



Cropping System Verification Standards For Nursery Crop and Christmas Tree Producers

A boxed risk level indicates the level required for environmental assurance verification.

Bold print indicates a violation of state or federal regulation.

Bold Italic print indicates conformance with Right-to-Farm guidelines.

(Revised 9/14/2011)

RISK QUESTION	LOW RISK – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	REFERENCE OR GUIDANCE DOCUMENT
Nutrient Management Practices				
1.01) How often are fields tested for nutrient levels (P, K, Ca, Mg and pH)?	<i>All fields are sampled and tested on a regular basis,</i> at 1 to 4 years, depending on crops being grown, and the cropping system.	Most fields are sampled and tested every 1 to 4 years. Producer plans to bring all field soil tests up to date.	Fields have not been tested within the past 4 years.	MSU Extension Bulletin: E-498S, Sampling Soils for Fertilizer and Lime Recommendations, frequency of soil sampling <i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Soil Fertility Testing, #29</i> <i>2011 RTF Nutrient Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Fertilization Practices for Land Application, Soil Fertility Testing and Tissue Analysis, #7</i>
1.02) Do soil sampling procedures adequately represent field conditions?	One composite sample taken from uniform field areas.		One composite sample taken from areas greater than 40 acres.	NRCS 590 Standards MSU Extension Bulletin: E-498, Sampling Soils for Fertilizer and Lime Recommendations
1.04) How are all sources of nutrients considered when making fertilization decisions?	<i>Credit taken for nutrients supplied by organic matter, legumes and manure or other biological materials</i> (biosolids). Fertilizer rates are reduced accordingly.	When organic matter, legumes, manure or other biological materials (biosolids, compost) are used, fertilizer rates are sometimes reduced.	When organic matter, legumes, manure or other biological materials (biosolids, compost) are used, rates are not reduced.	MSU Extension Bulletin: WQ-25, Nutrient Management to Protect Water Quality <i>2011 RTF Nutrient Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Fertilization Practices for Land Application, Nutrient Credits, #9</i>

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Nutrient Management Practices (continued)				
1.05) How are fertilizer application rates determined?	Consistent with Michigan State University (MSU) recommendations. When MSU recommendations are not available, other land-grant university recommendations developed for the region may be used.	Occasionally exceed MSU or equivalent recommendations.	Often or always exceed MSU or equivalent recommendations.	MSU Extension Bulletins: Christmas Tree and Nursery Fact Sheets 2011 RTF Nutrient Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Fertilization Practices for Land Application, Fertilizer Recommendations, #8
1.06) How are nutrient management plans for each field annually developed and followed?	Annual nutrient plan is developed for each field that meets crop nutrient needs and minimizes loss of nutrients to the environment.	A nutrient plan is developed each year, for each crop management block. Soil tests are up-to-date.	Nutrient plan not developed or the same plan used for more than 4 years.	
1.07) Is fertilizer application equipment checked for proper adjustment?	Application equipment checked annually for rate of application and placement. Over and under applications monitored and corrected.		Application equipment not checked.	2011 RTF Nutrient Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Fertilization Practices for Land Application, Fertilizer Application Equipment Adjustment, #14 Equipment Manufacturers Publications: ASAE Standards or Circular Z-138
1.08) What soil nutrient management records are kept?	Records of soil test reports and quantities of nutrients applied to individual fields are maintained. Also, crop performance evaluated.	Partial nutrient management records are kept. Complete nutrient management records will be kept in the future, for review at time of reverification.	Minimal or no nutrient management records kept.	2011 RTF Nutrient Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Fertilization Practices for Land Application, Recordkeeping, #13 RECORDS - Soil fertility tests and/or plant analysis results - Previous crop grown and yield harvested - Date(s) of nutrient application(s) - Nutrient composition of fertilizer or other material used - Amount of nutrient-supplying material applied per acre - Method of application and placement of applied nutrients - The name of the individual responsible for fertilizer applicator calibrating and the dates of calibration - Vegetative growth and cropping history of perennial crops.

