

Creating a Better Understanding the Chesapeake Bay CEAP Report: Questions from the Agriculture Workgroup

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Summary :

The USDA-NRCS Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP) recently released a new report on the implementation of agricultural conservation practices throughout the Chesapeake Bay watershed. The findings of the report for the Chesapeake Bay Program partnership and the agricultural community warrant further discussions regarding the assumptions and data sources used to develop the findings, and its comparison to the partnership's Chesapeake Bay Program models. The members of the partnership's Agriculture Workgroup (AgWG) are keenly aware of the importance of the CEAP report's findings, and have expressed interest in obtaining further clarity and detailed explanation directly from Dr. Lee Norfleet and the CEAP team.

Questions:

The following questions developed by members of the AgWG represent the primary areas of interest regarding the CEAP report findings, assumptions, data sources, and analysis methods:

Assumptions and Methods:

- to determine livestock manure application acres, application rates, application timings, and placement methods
- to determine fertilizer application acres, application rates, application timings, and placement methods
- to determine crop yield data and smoothing
- to determine N mineralization and availability
- to calculate contribution of soil P residues and retention of soil P
- to calculate nutrient crop uptake efficiencies