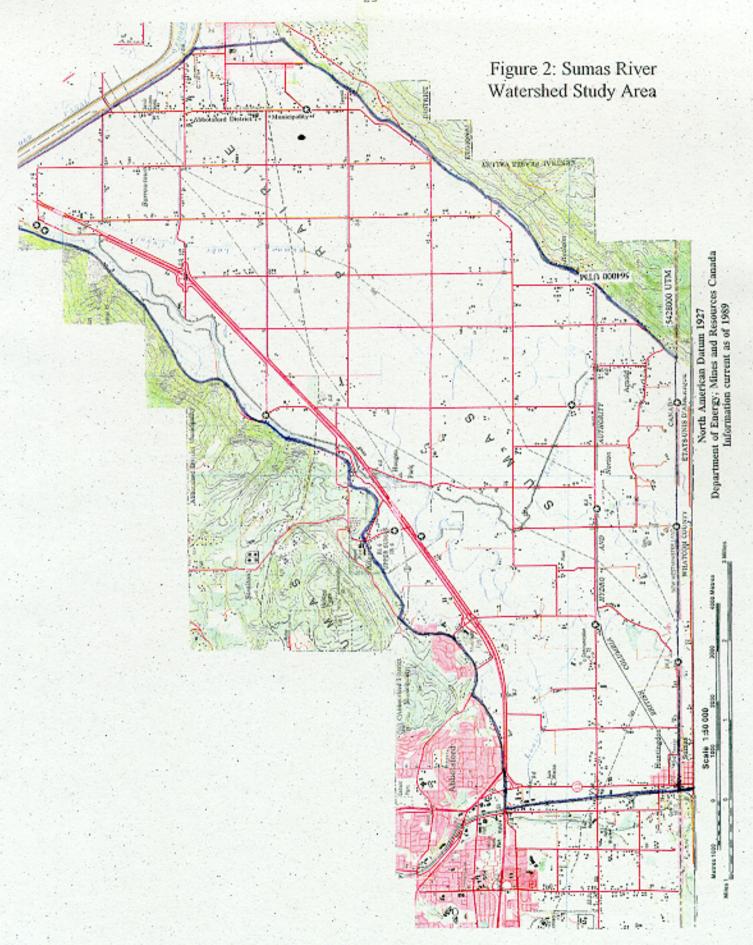
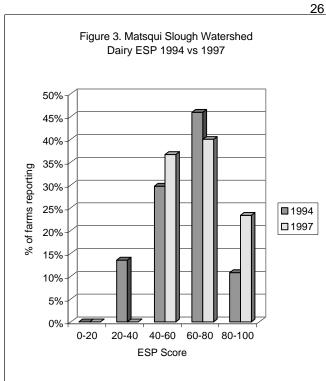
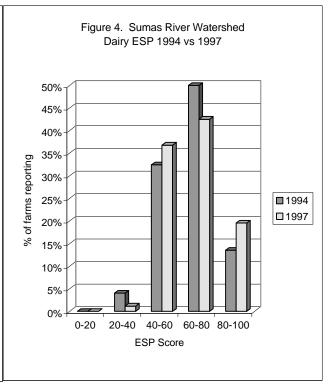


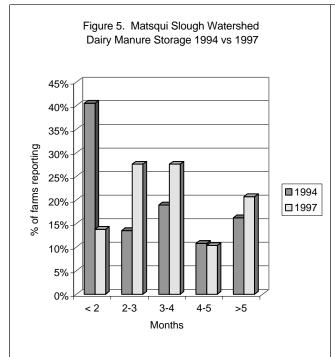
Figure 1: Matsqui Slough Watershed Study Area

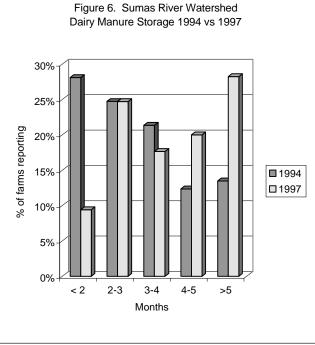
North American Datum 1927. Information current as of 1989 Department of Energy, Mines and Resources Canada