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Nutrient Management Practices (continued)				
<p>1.09) When not in use, where are loaded planting and spray supply vehicles (trailers and trucks) parked to protect water resources from accidental fertilizer and pesticide spills and mischievous activities?</p>	<p>Supply vehicle is returned to a secure location when not in use. Fertilizer and pesticides (including treated seed) properly stored more than 150 feet down gradient from any well.</p>		<p>Fertilizer and pesticide (including treated seed) supply vehicle is left in an unsecured location or fertilizer and pesticides stored less than 150 feet from any well.</p>	<p>Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978, Part 127: Water Supply and Sewer Systems</p>
<p>1.10) How is manure and/or compost temporarily stacked in relation to surface water?</p>	<p><i>Manure</i> and/or compost stockpiles are kept a least 150 feet from surface waters or areas subject to flooding unless conservation practices are used to protect against runoff and erosion losses to surface waters.</p>		<p>Manure and/or compost stockpiles are closer than 150 feet to surface waters or areas subject to flooding, and conservation practices are not used to protect against runoff and erosion losses to surface waters.</p>	<p>NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 31: Water Resource Protection Act</p> <p><i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Odor Management, Stacked Solid Manure, #15 (General Guidance)</i></p>
<p>1.11) For temporarily stacked manure and/or compost, how is the site managed to protect surface water, groundwater, and/or neighboring properties?</p>	<p><i>Manure</i> and/or compost is managed in a manner to prevent runoff and/or leaching of nutrients to surface water or groundwater and to minimize odor impacts upon neighbors. Manure is stacked on impermeable surfaces (concrete, etc.) or compacted soils, and storage area contains a well-maintained barrier such as a wooden or concrete wall or earthen berm to trap runoff. Construction and management practices for composting are implemented using NRCS Composting Facility No. 317 standards.</p>	<p>Manure and/or compost is stacked on somewhat permeable, medium-textured soils. Partial or no barrier is used to trap runoff. However, runoff is diverted and passes through a vegetated filter strip or other treatment process.</p>	<p>Manure and/or compost is stacked on coarse-textured soils or above tile drains. No means of runoff or leachate control. Slope is toward surface water. Signs of runoff past perimeter of vegetated area or storage site, with runoff reaching surface water. Runoff and/or leachate discharge directly to surface water.</p>	<p>NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 31: Water Resource Protection Act</p> <p><i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Odor Management, Stacked Solid Manure, #15 (General Guidance)</i></p>

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Nutrient Management Practices (continued)				
1.12) How long is manure and/or compost stockpiled in the field?	<i>Manure is spread as soon as field and weather conditions allow, and does not exceed six months; or if covered with an impermeable cover, twelve months.</i>		Manure stockpiled for more than six months without a cover, or more than twelve months with an impermeable cover.	<i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Odor Management, Stacked Solid Manure, #15 (General Guidance)</i>
1.13) Is clean water or runoff diverted away from the manure and/or compost storage site?	Clean runoff is diverted.	Clean water is not diverted but is captured, treated, or stored.	Runoff is not diverted and is contaminated. Runoff water is not captured, treated or stored and discharges directly to surface water.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 31: Water Resource Protection Act <i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section II: Runoff Control And Wastewater Management, #2</i>
Field Phosphorus Management Practices				
1.16) How are phosphorus fertilization rates determined?	<i>Based on soil tests or plant tissue analysis using Michigan State University or equivalent recommended rates.</i> If soil phosphorus test reaches 150 ppm Bray P1, P application discontinued.	Phosphorus fertilization based on past practices, without regard to soil test P levels.	Phosphorus fertilization based on applying as much as is affordable.	<i>2011 RTF Nutrient GAAMPs, Section III: Fertilization Practices for Land Application, Phosphorus Management Practices, #11a</i>
1.18) How often is commercial phosphorus fertilizer applied on frozen or snow covered fields?	Phosphorus fertilizer is never broadcast on frozen or snow- covered fields.	<i>Broadcast applications avoided on frozen or snow covered fields</i> and are not part of the nutrient management plan.	Phosphorus fertilizer is often broadcast on frozen or snow covered fields.	<i>2011 RTF Nutrient Utilization GAAMPs, Section III: Fertilization Practices for Land Application, Phosphorus Management Practices, #11b</i>

