

# ***Caloosahatchee River & Estuary BMAP Annual Meeting***

**February 10, 2021**

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**Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

**Office of Agricultural Water Policy**



**Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services**

# Overview

- Agricultural Best Management Practices
- FDACS Role in BMP Implementation
- Producer Options in BMAP Areas
- BMP Implementation Verification
- Senate Bill 712
- Rule Revisions and BMP Manual Updates
- FDACS OAWP Legislative Report



# Agricultural Best Management Practices

- Management strategies, tools and practices that improve water quality, conserve water, enhance soil health and protect water resources
- Based on the best available science and technology
- Must be technically and economically feasible
- Must balance production and water resource protection



# Benefits of Agricultural Best Management Practices

- Increase efficiencies in nutrient, irrigation and water management
- Conservation and protection of water and environmental resources
- Promote climate resiliency and carbon sequestration
- Improve soil health
- Promote groundwater recharge



# FDACS Role in BMP Implementation

- Develop BMPs in Manuals and adopt BMPs by Rule
- Assist Producers with BMP Enrollment
- Identify and support targeted cost-share of select BMPs
- Fund research to develop new BMPs and improve BMP effectiveness
- Verify proper implementation through site visits and record review



# Producer Options in BMAP Areas

1. Sign an NOI and properly implement applicable BMPs for presumption of compliance, OR
2. Follow an FDEP or WMD-prescribed water quality monitoring plan at a Producer's expense



# Highlights within the Caloosahatchee BMAP

|                             | East Caloosahatchee | Tidal Caloosahatchee | West Caloosahatchee |
|-----------------------------|---------------------|----------------------|---------------------|
| Enrolled Ag Acres           | 180,104             | 49,058               | 149,388             |
| Total Ag Acres              | 195,685             | 58,729               | 196,760             |
| Percent Enrolled            | 92%                 | 84%                  | 76%                 |
| Enrolled Irrigated Ag Acres | 114,944             | 6,214                | 57,555              |
| Total Irrigated Ag Acres    | 120,994             | 6,608                | 62,975              |
| Percent Enrolled            | 95%                 | 94%                  | 91%                 |



# BMP Implementation Verification

- Process to verify the status of implementation of BMPs - required by 2016 law, strengthened by SB 712 (2020)
- Status of BMP implementation gathered from field staff site visits conducted on all enrolled farms, including record review
- Data utilized to track compliance and provide information for development of the required annual report to the Legislature
- Large workload - requires the assistance of enrolled producers and field staff working together



# New SB 712 Requirements

- Implementation verification site visits to audit the proper implementation of best management practices by enrolled producers at least every two years
- Collection and retention of nutrient application records
- Transfer of nutrient application information to FDEP for utilization in BMAP assessment
- Development of a research plan to inform future LBR development beginning in the 2022 Legislative Session



# New SB 712 Requirements

- During a verification visit, producer records are required to demonstrate compliance with the BMPs (Collect and Review)
- Certain records detailing nutrient application are required to be collected and retained by OAWP
- OAWP Rulemaking to standardize record retention across varied BMP manuals and recordkeeping processes (Nutrient Application Record Form)
- Nutrient application information is provided to the FDEP for utilization within BMAP assessment



# OAWP Implementation of SB 712

- **BMP Research Solicitation**
- **Human Resources**
  - 8 additional FTEs
  - Prioritize IVs in targeted BMAPs
  - Update training and staff guidance on enrollment and implementation verification
- **Implementation Verification**
  - Record retention pursuant to IV visits initiated July 1, 2020
  - Development of NARF for utilization on IV visits to retain nutrient application information
- **Rule Making**



# OAWP Implementation of SB 712

## Producer Outreach

- FAQs Document
- Technical Assistance under development
- Video Assistance under development
- Continued collaboration with UF/IFAS Extension to raise awareness



Commissioner Nicole "Nikki" Fried

Pay/Register Online Forms By Topic Our Department

Home / Agriculture Industry / Water / Agricultural Water Policy FAQ

### Agricultural Water Policy FAQ

Frequently asked questions about the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services' (FDACS) Office of Agricultural Water Policy, Best Management Practices (BMPs), and other topics

For information on the passage of Senate Bill 712 and new requirements for agricultural producers and landowners enrolled in the FDACS BMP program, see our [Senate Bill 712 FAQ](#) [PDF 2.7 MB].

For more information about BMPs, see our [Agricultural BMPs FAQ](#) [PDF 1.4 MB].

Select a question below to expand the answer.

