

St. Lucie BMAP Annual Meeting

February 4, 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 St. Lucie BMAP

- 82% of all agricultural acres are enrolled in the BMP program
- 91% of all irrigated agricultural acres are enrolled in the BMP program
- Majority of enrollments are Cow/Calf and Row/Field Crop



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



Statutory Language in SB 712

s. 403.067(c)7(d)3, F.S.

At least every 2 years, the Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall perform onsite inspections of each agricultural producer that enrolls in a best management practice to ensure that such practice is being properly implemented. Such verification must include a collection and review of the best management practice documentation from the previous 2 years required by rules adopted pursuant to subparagraph (c)2., including, but not limited to, nitrogen and phosphorus fertilizer application records, which must be collected and retained pursuant to subparagraphs (c)3., 4., and 6. The Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services shall initially prioritize the inspection of agricultural producers located in the basin management action plans for Lake Okeechobee, the Indian River Lagoon, the Caloosahatchee River and Estuary, and Silver Springs.



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](#)

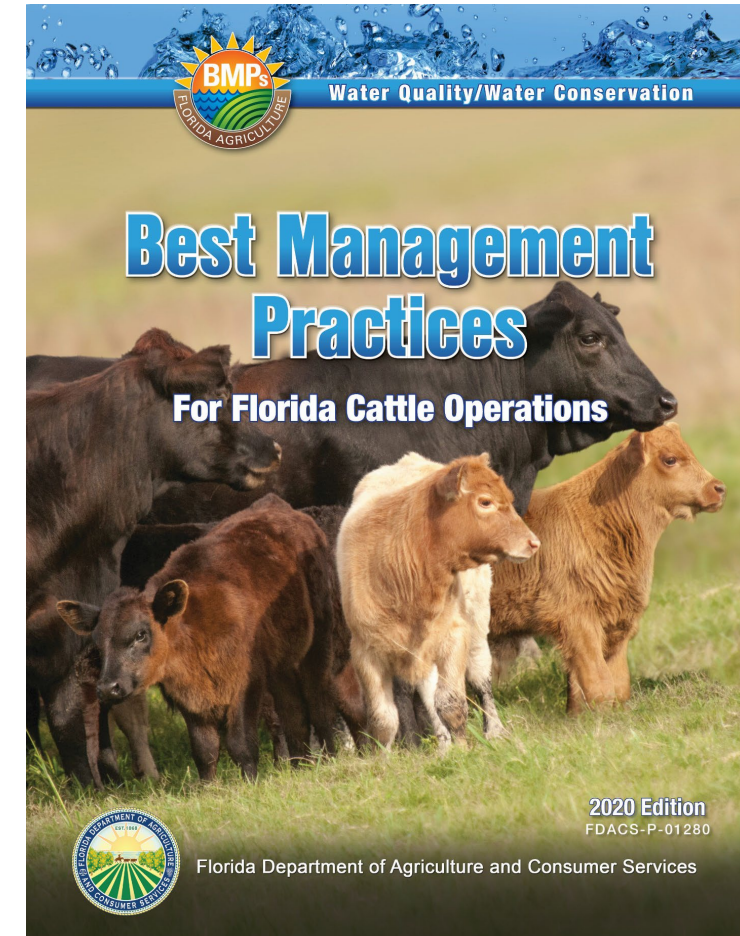
Chapter 5M-1 Rule Revisions

- 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



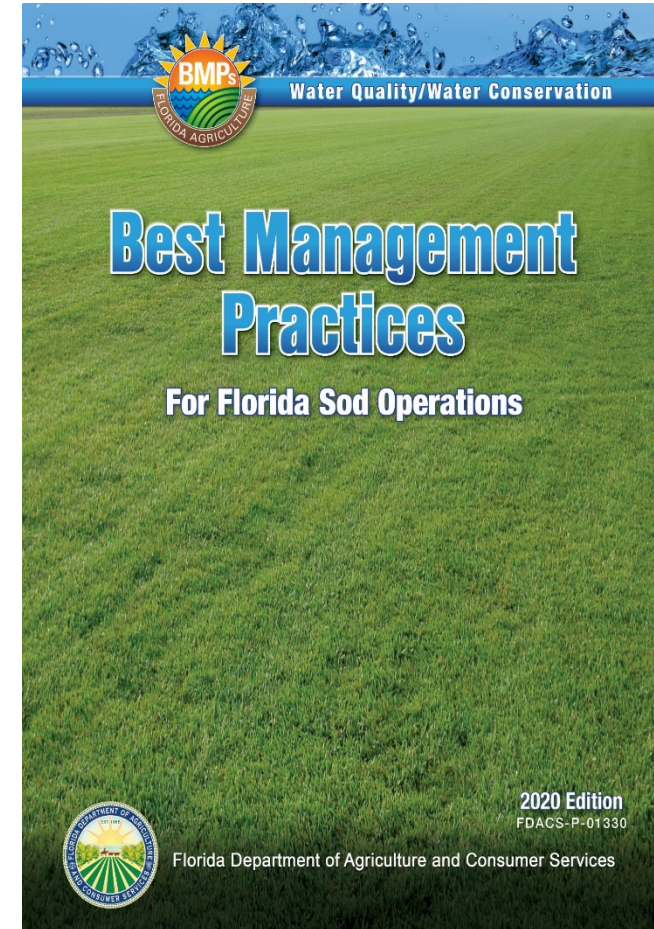
Upcoming BMP Manual Revisions

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

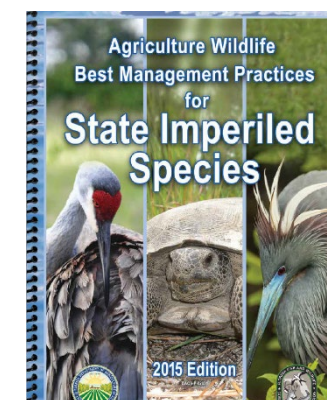
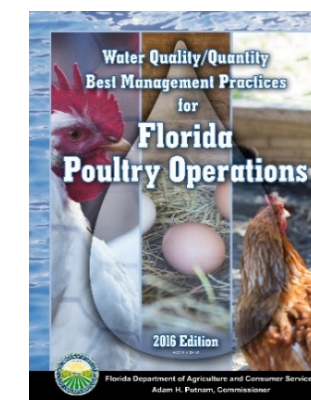
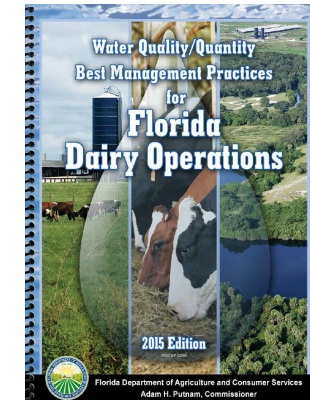
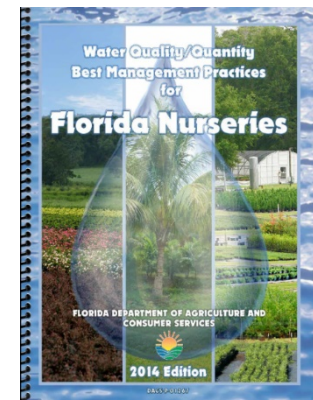
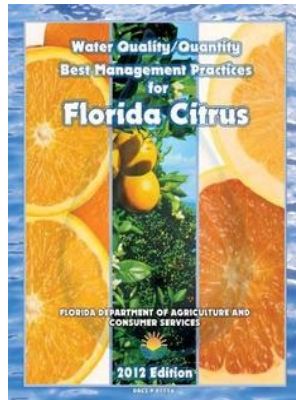
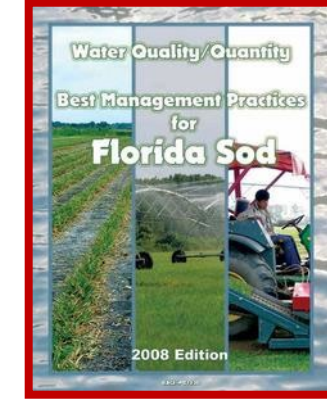
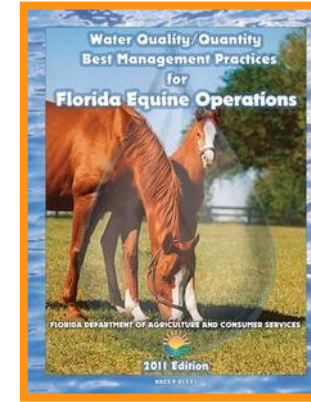
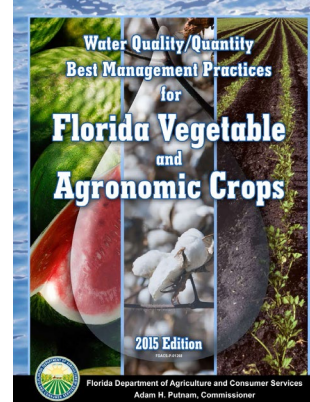
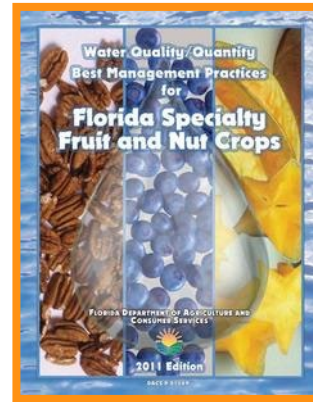
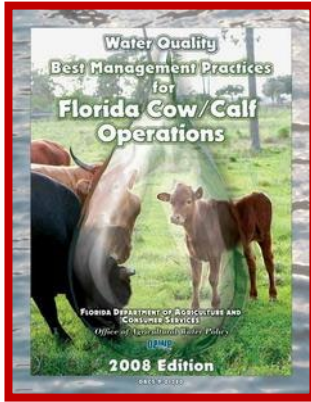