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Manure Management Practices (If you do not use manure, skip this section.)				
1.19) What manure management records are maintained?	Complete application <i>records of manure analysis, soil test results and rates of manure application for individual fields are maintained.</i>	Partial manure application records have been kept. Complete manure application records will be kept in the future, for review at time of reverification.	Minimal or no records maintained.	<i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, #40</i> Additional records required are: - Dates(s) of manure incorporation - Weather conditions during application of manure - Field conditions during application of manure - Manure/wastewater quantities produced and nutrient analysis results - Records of rental or other agreements for application of manure/wastewater on land not owned by the producer - Records of manure/wastewater sold or given away to other landowners
1.20) How is the nutrient content of manure determined?	<i>Laboratory analysis for percent dry matter (solids), ammonium, and total N, P and K.</i>	Book values or standard nutrient content values used.	Manure nutrient content is unknown.	<i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Manure Analysis, #31</i>
1.21) How are desired manure application rates achieved?	Manure analysis (book value, manure test, or mass balance) and <i>field application rates are known.</i>		Manure application rate is not known.	<i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Method of Manure Application, #34</i>

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Manure Management Practices (continued)				
1.22) How is manure generally applied to fields?	<i>Manure is incorporated within 48 hours or injected into the soil, and/or conservation practices (residue management, rough tillage, cover crops, etc.) are used to protect against runoff and erosion losses to surface waters.</i>	Manure is generally surface-applied, and conservation practices are employed to reduce the risk of runoff.	Manure is applied in a manner that results in ponding, soil erosion losses, or manure runoff to adjacent property, drainage ditches discharges directly to surface water.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 31: Water Resource Protection Act <i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Method of Manure Application, #35</i>
1.23) How are streams, wetlands, farm ditches and other water bodies protected from manure runoff?	<i>Manure is injected or immediately incorporated. Or, surface applications are not done within 150 feet of surface water. Or, filter strips, riparian buffer strips, grassed waterways and other conservation practices are maintained between fields and surface waters on the farm and around surface water inlets.</i>	Conservation practices are maintained on some fields.	Manure is applied within 150 feet of surface waters and not incorporated without conservation practices. And/or, manure occasionally reaches neighbor's property.	<i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Method of Manure Application, #35</i>
1.24) How are manure phosphorus application rates managed?	<i>If Bray P1 reaches 150 ppm, manure applications discontinued.</i>		Manure application rates not based on soil test.	<i>2011 RTF Nutrient Utilization GAAMPs, Section VIII: Land Application of Conditionally-Exempted Organic By-Products, Composted Organic By-Products, and By-Product Liming Materials, #33</i> <i>2011 RTF Manure Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Manure Nutrient Loadings, #33</i>

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Manure Management Practices (continued)				
1.26) How are fields selected for manure spreading on frozen and snow-covered ground?	No winter applications.	Manure application risks index (MARI) is completed for each field receiving winter manure application. Fields receiving winter manure applications have met MARI criteria for Low or Very Low and <i>no liquid manure is applied on slopes greater than 3%, and no solid manure is applied to slopes over 6%.</i>	Applications are made to fields where runoff to water resources may occur.	NRCS MARI <i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Timing of Manure Application, #39</i>
1.27) How are field tiles managed to prevent manure discharge?	<i>Liquid manure is prevented from reaching tile lines.</i> Management practices are in place to prevent runoff to surface inlets. Tile line outlets are monitored.		Tile outlets are not monitored for manure discharge.	<i>2011 RTF Manure Management and Utilization GAAMPs, Section V: Manure Application to Land, Method of Manure Application, #36</i>
Biosolids Management Practices (If you do not use biosolids, skip this section.)				
1.29) Has nutrient content information on the biosolids applied to the farm or nursery been received?	Received laboratory analysis for percent dry matter (solids), ammonium N (NH ₄ -N), and total N,P and K and utilize nutrient credits when planning nutrient program.		Have not received any biosolids analysis information.	Michigan Part 24, Land Application of Biosolids Rules
1.30) How are the rates of biosolids (in gallons or dry tons per acre) and applied biosolids nutrients known?	Received actual application rated from the biosolids generator or its land application contractor. Nutrient rates are consistent with MSU or equivalent recommendations.		Have not received any biosolids rate or nutrient application information.	Michigan Part 24, Land Application of Biosolids Rules

