

Low-disturbance Manure Application Fact Sheet

Low- disturbance Manure Application Keeps Manure in Place and Out of Waterways



Paulus Dairy applies manure at 11,000 gal/ac with a low-disturbance manure applicator. Photo taken April 28, 2023.

What is Low-disturbance Manure Application?

A system that involves applying manure below the soil surface, so it offers the same benefits of incorporation, without the harmful effects of tillage-based practices.

Why Practice Low-disturbance Manure Application?

Traditional application typically involves cultivating the soil surface to incorporate the manure. Those exposed soils run the risk of eroding off into waterways, which could negatively impact water quality due to excess nutrients. With low-disturbance manure applications, there is a reduced risk of nutrient loss through surface runoff and less disruption of the soil surface. You may also see a cost savings due to reduced need for commercial fertilizer.

Things to Consider With Low-disturbance Manure Application

- What rate you need to apply your manure
- The pre-existing nutrient levels in your soils
- Level of compaction in your soils

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