- > **What programs are administered by the FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy?**
- > **What is a BMP?**
- > **Are landowners required to implement BMPs?**
- > **How are BMPs adopted?**
- > **Does the FDACS Office of Agricultural Water Policy participate in BMP research and demonstration projects?**

**Water**

- [Agricultural Best Management Practices](#)
- [Agricultural Permit Exemption Determinations](#)
- [Agricultural Water Policy FAQ](#)
- [Agricultural Water Supply Planning](#)
- [Mobile Irrigation Labs](#)
- [Office of Agricultural Water Policy](#)

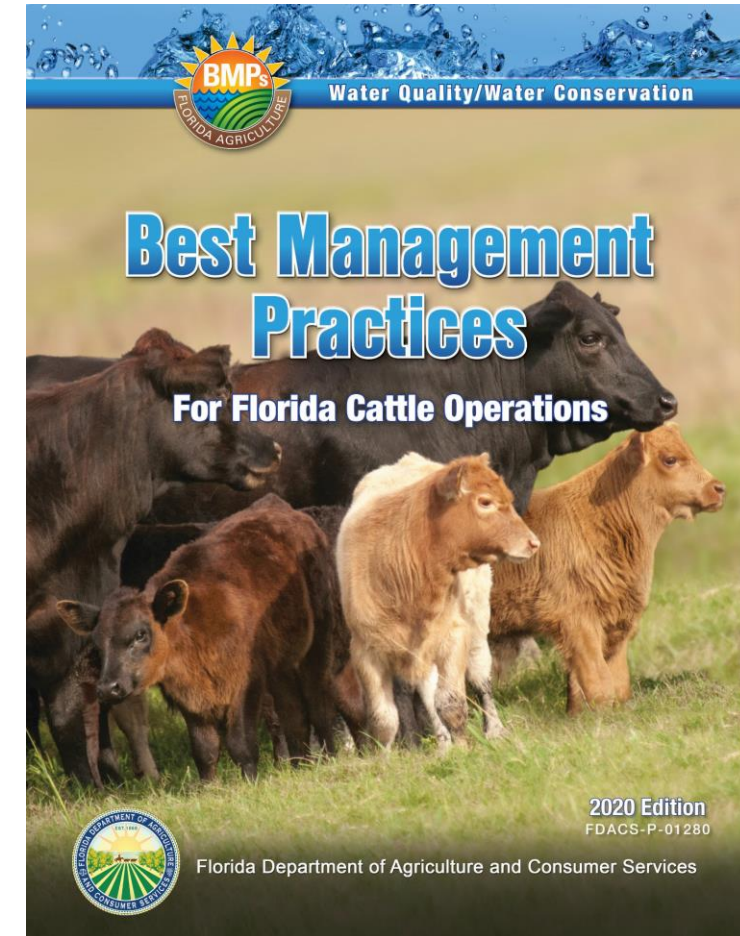
# Chapter 5M-1 Rule Revisions

- Update language for consistency with SB 712
- Definitions (5M-1.001)
- Implementation Verification (5M-1.008)
  - “collect and review” records for compliance
  - “collect and retain” NARF or substantially similar records
- BMP Implementation Assistance (5M-1.009)
  - Update timeframes for corrective action implementation and referral to FDEP for compliance/enforcement



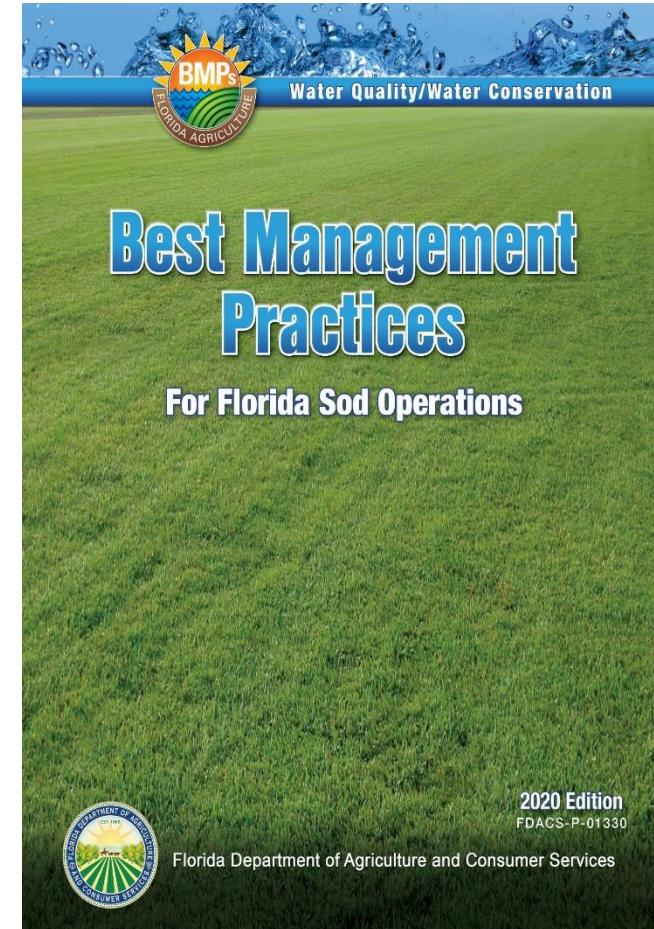
# Upcoming BMP Manual Revisions

- Revision of the 2008 Cow/Calf BMP Manual
- Manual has been initially verified as effective by FDEP
- Will require revision to Rule 5M-11, F.A.C. to adopt manual by reference

