



HAGGERTY CREEK LTD.

Crop Inputs and Marketing

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Fertilizer is an important input for growers providing nutrients to plants that are not readily available in the soil, helping growers to foster plant growth and increase yields.

The fertilizer industry has established the 4R Nutrient Stewardship framework in cooperation with government, researchers, customers, farm organizations, conservation groups and the public.

4R Nutrient Stewardship (Right Source @ Right Rate, Right Time, Right Place®) lets the world know when food has been sustainably grown. The framework balances grower, industry and government goals to improve on-farm economics, crop productivity and fertilizer efficiency while benefiting the environment.

Adjustments in the crop nutrient source and application rate, timing, and placement methods will support agricultural productivity while also helping to improve the water quality of the Great Lakes, specifically Lake Erie and its contributing watersheds.

By supporting the need to protect and restore the ecological health of significant water bodies, the Ontario agriculture industry is committed to being a part of the solution to ensuring the Great Lakes remain “drinkable, swimmable and fishable.” The industry recognizes the potential for regulations, the importance of environmental stewardship and its role in ensuring the proper use of fertilizer.

The 4R Ontario Steering Committee has developed and implemented a 4R Certification program in Ontario to support the adoption of 4R Nutrient Stewardship by specifying best practices for nutrient recommendations and nutrient application. The 4R Nutrient Stewardship Certification program is voluntary, and applies to Nutrient Service Providers working in the Lake Erie watershed region and all of Ontario, including agricultural retailers, agricultural service providers and certified professionals.

4R Certification in Ontario allows agri-retailers to align their business practices with the sustainability principles of 4R Nutrient Stewardship in order to provide their grower customers with the best in nutrient management advice to increase grower profitability and environmental stewardship.

Ask the Haggerty Creek staff about the 4R Nutrient Stewardship program today and the **Grower Signature Sheet**, and start implementing nutrient best management practices that can help you increase crop production and reduce nutrient loss. Researchers have recently proven several benefits from implementing 4R practices on Ontario farms, such as:

- Reducing greenhouse gas emissions by up to 75 per cent by combining the use of urea ammonium nitrate (UAN) with nitrification inhibitors at the eighth leaf growing stage of corn.
- Increasing corn yields by as much as 20 per cent and eliminating harmful ammonia loss to soil by combining injection placement with UAN fertilizer, compared to broadcasting.
- Reducing phosphorus runoff by 60 per cent by subsurface banding instead of broadcasting.

Sustainable farming is the future. In many cases, that future is already underway. Let's demonstrate how we are leaders in sustainable agriculture.

Further Best Management Practices and 4R information can be found at the following links or on our website:

4R BMP Guidance Tables | <https://fertilizercanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/4R-Guidance-Tables.pdf>

Nutrient Stewardship 4R Pocket Guide | <https://nutrientstewardship.org/4rs/>

4R Nutrient Stewardship NSP Certification Standards Manual | https://fertilizercanada.ca/wp-content/uploads/2021/03/fc_standards-manual2020_en_March-2021_vf.pdf

