

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

CVILC Farm Plan

Last Updated on October 5, 2023

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I do not apply any nitrogen. Do I still need to complete the Farm Plan?

- a. Yes. The Regional Water Board requires all growers to submit a Farm Plan to the Coalition annually, even if no nitrogen or pesticides are applied.

What is a Management Unit?

- a. Management Units are a way to track which field you are reporting and gives you the option to group fields together when they are the same crop, same age category, are treated with the same amount of nitrogen, have the same irrigation method, and have the same yield. Age categories are 1 year, 2 year, 3 years, 4 years, and greater than 4 years.
 - i. For Example: If a grower has 15 parcels and 5 parcels have 1st leaf, non-bearing almonds, a grower may list all 5 parcel Management Units as NB young almonds. This allows the growers to answer questions one time for those 5 parcels instead of entering the same information 5 times.
 - ii. A video overview of how to use Management Units is linked in the Farm Plan section on the membership portal.

How do I report the crop age for an orchard with mixed ages?

- a. Depending on your situation you can give the age of the majority of trees. If you have areas/sections of your farm that are of a similar age you can separate out that information by acreage. Wherever possible, try to report areas with differences in yields separately, such as immature sections that are not in full production.
- b. Example of providing an age based on the majority of the acreage:
 - iii. A 100-acre parcel with mostly 10-year old trees has a small area with 6-year old trees. The younger trees are mixed in with the older orchard which is still about 80% 10-year old trees and nitrogen is applied based on the needs of the older trees. The age would be reported as "10 years".
- c. Example of splitting out your information by acreage:
 - iv. A 100-acre parcel contains 40 acres of 10-year old trees, 20 acres of 6-year old trees and 20 acres of immature trees (less than 5 years old). The nitrogen applied and the harvested yield would be reported for each of the acreages: 40 acres (10-year old trees), 20 acres (6-year old trees) and 20 acres (<5-year old trees).

If I am a PCA or CCA, how do I complete the Farm Plan on behalf of my client?

- a. The Farm Plan should be completed on your client's membership portal. You will need to login using your client's credentials.

What does "Crop Year" refer to?

- a. Crop Year (Harvest) is based on the calendar year in which the crop was harvested. Fertilization does not need to occur within the same calendar year to be considered part of the current crop year.

How do I complete the report accurately if I have a nursery instead of row/tree crops?

- a. Currently, the Regional Water Board approved reporting templates are geared towards row and tree crops. We are hopeful that nursery specific reporting templates will be approved in the future, but until that time nurseries have to do their best to answer the questions within the available template.
 - v. Nursery operations should utilize the Nursery, Potted and/or Nursery, Bare Root crop options for reporting. Nurseries should not be reported by the individual commodities that are grown.
 - vi. Estimate acreage per parcel of bareroot and potted, separately. Best estimate is sufficient.
 - vii. Growers should approach reporting nitrogen and yield on a best effort basis as it is understood it is difficult to report these values for nurseries.
 - viii. Yield should be reported as a best estimate of units sold, and management units can be built around this estimate.

My crop is not in the dropdown crop list.

- a. Please email contact.us@cvilc.org so that we can get your crop added to the list.

What constitutes a drinking water well?

- a. The Regional Water Board is using the following definition to define a drinking water well based on Central Valley ILRP requirements: “A drinking water well is a groundwater well that is used to provide water for cooking/drinking”.
- b. Therefore, sanitation use only wells are not part of the requirement.

Who do I contact if I need help?

- a. Our staff is happy to answer any questions you have via phone or email. Call 530-756-5200 ext. 1010, or email contact.us@cvilc.org.