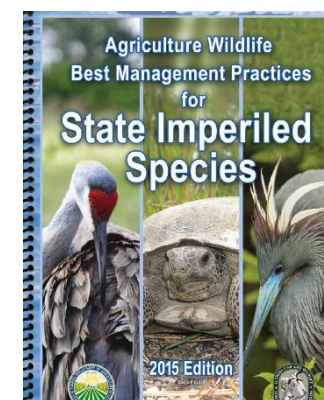
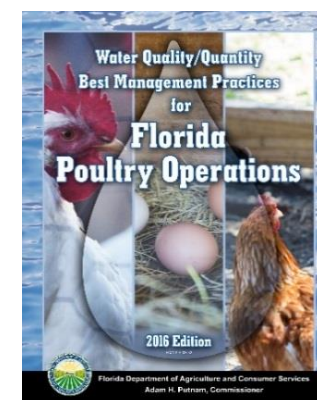
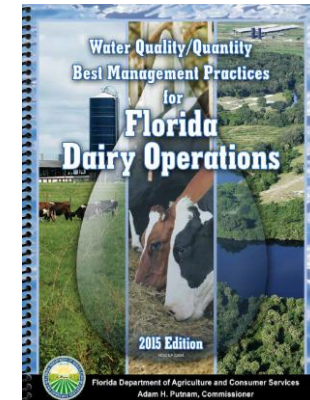
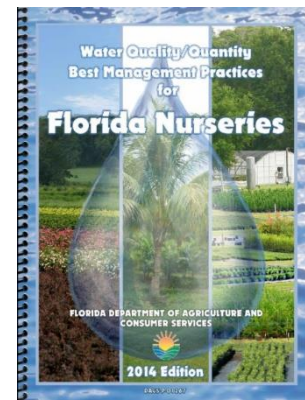
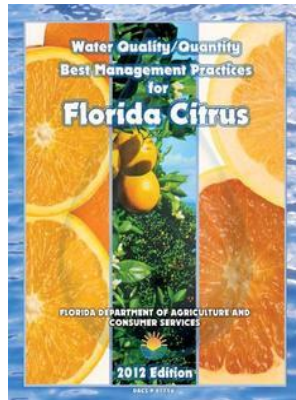
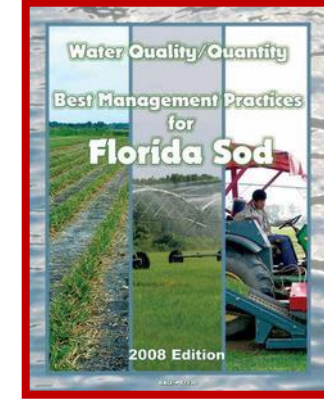
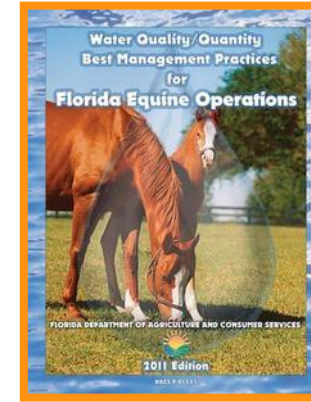
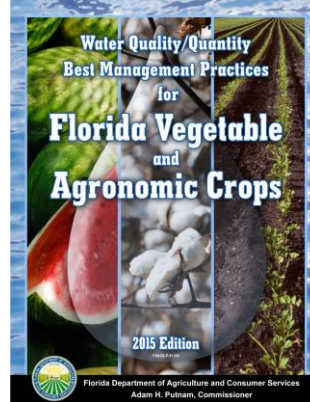
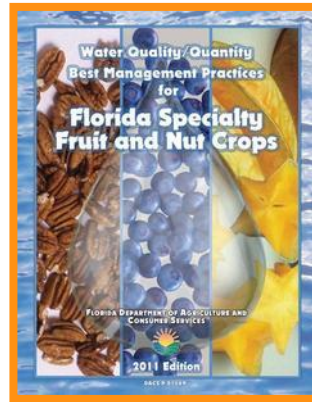
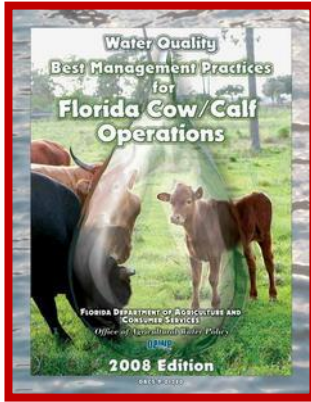