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Soil and Water Conservation Practices				
2.01) Have environmentally sensitive areas been identified (land near surface water, highly erodible land, soils with high leaching or runoff potentials, wells, surface drains and inlets) that require additional management when applying nutrients and pesticides?	Environmentally sensitive areas are identified. Family members, employees and contractors are aware of and understand the management practices to protect these areas.	Some environmentally sensitive areas are identified.	Environmentally sensitive areas are not considered.	
2.02) Is soil erosion under control on the nursery fields?	Soil erosion losses are within tolerances as documented by the revised universal soil loss equation (RUSLE2) and the wind erosion prediction system (WEPS). Minimal evidence of erosion and no evidence of concentrated water flows. Cover crop may be in place.	<p>RUSLE2 and WEPS are run on fields that are not:</p> <p>In pasture or hay ground, or no-till planting systems.</p> <p>Receiving fall tillage, with >30% residue on less than 12% slopes.</p> <p>Receiving more than one pass fall tillage that leaves fields rough with >40% residue and less than 8% slopes.</p> <p>And regardless of fall tillage, spring tillage leaves > 20% residue.</p> <p>And for all of the above there is no evidence of sheet, rill or gully erosion.</p>	Excessive soil erosion is occurring on the farm.	NRCS RUSLE2 NRCS WEPS

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Pesticide Management Practices				
3.01) Are pesticides stored in the field?	Pesticides are not stored in the field.	Pesticides are stored in the field meeting all of the pesticide storage requirements from the FAS Section 3, Pesticide Storage and Handling.	Pesticides are stored throughout the year and do not meet all of the pesticide storage requirements from the FAS Section 3, Pesticide Storage and Handling.	2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, On Farm Storage and Containment of Pesticides
3.08) How are surface water and groundwater protected in and near fields from pesticide contamination?	Pesticide labels with groundwater and surface water advisory statements are followed.		Labeled directions are not followed. Spray applied adjacent to or over top of surface water, tile drain inlet or well. Field restrictions for shallow groundwater are ignored.	MDARD Pesticide Regulation 637: Pesticide Use Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA)
3.10) Are the purchasers and applicators of Restricted Use Pesticides (RUP) certified applicators?	<i>The purchaser and applicator of RUP comply with the certification requirements.</i>		Non-certified and unsupervised applicators use RUP.	RUP Certification Confirmed NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 83, Pesticide Control 2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices
3.12) If pesticides are mixed and loaded in the field, how are they handled?	A mixing and loading pad is used. Mixing and loading are done more than 150 feet from any well and more than 50 feet from surface waters.	Mixing and loading are done in different locations in the field, more than 150 feet from a private well, more than 800 feet from a public well, and more than 50 feet from surface waters. A mixing and loading pad is not used.	Pesticides are mixed and loaded at the same spot in the field year after year without a mixing and loading pad.	Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978, Part 127: Water Supply and Sewer Systems and/or Safe Drinking Water Act, Public Act 399 of 1976 MDEQ Water Bureau Criteria for reducing the 800-foot minimum well isolation distance for major sources of contamination without secondary containment.