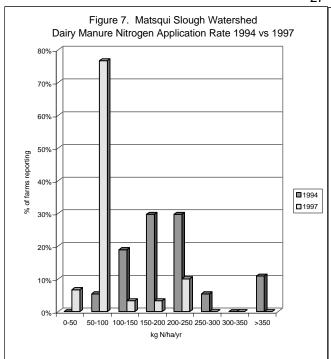


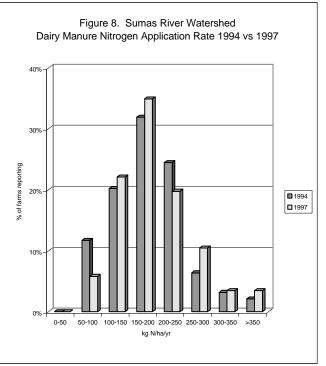


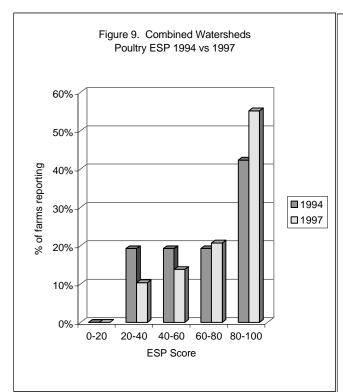


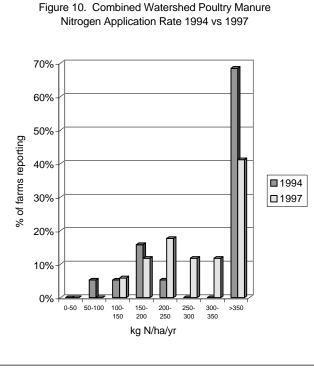


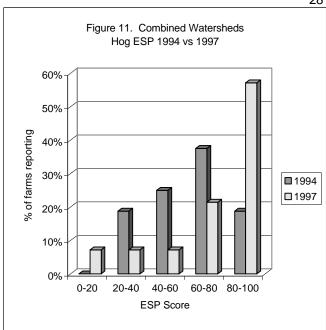


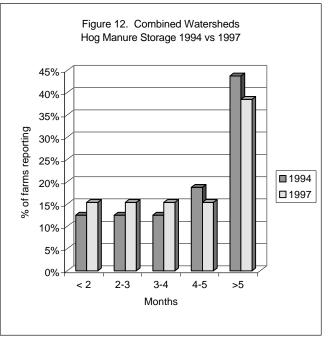


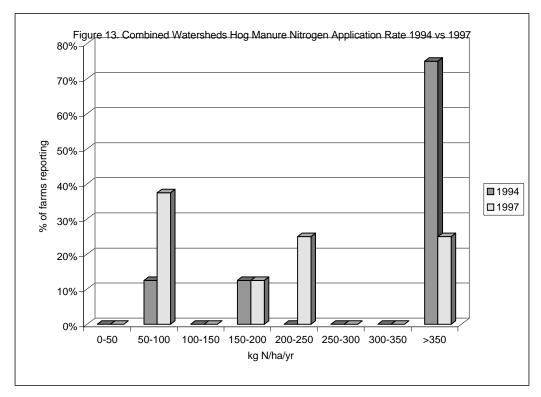


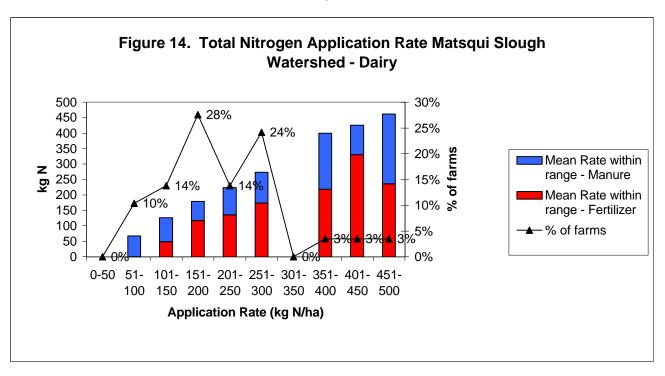


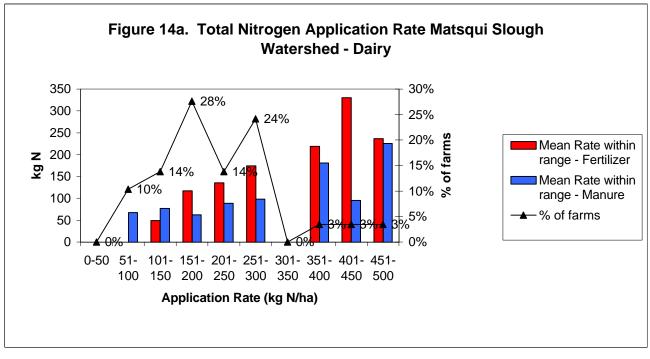


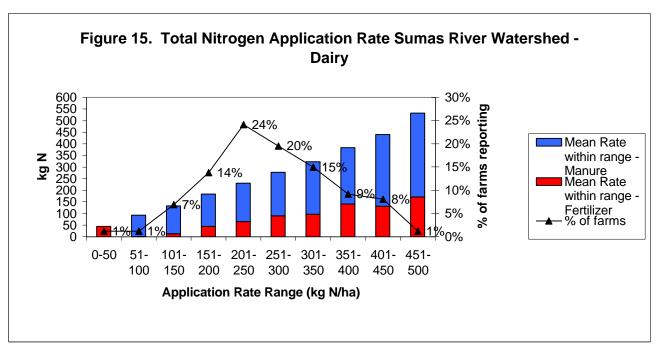


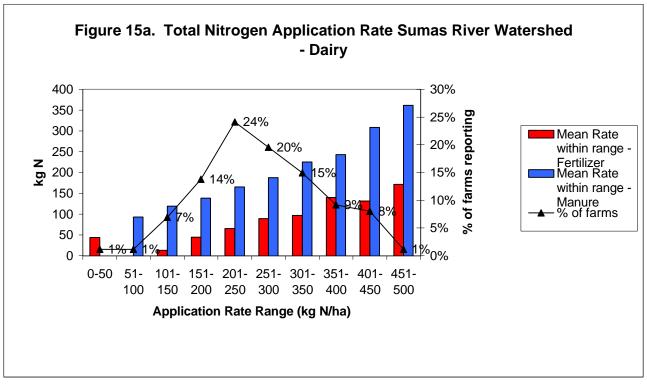


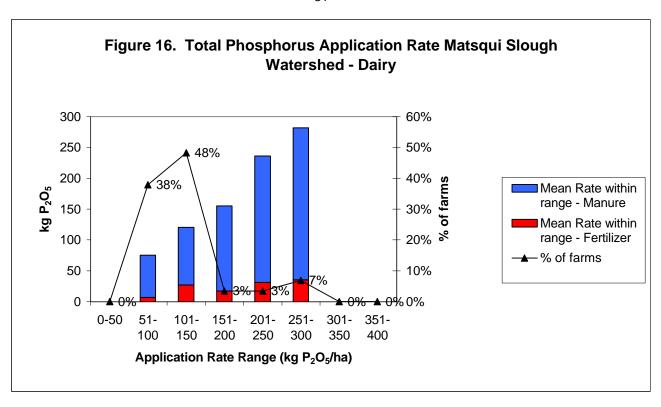


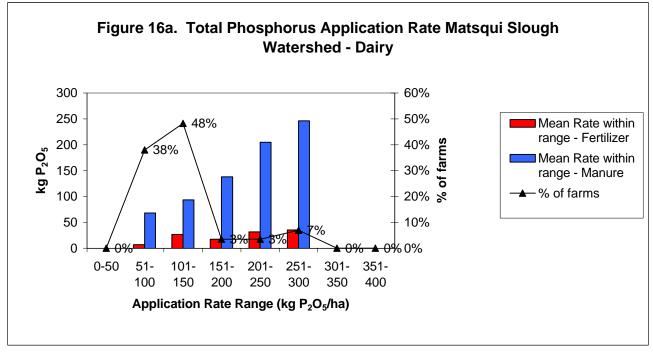


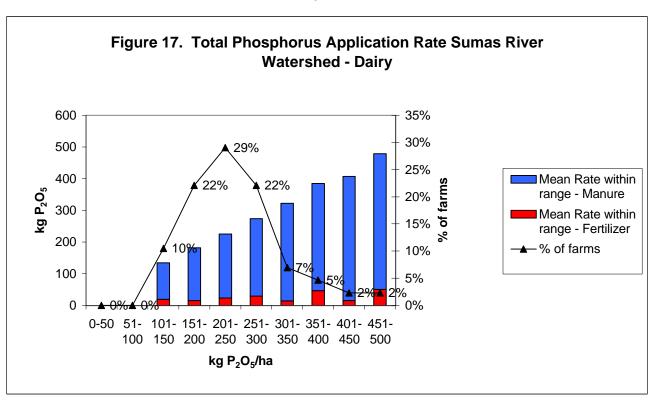


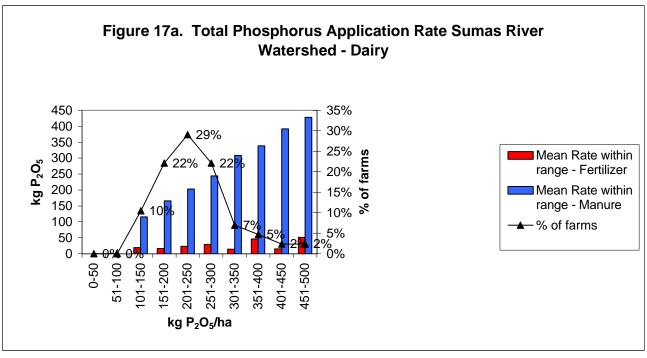


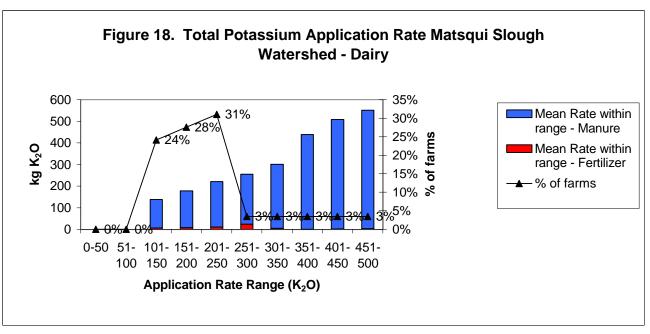


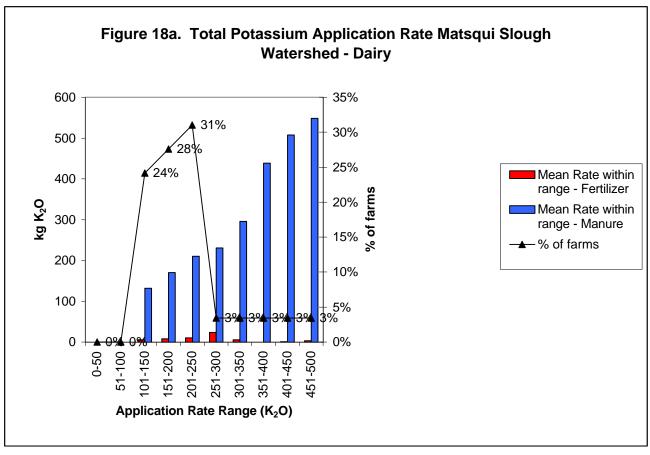


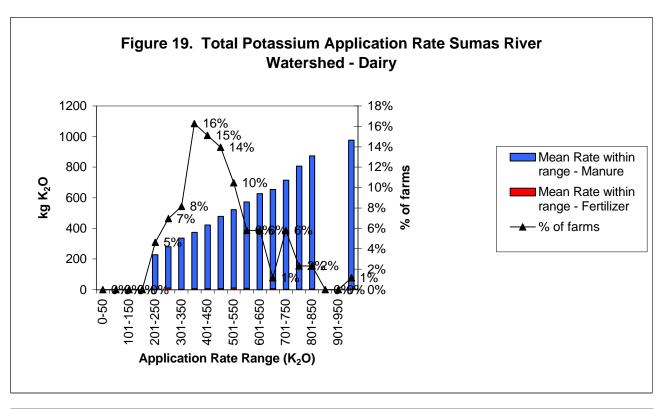


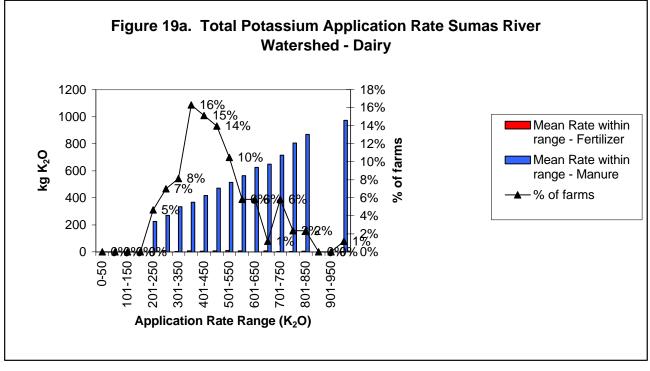