# Upcoming BMP Manual Revisions

- Revision of the 2008 Sod BMP Manual
- Includes new 4Rs narrative in nutrient management section and reformatted BMP Checklist that contains all BMPs within three sections
- Manual has been initially verified as effective by FDEP
- Will require revision to Rule 5M-9, F.A.C. to adopt manual by reference



# Adopted BMP Manuals



\*\* Manuals to be developed – Hemp and Diversified Operations

Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services

# 2020 FDACS Legislative Report

## Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services Office of Agricultural Water Policy



## Status of Implementation of Agricultural Nonpoint Source Best Management Practices

July 1, 2020

Report to the Governor, the President of the Senate, and the Speaker of the House  
Pursuant to Section 403.0675(2), F.S.

Publication No: FDACS-P-01924 07/20



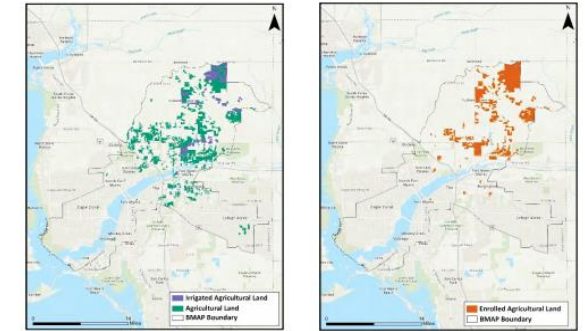
## Status of Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) Statewide

| Enrollment and Response Summary           | 2019      | Change from 2018 |
|-------------------------------------------|-----------|------------------|
| Total agricultural acres statewide        | 7,104,219 |                  |
| Total agricultural acres enrolled         | 3,983,488 |                  |
| Percentage of agricultural acres enrolled | 56%       | 2%               |
| Total irrigated acres                     | 1,887,858 |                  |
| Total irrigated acres enrolled            | 1,501,671 |                  |
| Percentage of irrigated acres enrolled    | 80%       | 4%               |

### Agricultural Acres Enrolled

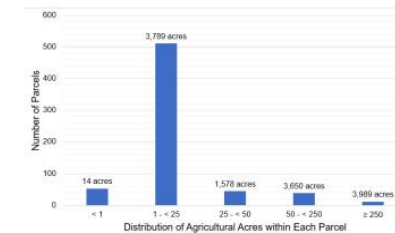
| BMP Manuals                            | Acres            |
|----------------------------------------|------------------|
| Citrus                                 | 492,937          |
| Conservation Plan Rule                 | 189,104          |
| Cow/Calf                               | 1,422,515        |
| Dairy                                  | 56,877           |
| Equine                                 | 14,897           |
| Fruit & Nut                            | 17,423           |
| Lake Okeechobee Protection Plan (LOPP) | 29,610           |
| Multiple Commodities                   | 626,091          |
| Nursery                                | 33,047           |
| Poultry                                | 1,143            |
| Row/Field Crops                        | 1,065,884        |
| Sod                                    | 33,344           |
| Wildlife                               | 616              |
| <b>TOTAL</b>                           | <b>3,983,488</b> |

## Status of Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the Caloosahatchee Estuary Basin<sup>23</sup>



Agricultural Lands in BMAP Area Enrolled Agricultural Lands in BMAP Area

| Enrollment and Response Summary           | 2019   | Change from 2018 |
|-------------------------------------------|--------|------------------|
| Total agricultural acres in the BMAP      | 33,938 |                  |
| Total agricultural acres enrolled         | 20,917 |                  |
| Percentage of agricultural acres enrolled | 62     | 5%               |
| Total irrigated acres                     | 6,607  |                  |
| Total irrigated acres enrolled            | 5,866  |                  |
| Percentage of irrigated acres enrolled    | 89     | 15%              |



### Agricultural Acres Enrolled

| BMP Manuals          | Acres         |
|----------------------|---------------|
| Citrus               | 0             |
| Cow/Calf             | 7,421         |
| Equine               | 0             |
| Fruit and Nut        | 31            |
| Multiple Commodities | 12,952        |
| Nursery              | 212           |
| Row/Field Crops      | 35            |
| Sod                  | 266           |
| <b>TOTAL</b>         | <b>20,917</b> |

<sup>23</sup> Characteristics and metrics for this BMAP will be significantly different in the next report as the BMAP area was expanded in the 2020 BMAP update.

# Questions?

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