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Pesticide Management Practices (continued)				
3.13) How are empty pesticide containers rinsed and disposed?	<i>Containers triple rinsed or power rinsed, punctured and returned to dealer, recycled, or taken to licensed landfill. Bags are returned to dealer or taken to licensed landfill.</i>	Disposal of empty containers and bags on the farm or nursery property.	Disposal of partially filled containers. Burning of container on the farm or nursery property.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 115: Solid Waste Management, and Part 55: Air Pollution Control Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) <i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Disposal of Pesticide Containers</i>
3.14) Do pesticide applicators read and follow the label instructions?	<i>Everyone using pesticides follows label and labeling instructions.</i>		Label and labeling instructions not always followed.	Federal Insecticide, Fungicide and Rodenticide Act (FIFRA) <i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Pesticide Labels</i>
3.16) Is a spill kit immediately available to pesticide applicators in the field?	<i>A spill kit, containing a shovel, absorbent material, PPE, and a container is immediately available.</i>		No spill kit is available or no plan is in place to contain spills.	MDARD Pesticide Regulation 637: Pesticide Use <i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Applications and Standards for Use</i>
3.17) How is excess spray mixture disposed?	<i>Spray mixture is applied to labeled site at or below labeled rate of application.</i>		Spray mixture dumped at farmstead or in nearby field or pond.	MDARD Pesticide Regulation 637: Pesticide Use <i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Excess Spray Mixtures and Rinsates</i>

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Pesticide Management Practices (continued)				
3.17A) How is the sprayer system rinsed?	<i>Sprayer system rinsed on pad or in field. Rinse water applied to labeled site at or below labeled rate of application.</i>		Sprayer rinsed out at farmstead. Rinse water dumped at farmstead or in nearby field or pond.	MDARD Pesticide Regulation 637: Pesticide Use <i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Excess Spray Mixtures and Rinsates</i>
3.18) How is the proper and safe operation of pesticide application equipment ensured?	<i>Equipment is correctly calibrated at least annually and leaks minimized to apply intended rate and distribution pattern.</i>		Pesticide application equipment not properly calibrated.	MDARD Pesticide Regulation 637: Pesticide Use <i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Equipment Use and Calibration</i>
3.19) How are pesticide applications assured to remain on-target and minimize off target pesticide spray drift?	<i>A written drift management plan is utilized that minimizes off target drift.</i>	Pesticide applications follow labeled instructions for target pests, but no drift management plan is utilized.	Spraying operations are completed regardless of weather conditions or forecast, and regardless of potential for off-target drift.	MDARD Pesticide Regulation 637: Pesticide Use <i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Applications and Standards For Use, #2, Pesticide Drift</i>

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Pesticide Management Practices (continued)				
<p>3.20) What pesticide application records are kept?</p>	<p><i>Accurate records maintained of all agricultural crop applications of pesticides for at least three years.</i></p>	<p>Partial pesticide records kept. Plan to maintain complete pesticide application records.</p>	<p>No record is kept. Chemicals used are known by memory or invoices only.</p>	<p><i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Record Keeping (See Table)</i> USDA Federal Record Keeping Regulations Worker Protection Standards RECORDS: - Date of application - Time of application - Pesticide brand/product name - Pesticide formulation - EPA registration number - Active ingredient(s) - Restricted-entry interval - Rate per acre or unit - Crop, commodity, stored product, or site that received the application - Total amount of pesticide applied - Size of area treated - Applicator's name - Applicator's certification number - Location of the application - Method of application - Target pest - Carrier volume/acre</p>
<p>3.22) How are agriculture pollution emergencies handled?</p>	<p>Call 911, sheriff, fire or emergency services department for personal safety issues. <i>All uncontained spills or releases should be reported to the MDARD Agriculture Pollution Emergency Hotline: 1-800-405-0101</i>, or the MDEQ Pollution Emergency Alerting System: 1-800-292-4706.</p>		<p>No contact to state or local authorities. Spill discharges directly to surface water.</p>	<p><i>2011 RTF Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control GAAMPs, Section II: Pesticide Utilization and Pest Control Practices, Agriculture Pollution Emergencies</i> NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 31: Water Resource Protection Act</p>