# FRASER VALLEY WATER QUALITY SURVEY AGRICULTURAL INVENTORY – FARM INTERVIEW 1997

WATE	RSHED:	MATSQUI		SUMAS_		DATE:		_		
GENE	RAL DAT	A:								
	FARM N	NAME:								
	,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,,	ADDRESS: TELEPHONE:								
	OWNER	₹:								
		OPERATOR:								
	LAND B	ASE:	ACRE	S						
		LEASES		_ACRES T	O					
		RENTS	ACRE							
		OTHER								
			0000		o., (op=o)	=\( 05 050\				
	AREA U	ISED FOR -	CROP P	RODUCTIO	ON (SPECII	,				
						YIELD AND	O PROTEIN LE	VELS		
				A						
				A	CRES					
				A	CRES					
	# OF AN	NIMALS:	DRY ( HEIFE HEIFE CALV	COWS ERS (15-24)	mo)					
	LIVE AC		CTION C	NUANCED (	SINCE 100	12				

#### MANURE DATA:

% SOLID/LIQUID MANURE:
IMPORT OF MANURE PER YEAR:
EXPORT OF MANURE PER YEAR:
WITHIN 5 MILES:
OUTSIDE 5 MILES:
MANURE STORAGE:PERMANENTTEMPORARYCOVEREDUNCOVERED
EARTHENCONCRETEFIELD STORAGE
PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS: L W D/H L W D/H
WASTE TREATMENT FACILITY:
AERATIONANAEROBIC
SEPARATION CHEMICAL TREATMENT
BIOLOGICAL TREATMENT
COMPOSTING FACILITY TYPE:
LIVESTOCK OUTDOORS?
WHERE DOES RUNOFF GO?
OTHER LIVESTOCK ON FARM (TYPE AND NUMBERS)
MANURE USE (WHERE IS MANURE STORED/APPLIED)

MANUI	RE APPLICATION: (AMOUNT, AREA, METHOD AND CROP)
	APPLICATION SEASON:
	ON FARM
	OFF FARM (LOCATION)
MISCEI	LLANEOUS:
	HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FARM
	LOCATION
	METHOD
	CHEMICAL FERTILIZER APPLICATION
	TYPE
	ACREAGE
	FREQUENCY
	RATE
	CROPS
	TYPE
	ACREAGE
	FREQUENCY
	RATE
	CROPS
	HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR FERTILIZER USAGE SINCE 1994?

