



Spring Newsletter 2025

Adaptive N Management - Dialing Down Nitrogen Cost Without Risk to Your Crop

Did you know your crop(s) may already have access to free nitrogen?

Many growers unintentionally over-fertilize, missing out on existing nitrate-N in soil and well water. This can lead to unnecessary costs, environmental concerns, and regulatory challenges. By adopting an adaptive approach to nitrogen management and effectively quantifying and utilizing "free" nitrogen, you can optimize yields and reduce your reliance on commercial fertilizer. Learn how to fine-tune your N strategy for better efficiency, profitability, and sustainability. Read more on how to maximize your nitrogen use.

For more detail, scan QR code below or visit: kingsriverwqc.org/adaptive-n-management



"Nitrogen is already in the soil and already in the water, that will reduce whatever I have to put in... why would I foolishly buy more and inject more?"

Surjit Jhutti
Coalition Member

Scan QR code to watch interview with Surjit

A square QR code with a blue and white pixelated pattern, located at the bottom right of the interview section.

Irrigation Pump Test Service

An Irrigation Pump Test measures various aspects of the pump's operating performance including water flow rate, pumping lift (or inlet pressure), discharge pressure, and energy input. The results of the pump test provide a value for the overall efficiency of the pump and an estimated cost of running it.

A pump test can identify problems before a breakdown occurs or energy costs rise. Having this information enables you

to identify when it can be profitable to invest in a retrofit or repair. On a new pump, a test will establish a baseline of performance and verify that equipment is operating as designed.

Visit the website below for simple steps to obtain a pump efficiency test. You can also check and apply for subsidies from participating pump test companies:

<https://qrco.de/bfsQbx>

Defining Acceptable A/R Ranges to Support Growers and Water Quality



As required by the General Order, the Kings River Water Quality Coalition, along with other Central Valley Water Quality Coalitions, is working to establish crop-specific acceptable ranges for Applied Nitrogen relative to Nitrogen Removed (A/R ratios) as part of the Management Practices Evaluation Program (MPEP). These ranges serve as a key metric for evaluating nitrogen use efficiency, helping growers optimize fertilizer applications for cost savings while also identifying areas that may require follow-up due to potential nitrate impacts on groundwater.

Through ongoing efforts, acceptable multi-year ratio target values for applied nitrogen are being refined to improve water quality management. Stay tuned for further updates.



For more details, and to view the full report: kingsriverwqc.org/ar-acceptable-ranges

Kings River Water Quality Coalition
P.O. Box 8259 Fresno, CA 93747

Important Coalition member updates enclosed

March 1 Report Deadline Has Passed

Summary Reports for the Irrigation and Nitrogen Management Plan were due on March 1, 2025. The Central Valley Regional Water Quality Control Board has previously issued fines for non-compliance. If you have not yet submitted your report, please do so through the Member Portal at www.kingsriverwqc.org/account or contact the Coalition to let us know how we can assist.

Nitrogen Use Evaluation Analysis

Your Nitrogen Use Evaluation Analysis for 2021–2023 is available on the Member Portal. Members will receive a letter in April indicating their account outlier status and instructions on how to access the evaluation. The analysis compares your nitrogen efficiency to the crop average and flags parcels that exceed the Outlier Threshold.