



## USDA-CSREES 2005 National Water Quality Conference

### Farm Nutrient Management Assessment as Part of KARST Campaign

*Abstract: Situation: This is an extension education project.*

*Objectives: The primary objective of the project was for the KARST Campaign for Clean Water and Profitable Farms to be a bridge between a number of water quality education efforts ongoing in the Karst region of Minnesota to become more effective at providing information to producers and other citizens. This abstract discusses the survey and evaluation part of this project*

*Methods: Data are collected through individual on farm interviews.*

*Partnerships: Minnesota Department of Agriculture, Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, and the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources.*

*Resources: 406 extension education grant, equal in-kind staff efforts on the part of MDA staff.*

*Integration of Research, Teaching, and Extension:*

*Results:*

*The Minnesota Extension Service is assessing the Root River farmers through assessment of nutrient and pesticide use within these areas. The Department of Agriculture has developed a systematic approach, called the Farm Nutrient Management Assessment Program (FANMAP), to collect baseline information on farm nutrient use, specifically nitrogen, phosphorous, potash and pesticides within the South Branch of the Root River where farming is prevalent. Analyzing responses provides information such as comparison of the nutrient inputs from fertilizer, legumes, and manure, to the nutrient needs of the specific crop. Results will provide information to determine where education should be focused and changes need to be made. Through FANMAP analysis, we will discuss the differences between livestock farming and crop farming and the differences between different crop rotations and where reductions in fertilizer applications can be made.*

Author: James Anderson