FROM YOUR USE OF NITROGEN SIDEDRESSING, HOW HAS IT CHANGED YOUR NITROGEN PRACTICES? ARE YOU NOW APPLYING LOWER FERTILIZER RATES TO YOUR CORN CROP?
WHO DID YOUR MOST RECENT PRE-SIDEDRESS NITROGEN SOIL TEST? YOURSELF FERTILIZER DEALER EXTENSION AGENT OTHER NO ONE
DO YOU TRY TO MATCH MANURE APPLICATION TO CROP REQUIREMENTS?
HOW DO YOU MATCH CROP NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS TO FERTILIZER AND MANURE APPLICATIONS?
DO YOU HAVE REGULAR SOIL TESTS DONE?
DO YOU HAVE REGULAR MANURE TESTS DONE?
WHAT IMPROVEMENTS TO WASTE MANAGEMENT FACILITIES HAVE YOU MADE SINCE 1994?
HOW MUCH HAVE YOU SPENT?
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?
IF AN EXISTING FARM DOES NOT MEET THE CODE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR AGRICULTURE, HOW LONG SHOULD THE FARM BE GIVEN TO COMPLY?
0 TO 12 MONTHS
12 TO 24 MONTHS  24 TO 36 MONTHS
24 10 30 MONTES

INDICATE YOUR TWO MOST IN	IF YOUR FARM DOES NOT MEET CURRENT OR PROPOSED GUIDELINES, INDICATE YOUR TWO MOST IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF ACHIEVING COMPLIANCE: (1=FIRST PRIORITY, 2=SECOND)					
TAX INCENTIVES	DEMONSTRATION UNITS					
SUBSIDIZED INTEREST LOANS	FINANCIAL GRANTS					
TECHNICAL INFORMATION	OTHER (SPECIFY)					
EADMO	COMPLETING IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR					
CONSERVATION PROGRAMS:						
	MATION OR SERVICE FROM ANY OF THE OFFERED UNDER THE GREEN PLAN?					
SUSTAINABLE POU	JLTRY FARMING GROUP					
DAIRY PRODUCER	S' CONSERVATION GROUP					
HOG PRODUCERS'	SUSTAINABLE FARMING GROUP					
SUMAS PRAIRIE SO	OIL CONSERVATION GROUP					
MATSQUI/LANGLE	Y SOIL CONSERVATION GROUP					
RATE THE FOLLOWING ON A S	SCALE OF 1 – 5: 1 = GOOD 5 = POOR					
1) DID YOU FIND THE INFORM USEFUL? (1 – 5)	MATION OR SERVICES RELEVANT OR					
WHY?						
BY WHAT MEANS DO YOU FEE CONSERVATION/WASTE MANA PRODUCERS?	EL INFORMATION ABOUT AGEMENT IS BEST PASSED ON TO					
PRODUCER NEWSLETTERS	ON-FARM DEMONSTRATIONS					
AG NEWSPAPERS	FIELD DAYS					
PRODUCER MEETINGS	FARM SCALE DEMO					
2) ARE FIELD DAYS AND DEMO	DNSTRATIONS USEFUL? (1-5)					
·						
= = : • • : : : = : : : = : : :						

3) DO Y	OU FEEL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS ARE BENEFICIAL:
	TO THE INDUSTRY? (1-5)
	TO THE ENVIRONMENT?(1-5)
•	TO THE PUBLIC?(1-5)
	SSUES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS NG ON IN THE FUTURE?
WHAT E	EXTRA INFORMATION DO YOU NEED TO IMPROVE YOUR TY?
	J NEED WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS ON YOUR
	OO YOU ESTIMATE YOUR COSTS TO BE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO FARM?
WHAT [	OO YOU FEEL IS A REASONABLE PRODUCER \$ INPUT TO RVATION EFFORTS?
	D INDUSTRY DOLLARS SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE AMS: REMAIN THE SAME? INCREASE? DECREASE?
	THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WITH REGARDS TO THEIR RELEVANCE TO DIMENTAL STEWARDSHIP:
-	CONSERVATION PROGRAMS
	FEED RESEARCH
-	MARKETING
-	FACILITY RESEARCH (BARNS, MANURE STORAGE, ETC)
-	PRODUCER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
-	PRODUCER CHANGES IN ATTITUDE
-	BEST AGRICULTURAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS
_	NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS

# FRASER VALLEY WATER QUALITY SURVEY AGRICULTURAL INVENTORY – FARM INTERVIEW 1997

ATERSHED: MATS	SQUI	SUMAS	DATE:	
ENERAL DATA:				
FARM NAME	i:			
ADDRESS:_				
			TELEPHONE:	
OWNER:				
TYPE OF OF	ERATION: <u>POL</u>	<u>JLTRY</u>		
LAND BASE:	ACR	ES		
LEAS	SES	ACRES TO_		
REN <sup>-</sup>	ΓSACR	ES FROM		
AREA USED	FOR – CROP	PRODUCTION	(SPECIFY CROPS)	
			YIELD AND PR	OTEIN LEVELS
		ACR	S	
		ACRI	S	
		ACR		
GRAZING:	ACRES – FEE	DLOTS:ACI	RES – BUILDINGS:_ACRE	S
QUOTA:	ROASTER	BROILER	TURKEY	
	TABLE EGG L	AYERS	BREEDER LAYERS	
Kg/CYCLE (#	BIRDS, IF LA	YERS)		
NO OF CYC	LES PER YEA	R·		

HAS YOUR QUOTA CHANGED SINCE 1994?	
HOW MUCH?	
DO YOU RAISE PULLETS ON THE FARM?	
HOW MANY CYCLES?	
NURE DATA:	
IMPORT OF MANURE PER YEAR:	
EXPORT OF MANURE PER YEAR:	
WITHIN 5 MILES:	
OUTSIDE 5 MILES:	
MANURE STORAGE:PERMANENTTEMPORARY	
COVEREDUNCOVERED	
CONCRETEFIELD STORAGE	
PHYSICAL DIMENSIONS:LW	D/H
IF UNCOVERED WHERE DOES THE RUNOFF GO?	
DOES CONTRACTOR CLEAN OUT BARN?_HAUL MANURE?	
CONTRACTOR	
DOES SUSTAINABLE POULTRY FARMING GROUP SHIP YOUR MAI	NURE?
MANURE APPLICATION: (AMOUNT, AREA, METHOD AND CROP)	
APPLICATION SEASON:	
ON FARM	
OFF FARM (LOCATION)	

### **MISCELLANEOUS:** HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:\_\_\_\_ON FARM \_\_\_\_OFF FARM LOCATION \_\_\_\_\_\_ METHOD TYPE OF INCINERATOR: DOUBLE BURNER\_\_\_\_\_ SINGLE BURNER\_\_\_\_\_ AGE \_\_\_\_\_COVERED \_\_\_\_UNCOVERED COMPOSTING FACILITY: MATERIALS COMPOSTED CHEMICAL FERTILIZER APPLICATION TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ ACREAGE FREQUENCY\_\_\_\_\_ RATE\_\_\_\_\_ CROPS\_\_\_\_\_ TYPE \_\_\_\_\_ ACREAGE \_\_\_\_\_ FREQUENCY RATE\_\_\_\_ CROPS HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR FERTILIZER USAGE SINCE 1994? WHY? DO YOU TRY TO MATCH MANURE APPLICATION TO CROP REQUIREMENTS? HOW DO YOU MATCH CROP NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS TO FERTILIZER AND MANURE APPLICATIONS?

DO YOU HAVE REGULAR SOIL TESTS DONE?

DO YOU HAVE REGULAR MANURE TESTS DONE?

	WHAT IMPROVEMENTS TO WASTE MANAGEMENT HAVE YOU MADE SINCE 1994?
ŀ	HOW MUCH HAVE YOU SPENT?
١	WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?
-	
	F AN EXISTING FARM DOES NOT MEET THE CODE OF WASTE MANAGEMENT FOR AGRICULTURE, HOW LONG SHOULD THE FARM BE GIVEN TO COMPLY?
	0 TO 12 MONTHS
	12 TO 24 MONTHS
	24 TO 36 MONTHS
I	F YOUR FARM DOES NOT MEET CURRENT OR PROPOSED GUIDELINES, NDICATE YOUR TWO MOST IMMEDIATE NEEDS OF ACHIEVING COMPLIANCE: (1=FIRST PRIORITY, 2=SECOND)
1	FAX INCENTIVES DEMONSTRATION UNITS
5	SUBSIDIZED INTEREST LOANS FINANCIAL GRANTS
1	FECHNICAL INFORMATION OTHER (SPECIFY)
	WHAT IS HOLDING YOU FROM COMPLETING IMPROVEMENTS TO YOUR FARM?
- =1	RVATION PROGRAMS:
	HAVE YOU EVER USED INFORMATION OR SERVICE FROM ANY OF THE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS OFFERED UNDER THE GREEN PLAN?
	SUSTAINABLE POULTRY FARMING GROUP
	DAIRY PRODUCERS' CONSERVATION GROUP
	HOG PRODUCERS' SUSTAINABLE FARMING GROUP
	SUMAS PRAIRIE SOIL CONSERVATION GROUP

