



RESOURCES FOR AGRICULTURE

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----- WATER MANAGEMENT RESOURCES -----

■ **Agricultural Water Management**

Water management resources:

Factsheets and links about flooding, drainage, drought, irrigation, farm water supply and conservation, riparian areas, and agricultural water management.

■ **Agricultural Weather Monitoring**

Farmwest:

Public portal to access a wide variety of agricultural resources including weather information, weather-based decision aid calculators, and publications.

■ **Agricultural Dam Safety**

Dam Safety Program:

Education and resources for dam safety, including webinars, factsheets, and a free, online self-directed course.

■ **Water Needs And Use Calculators**

B.C. Agriculture Water Calculator:

Helps agriculture water users in British Columbia estimate the annual irrigation or livestock water demand for a farm.

B.C. Irrigation Water Use Calculator:

Provides several different methods of calculating or estimating annual irrigation water use.

Agricultural Irrigation Scheduling Calculator:

Water management tool to assist B.C. producers in making irrigation decisions.

■ **Groundwater**

Groundwater Level Data Interactive Map:

Provides access to groundwater level data collected from the Provincial Groundwater Observation Well Network.

■ **Funding**

Agricultural Water Infrastructure Program:

Cost-shared funding to adapt to climate change by investing in water infrastructure. 2023/24 application intake is now closed. Please refer to the [AWI website](#) for future funding opportunities

Beneficial Management Practices Program:

Cost-shared funding for producers to implement practices identified through an Environmental Farm Plan.

----- SOIL AND NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

■ Nutrient Management

Nutrient Management Calculator:

An online tool that provides a starting point for the efficient use of fertilizer and manure on farms. This calculator assists in choosing the right rate and nutrient source for your crops.

BC Application Risk Management Tool:

An online application risk assessment tool that allows producers to quickly determine the risk of manure or nutrient loss after a field application.

Nutrient Management Planning Training Program:

The nutrient management plan (NMP) training program will provide trainees with the expertise to use planning tools and produce NMPs as a service to farmers or for their own farm.

Coming Soon - B.C. Phosphorus Index:

The Ministry is developing a tool that will help producers evaluate the level of risk for phosphorus loss from their farms and identify management practices to help mitigate those risks. Contact losh.Andrews@gov.bc.ca for more information.

■ General Soil Information And Classification

Soil Information Finder Tool:

An interactive mapping application that provides easy access to soil survey maps, soil attributes, and agriculture capability mapping in British Columbia.

Land Capability Classification for Agriculture in BC:

A manual that describes the criteria to assess agricultural capability of land. Note that capability differs from productivity, suitability and other interpretations of soil and climate information.

■ Soil Health - Beneficial Management Practices

Soil Management Handbooks: Regionally-focused publications were developed to complement soil surveys. Although the publications contain site-specific soil information, the management recommendations often apply to a wide range of soils and commodities across British Columbia. The guides can be accessed via the provided link.

Coming Soon - Cover Crop Factsheets: The Ministry is currently developing factsheets for 23 cover crop species that will be available individually and as a booklet. Producers can submit queries and share their experiences by emailing covercroppingBC@gov.bc.ca.

----- AGRICULTURAL WASTE MANAGEMENT RESOURCES

Composting Handbook:

A handbook for small to medium sized farms interested in starting their own composting operation on-farm. While it is geared for small to medium sized farms, the compost basics and background, as well as mortality composting, is included in the handbook and useful for all. Can be found via the provided link.

Nutrient Recovery Technologies:

A study for those interested in getting a centrifuge in order to better recover phosphorus on-farm. Centrifuges can typically recover 50% of phosphorous from liquid dairy manure in the separated dairy solids. More info on centrifuges can be found via the provided link.

Centralized Anaerobic Digester Feasibility Assessment:

A high-level pre-feasibility assessment that determines whether a producer's potential biogas scenario (cluster or standalone) would be economically viable. Ministry staff will work with interested producers to determine if they should move forward with a more in-depth feasibility assessment. Will not be readily available online - contact lake.Turek@gov.bc.ca for more information.