



Document title	Status of annual nutrient accounting at farm level
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Category	INF
Agenda Item	6 - Progress in integration of annual nutrient accounting at farm level and initial discussion on the development of a related Recommendation/Guideline based on the best regional practices
Submission date	19.4.2021
Submitted by	Secretariat
Reference	

Background

HELCOM Ministerial Meeting 2013 agreed to promote and advance towards applying by 2018 at the latest annual nutrient accounting at farm level taking into account soil and climate conditions giving the possibility to reach nutrient balanced fertilization and reduce nutrient losses at regional level in the countries, noting the positive examples of mandatory requirements on nutrient bookkeeping in some HELCOM countries and with an aim to apply it region-wide, as a first step, in areas critical to nutrient losses.

According to the Work Plan for the Agri group, the group will regularly follow up progress in integration of annual nutrient accounting at farm level in group meetings, discuss measures to facilitate implementation of the action and identify what kind of assistance is needed from the Contracting Parties as well as develop a Recommendation/Guideline based on the best regional practices to promote annual nutrient accounting at farm level.

This document includes the status of the action on annual nutrient accounting at farm level based on the information in the HELCOM Explorer.

Action requested

The Meeting is invited to:

- take note of the information on the status of the action on annual nutrient accounting at farm level;
- exchange the latest information on the current state of annual nutrient accounting at farm level in HELCOM countries and plans for adoption of related requirements at national level;
- discuss steps to initiate the development of the Recommendation/Guideline based on the best regional practices to promote annual nutrient accounting at farm level.

Status of action “Promote and advance towards applying annual nutrient accounting at farm level, taking into account soil and climate conditions, in areas critical to nutrient losses as a first step and with an aim to apply it region-wise”

Country	National assessment	Supporting information national assessment
Denmark	Accomplished	The legislation regarding this is explained in this guide (only a Danish version is present): https://naturerhverv.dk/fileadmin/user_upload/NaturErhverv/Filer/Landbrug/Goedningsregnskab/Vejledning_om_goedskningsog_harmoniregler_nyeste.pdf
Estonia	On-going	Decree of the minister of environment establishing rules for the use of fertilizers, and recording of the use, as well as maximum N amounts, is amended. Nutrient balance calculation tool is being developed.
Finland	Accomplished	
Germany	Accomplished	This is already regulated within the fertilizer ordinance (Düngeverordnung). An annual fertilization plan has to be drawn up by the farmer, considering the soil and fertilizing needs of the crops, furthermore the farmer has to perform a nutrient comparison evaluating the past fertilizing year and provide it to the local authorities upon request (https://www.gesetze-im-internet.de/bundesrecht/d_v/gesamt.pdf). Further details may be found within a report prepared within the work of the HELCOM Agri Group in 2015 (“Status of nutrient bookkeeping in the Baltic Sea countries”, TEXTE 95/2015, edited by HELCOM, Federal Environment Agency Germany and the Chamber for Agriculture of Lower Saxony)
Latvia	On-going	
Lithuania	Not accomplished	
Poland	On-going	Nutrient balanced fertilisation is strongly recommended within the Good Agricultural Practise Code. Fertilisation plan is mandatory for producers covered by the IPPC Directive and farmers located on Nutrient Vulnerable Zones (Nitrates Directive). Measures related to nutrient balancing proposed in a draft MSFD PoM
Russia	Not accomplished	
Sweden	Accomplished	Nutrient accounting on a farm level is an advice tool which is used to identify and manage flows of nutrients on a farm, and an important basis for analysing strengths opportunities for improvement. It is a standard tool used in the initiative “Focus on nutrients” (See: http://www.greppa.nu/download/18.7cd3513714fefa9305a42f36/1442866978897/Milj%C3%B6effekter+p%C3%A5+Greppa+N%C3%A4ringsg%C3%A5rdar+-+resultat+fr%C3%A5n+r%C3%A5dgivningen+2001-2013.pdf) There are also guidelines as regards nutrient content in different types of manure (see: http://www.jordbruksverket.se/amnesomraden/odling/jordbruksgrador/vete/vaxtnaring/stallgodsel/tabellerstallgodsel.4.3229365112c8a099bd980001803.html) In regulations from the the Swedish Board of Agriculture there are maximum limits for tonnes of N and P which can be applied per hectare. (see: http://www.jordbruksverket.se/download/18.2da5afd014dde384c9695a58/1434091543400/2015-021.pdf , Jordbruksverkets föreskrifter om ändring i Statens jordbruksverks föreskrifter och allmänna råd (SJVFS 2004:62) om miljöhänsyn

		i jordbruket vad avser växtnäring (SJVFS 2015:21)). There are also provisions (implementing the Nitrates Directive) regarding N application; N cannot be added in excess of the site specific crop needs, and the calculations in this regard need to be documented
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AGRI 7-2019 agreed on the following criteria for achievement of the action in its current formulation: Existing national guidelines on nutrient accounting (fertilization planning and/or nutrient balances) of both nitrogen and phosphorus as a minimum (as more advanced systems might be also established).