30. PLANET



FAIRWAY partner: Fiona Nicholson (ADAS, UK)

Brief description

PLANET (Planning Land Applications of Nutrients for Efficiency and the environment) is a nutrient management decision support tool for use by farmers and advisers in England/Wales and Scotland for field level nutrient planning and for assessing and demonstrating compliance with the Nitrate Vulnerable Zone (NVZ) rules.

| Contaminants covered | Nitrate (nutrients) |
|---------------------------|--|
| (e.g. nitrate, pesticides | |
| etc.) | |
| Intended end users | Farmers and advisors |
| (e.g. farmer, water | |
| quality manager, policy | |
| maker) | |
| Level of expertise | Some experience needed to use the software but extensive help and information is available |
| and/or training required | (see below) |
| Geographical | Field and farm scale. |
| resolution (e.g. field, | |
| catchment, national) | |
| Temporal resolution | Annual |
| (e.g. daily, annual, | |
| long-term). | |
| Real-time component | None |
| (e.g. live weather data, | |
| soil moisture data | |
| feeds etc.) | |
| Number and type of | None |
| mitigation measures | |
| included | |
| Platform (e.g. paper- | Bespoke software (in English only) can be downloaded from the following website: |
| based tool, phone app, | http://www.planet4farmers.co.uk |
| bespoke software). | |
| Frequency of updates | Most recent version v3.3 (August 2014). Regularly updated to reflect changes in the NVZ Action |
| | Plan - last update November 2016. |
| Cost/availability | Free to download or on DVD |
| | |
| Number of users or | Over 18,000 users |
| number of copies | |
| distributed/ | |
| downloaded/purchased | |
| Links to demo material | Tutorials and help (in English) available at |
| and other relevant | http://www.planet4farmers.co.uk/Content.aspx?name=Tutorials |
| information (e.g. user | |
| guides). | A dedicated Helpdesk for users is provided. |
| Additional comments | PLANET incorporates the ADAS MANNER software. The PLANET code is publically available |
| | and has been incorporated into commercial software packages such as Gatekeeper and |
| | Greenlight. |
| | |
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| Input data required to run the DST | Data inputs depend on the module being used and include farm details, livestock type and numbers, cropping, soil analysis, fertiliser and manure applications, capacity and surface area of manure stores, rainwater collection area, volume of wash water, area of low runoff risk land, | |
| Outputs (including links to water quality and economic or financial aspects) | At the end of the season, details of actual cropping, soil analysis, organic manure and nutrient/lime applications to each crop are recorded and can be used to generate next year's RB209 recommendations which can be used as the basis for developing a nutrient application plan for each field. Estimates are produced of manure quantities from different sources and their financial value, and an estimate of the NVZ minimum storage capacity requirement. Outputs do not directly link to water quality. All PLANET reports can be viewed and printed. | |
| Age/provenance of supporting data used to develop the DST | Based on the Defra Fertiliser Manual (RB209) and the ADAS MANNER software. | |
| Country-specific calibration or data requirements (including restrictions on use) | Based on the UK RB209 fertiliser recommendations and UK NVZ regulations. Not possible to modify without extensive work. | |
| Details of validation and testing | No information | |
| Date developed/released (or planned release date) | Version 3.3 released in 2014. | |
| Author/developer names and affiliations | ADAS and SRUC | |
| Member state(s) where developed | UK | |
| Member State(s) where currently used | UK (England, Wales and Scotland) | |
| Key publication references (including url) | http://www.informatique-agricole.org/download/efita- conference/Congres_EFITA_2005/PA190%20-%20Gibbons.pdf | |

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