

Credit Nitrogen on Corn - and Reap the Profits

Using the right nitrogen (N) rate for corn production is the single most important N management decision for optimizing profits and protecting the environment. Use the list below to determine the right rate for your fields.

1 Find the base N rate for the field's soil.

(See other side). Field no. _____

2 Determine the preplant soil nitrate credit.

If conditions warrant. [Find out here*](#).

3 Take legume N credits.

See legume N card or UWEX publication A3517

4 Take manure N credits.

See manure N card or UWEX publication A3568

5 Calculate adjusted N recommendation.

Subtract all credits from the base soil N rate.


***Check all that apply to field.**

- Corn following N fertilized corn
- 2nd year corn after alfalfa that received manure
- Previous year's rainfall was below normal
- Long history of manure application

If you checked two or more, the preplant soil nitrate test (PPNT) will be beneficial.

lbs N/acre

Corn Nitrogen Recommendations

| | SANDY OR LOAMY SANDS | | OTHER SOILS Yield potential ¹ | |
|--|---|---------------|---|---------------------------|
| | Irrigated | Non-irrigated | Very high & high | Medium & low ² |
| Soil Organic Matter % | L B S / A C R E O F N I T R O G E N T O A P P L Y ³ | | | |
|  < 2 | 200 | 120 | 180 | 150 |
| 2.0 - 9.9 | 160 | 110 | 160 | 120 |
| 10 - 20 | 120 | 100 | 120 | 90 |
| > 20 | 80 | 80 | 80 | 80 |

¹ To determine a soil's yield potential, consult the UWEX publication *Soil test recommendations for field, vegetable and fruit crops* (A2809), or contact your agronomist or county agent.

² Irrigated non-sandy soils with a medium/low yield potential should use the very high/high recommendation.

³ If more than 50% residue cover remains on the surface, increase N by 30 lb/acre for the first 2 years.

For more information about nutrient crediting, contact the Nutrient and Pest Management Program at (877) 426-0176 (internet: ipcm.wisc.edu), or your UWEX county agent. *University of Wisconsin-Extension, College of Agricultural and Life Sciences.*