### RATE THE FOLLOWING ON A SCALE OF 1 – 5: 1= GOOD 5=POOR

DID YOU FIND THE INFORMATION OR SERVICES RELEVANT OR USEFUL?					
WHY?					
BY WHAT MEANS DO YOU FEEL INFORMATION ABOUT CONSERVATION/WASTE MANAGEMENT IS BEST PASSED ON TO PRODUCERS?					
PRODUCER NEWSLETTERS ON-FARM DEMONSTRATIONS					
AG NEWSPAPERS FIELD DAYS					
PRODUCER MEETINGS FARM SCALE DEMO					
2) ARE FIELD DAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS USEFUL? (1-5)  DO YOU ATTEND?					
3) DO YOU FEEL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS ARE BENEFICIAL:  TO THE INDUSTRY? (1-5)  TO THE ENVIRONMENT?(1-5)  TO THE PUBLIC?(1-5)					
WHAT ISSUES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS WORKING ON IN THE FUTURE?					
WHAT EXTRA INFORMATION DO YOU NEED TO IMPROVE YOUR FACILITY?					
DO YOU NEED WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS ON YOUR FARM?					

	DO YOU ESTIMATE YOUR COSTS TO BE TO FARM?	MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO
	DO YOU FEEL IS A REASONABLE PRODUC ERVATION EFFORTS?	
	LD INDUSTRY DOLLARS SUPPORT FOR SUS RAMS: REMAIN THE SAME? INCREASE? DECREASE?	STAINABLE
_	OU AWARE THAT YOU HAVE CONTRIBUTED UGH A CHECKOFF (\$50/FARM)?	_
	THE FOLLOWING ISSUES WITH REGARDS TO SOME STEWARDSHIP:	TO THEIR RELEVANCE TO
	CONSERVATION PROGRAMS	
	FEED RESEARCH	
	MARKETING	
	FACILITY RESEARCH (BARNS, MAN	URE STORAGE, ETC)
	PRODUCER EDUCATION PROGRAM	1S
	PRODUCER CHANGES IN ATTITUDE	
	BEST AGRICULTURAL WASTE MAN	AGEMENT PLANS
	NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS	

# FRASER VALLEY WATER QUALITY SURVEY AGRICULTURAL INVENTORY – FARM INTERVIEW 1997

FVW	VQS _	BC	PPA	BOTH	
WATERSHE	ED: I	MATSQUI	SUMAS	DATE:	
GENERAL D	DATA:				
			TEL	EPHONE:	
1WO	NER:				
OPE	RATOR:				
		RATION: <u>HOG</u>			
LAN	D BASE:	ACRES			
	LEASES	SAC	RES TO		
	RENTS_	ACRES FF	ROM		
	OTHER	ACRES			
ARE	A USED FO	OR – CROP PROI	DUCTION (SPEC	SIFY CROPS)	
				YIELD AND PROTEIN LEV	/ELS
			ACRES		
			ACRES		
			ACRES		

# OF ANIMALS:	BREEDING STOCK		
	SOWS	BOARS	
	STOCK FOR MARKET		
	WEANERS	(5 - 20 KG)_	
	GROWER PIG	S (20 - 60 KG)	
	FINISHER PIG	S (60 - 100 KG	<u> </u>
	GROWER/FIN	ISHER (20 - 100 KG	<u> </u>
	GUILTS		
TYPE OF OPERATION	N:		
FARROW - WEANER	F-F	W-F	BREEDING
HAS YOUR PRODUC	TION CHANGED SINCE	Ξ 1994?	
		1991?	
MANURE DATA:			
% SOLID/LIQUID MAL	JRE:		
IMPORT OF MANURE	E PER YEAR:		
EXPORT OF MANUR	E PER YEAR:		
WITHIN 5 MIL	ES:		
OUTSIDE 5 M	ILES:		
MANURE STORAGE:	PERMANENT	TEMPORAR	Υ
	COVERED	UNCOVERE	DEARTHEN
	CONCRETE	FIELD STOR	RAGE
PHYSI	CAL DIMENSIONS:	L	WD/H
		L	WD/H
WASTE TREATMENT	FACILITY:		
AERA		_ANAEROBIC	
SEPAF	RATION	CHEMICAL TREATI	MENT
BIOLO	GICAL TREATMENT		
COMPOSTING	G FACILITY TYPE:		
% MANURE C	OMPOSTED		

WHERE DOES RUNOFF GO?	
OTHER LIVESTOCK ON FARM (TYPE AND NUMBERS	
DOES SUSTAINABLE POULTRY FARMING GROUP SHIP YOUR MANI	JRE?
MANURE USE (WHERE IS MANURE STORED/APPLIED)	
APPLICATION: (AMOUNT, AREA, METHOD AND CROP)	
APPLICATION SEASON:	
ON FARM	
OFF FARM (LOCATION)	
LANEOUS:	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAF	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAF	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAF	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAF LOCATION METHOD	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAF LOCATION METHOD  CHEMICAL FERTILIZER APPLICATION	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAR LOCATION METHOD  CHEMICAL FERTILIZER APPLICATION  TYPE	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAR LOCATION METHOD  CHEMICAL FERTILIZER APPLICATION  TYPE ACREAGE	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAR LOCATION METHOD  CHEMICAL FERTILIZER APPLICATION  TYPE ACREAGE FREQUENCY	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAR LOCATION	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAR LOCATION	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FAR LOCATION	
HANDLING OF MORTALITIES:ON FARMOFF FARE LOCATION METHOD	

