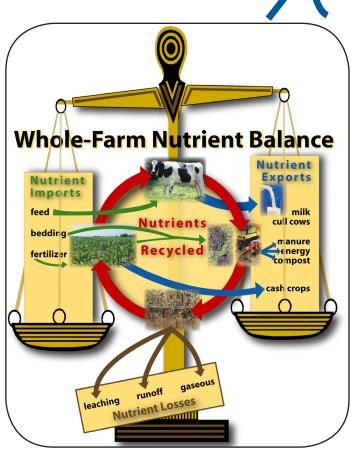
Is your dairy farm out of A balance?



Dairy producers balance ration nutrients for efficient milk production.

They balance soil nutrients for productive crops.

But what about the whole-farm nutrient balance?







Farms that import more nutrients than they export run the risk of an excess of nutrients, like

nitrogen and phosphorus, that have the potential to harm the environment.

Four ways to improve nutrient management on the farm:

- 1. Avoid excess feeding of protein and phosphorus by testing feeds and balancing rations.
- 2. Use collection and storage systems which enable you to capture manure nutrients.
- 3. When land applying manure, match crop and pasture requirements and choose a time and place where there is a low risk of nutrient loss (runoff, leaching).
- 4. Maximize manure distribution by animals when they are in the landscape; don't allow them to congregate in limited areas.

U.S. Dairy Forage Research Center USDA-Agricultural Research Service 1925 Linden Dr. West, Madison, WI 53706 608-890-0050 Source: J. Mark Powell, Soil Scientist Contact: Lori.Bocher@ars.usda.gov http://ars.usda.gov/mwa/madison/dfrc Material may be copied for educational purposes.