Upcoming BMP Manual Revisions

- 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

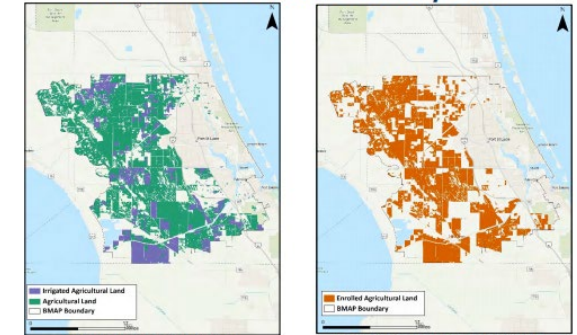
Status of Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) Statewide

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
TOTAL	3,983,488

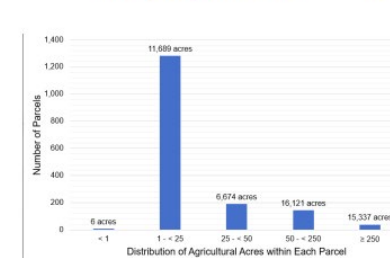
Status of Implementation of Agricultural Best Management Practices (BMPs) in the St. Lucie River and Estuary Basin²⁴



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	243,192	
Total agricultural acres enrolled	193,365	
Percentage of agricultural acres enrolled	80%	18%
Total irrigated acres	61,053	
Total irrigated acres enrolled	53,146	
Percentage of irrigated acres enrolled	87%	8%



Agricultural Acres Enrolled

BMP Manuals	Acres
Citrus	21,308
Cow/Calf	112,372
Dairy	529
Equine	120
Fruit & Nut	44
LOPP	162
Multiple Commodities	22,489
Nursery	282
Poultry	42
Row/Field Crops	33,504
Sod	2,513
TOTAL	193,365

24. Characteristics and metrics for this BMAP will be significantly different in the next report as the BMAP area was expanded in the 2020 FDEP update.

Questions?

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