### HAVE YOU CHANGED YOUR FERTILIZER USAGE SINCE 1994?

DO YOU TRY TO MATCH MANURE APPLICATION TO CROP REQUIREMENTS?				
HOW DO YOU MATCH CROP NUTRIENT REQUIREMENTS TO FERTILIZER AND MANURE APPLICATIONS?				
DO YOU HAVE REGULAR SOIL TESTS DO	NE?			
DO YOU HAVE REGULAR MANURE TESTS DONE?				
WHAT IMPROVEMENTS TO WASTE MANA MADE SINCE 1994?				
HOW MUCH HAVE YOU SPENT?				
WHAT ARE YOUR PLANS FOR THE NEXT 12 MONTHS?				
IF AN EXISTING FARM DOES NOT MEET T MANAGEMENT FOR AGRICULTURE, HOW GIVEN TO COMPLY?				
0 TO 12 MONTHS	_			
12 TO 24 MONTHS	_			
24 TO 36 MONTHS	_			
IF YOUR FARM DOES NOT MEET CURREN	NT OR PROPOSED GUIDELINES, NEEDS OF ACHIEVING			
COMPLIANCE: (1=FIRST PRIORITY, 2=SEC	COND)			
	COND)  DEMONSTRATION UNITS			
COMPLIANCE: (1=FIRST PRIORITY, 2=SEC	,			
COMPLIANCE: (1=FIRST PRIORITY, 2=SECTAX INCENTIVES	DEMONSTRATION UNITS			

#### **CONSERVATION PROGRAMS:**

HAVE YOU EVER USED INFORMATION OR SERVICE FROM ANY OF THE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS OFFERED UNDER THE GREEN PLAN?					
SUSTAINABLE POULTRY FARMING GROUP					
DAIRY PRODUCERS' CONSERVATION GROUP					
HOG PRODUCERS' SUSTAINABLE FARMING GROUP					
SUMAS PRAIRIE SOIL CONSERVATION GROUP					
MATSQUI/LANGLEY SOIL CONSERVATION GROUP					
RATE THE FOLLOWING ON A SCALE OF 1 – 5: 1= GOOD 5=POOR					
<ol> <li>DID YOU FIND THE INFORMATION OR SERVICES RELEVANT OR USEFUL?</li> </ol>					
WHY?					
BY WHAT MEANS DO YOU FEEL INFORMATION ABOUT					
CONSERVATION/WASTE MANAGEMENT IS BEST PASSED ON TO PRODUCERS?					
PRODUCER NEWSLETTERS ON-FARM DEMONSTRATIONS					
AG NEWSPAPERS FIELD DAYS					
PRODUCER MEETINGS FARM SCALE DEMO					
2) ARE FIELD DAYS AND DEMONSTRATIONS USEFUL? (1-5)					
DO YOU ATTEND?					
3) DO YOU FEEL CONSERVATION PROGRAMS ARE BENEFICIAL:					
TO THE INDUSTRY? (1-5)					
TO THE ENVIRONMENT?(1-5)					
TO THE PUBLIC?(1-5)					
WHAT ISSUES WOULD YOU LIKE TO SEE CONSERVATION PROGRAMS WORKING ON IN THE FUTURE?					
WHAT EXTRA INFORMATION DO YOU NEED TO IMPROVE YOUR FACILITY?					
DO YOU NEED WASTE MANAGEMENT IMPROVEMENTS ON YOUR					

WHY?	
	IMATE YOUR COSTS TO BE TO MAKE IMPROVEMENTS TO
WHAT DO YOU FEE CONSERVATION EF	EL IS A REASONABLE PRODUCER \$ INPUT TO FFORTS?
	ODLLARS SUPPORT FOR SUSTAINABLE REMAIN THE SAME? INCREASE? DECREASE?
	HAT YOU HAVE CONTRIBUTED IN THE PAST KOFF (\$0.10/HOG)?
RANK THE FOLLOW ENVIRONMENTAL S	ING ISSUES WITH REGARDS TO THEIR RELEVANCE TO
	SERVATION PROGRAMS
FEED	RESEARCH
MARK	KETING
FACIL	LITY RESEARCH (BARNS, MANURE STORAGE, ETC)
PROD	DUCER EDUCATION PROGRAMS
PROD	DUCER CHANGES IN ATTITUDE
BEST	AGRICULTURAL WASTE MANAGEMENT PLANS
NUTR	RIENT MANAGEMENT PLANS