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Irrigation Management Practices (If you do not use irrigation, skip this section.)				
System Management				
4.01) Have all irrigation systems been evaluated for application uniformity?	<i>All irrigation systems have been evaluated for uniformity.</i> Corrections are made to the system to improve uniformity.	Some irrigation systems have been evaluated for uniformity. Remainder of systems scheduled to be evaluated.	Irrigation system uniformity has not been evaluated.	<i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, System Management, #2</i>
4.02) Are all sprinkler systems operated to minimize drift and off-target application?	<i>All sprinkler systems operated to minimize drift and off-target application.</i> No off- target irrigation application present.	Most sprinkler systems operated to minimize drift and off-target application. Few off-target irrigation applications occur.	Sprinkler systems often operated under windy conditions. Water sprayed over roads, adjacent property or structures.	<i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, System Management, #1</i>
Record Keeping				
4.04) Are proper irrigation system management records collected and retained for use in decision-making and for reference in case of complaints?	The following irrigation system management records are collected and retained: <i>-Crop type and location</i> <i>-Source of the water used</i> <i>-Date, method and amount of each irrigation water application</i> <i>-All system inspections and repairs that influence uniformity and leaks</i> <i>-Calibration of fertigation and chemigation equipment if used</i> <i>-Records on system uniformity evaluation</i>	Most of irrigation system management records are collected and retained. Plan to maintain complete irrigation records.	Few or no irrigation system management records are collected and retained.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 327: Great Lakes Preservation <i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, Record Keeping, #7-10</i>

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Irrigation Scheduling				
<p>4.05) How is irrigation scheduling used to determine when it is necessary to irrigate and how much water should be applied during each irrigation event?</p>	<p>Irrigation water is scheduled on the basis of: <i>-Available soil water for each unit scheduled</i> <i>-Depth of rooting for each crop irrigated</i> <i>- Container capacity for container-grown nursery crops</i> <i>-Allowable soil moisture depletion at each stage of crop growth</i> <i>-Measured, estimated, or published evapotranspiration data to determine crop water use</i> <i>-Measure rainfall in each field irrigated</i></p>	<p>Irrigation water is scheduled on the basis of observed soil moisture content and/or daily water crop usage.</p>	<p>Irrigation water applied at a set rate per week if no precipitation is received.</p>	<p><i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, Irrigation Scheduling, #11-17</i></p>
<p>4.06) Is there a rain gauge in every irrigated field?</p>	<p><i>Every field being managed for irrigation has a rain gauge in the field.</i></p>	<p>Most fields have a rain gauge; plan to have gauge in all fields.</p>	<p>No rain gauges.</p>	<p><i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, Irrigation Scheduling, #17 (General Guidance)</i></p>
Application practices to avoid runoff and leaching				
<p>4.07) Is irrigation water runoff and ponding minimized?</p>	<p><i>Sprinkler application rates are below the soil infiltration rate.</i> Nutrient leaching is minimized.</p>	<p>Most sprinkler application rates are below the soil infiltration rate. Some runoff and/or ponding is present.</p>	<p>Sprinkler application rates exceed the soil infiltration rate. Runoff and/or ponding is commonly visible.</p>	<p><i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, Application Practices, #20</i></p>

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Application practices to avoid runoff and leaching (continued)				
4.08) Are appropriate backflow prevention devices in place and properly maintained if fertigation or chemigation is used?	<i>Appropriate backflow prevention safety devices are used</i> and properly maintained if fertigation or chemigation is used.	Backflow prevention devices are almost always used and/or properly maintained.	Backflow prevention devices are not used and/or properly maintained.	<i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, Application Practices, #22</i>
Wellhead Protection				
4.10) Is the irrigation well adequately protected from contamination from pesticides and fertilizers?	<i>Anti-backflow device is installed</i> , and agricultural chemical/fertilizer storage and preparation areas are at least 150 feet from the well.	<i>Anti-backflow device is installed</i> , agricultural chemical/fertilizer storage and preparation areas have secondary containment, but storage and preparation areas are less than 150 feet from the well.	No anti-backflow device , no secondary containment and less than 150 feet isolation distance from irrigation well.	Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978, Part 127: Water Supply and Sewer Systems <i>2011 RTF Irrigation Water Use GAAMPs, Section II: Generally Accepted Agricultural and Management Practices for Irrigation Water Use, Application Practices, #22</i>
Water Use Reporting				
5.01) If the groundwater and surface water pumps have a combined capacity to pump more than 100,000 gallons per day (70 gallons per minute) for agricultural purposes, have you registered and reported water use to the State of Michigan?	Pump capacity is less than 100,000 gallons per day (70 gallons per minute). Or, Register and report annual water use to Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development.		Pump capacity is greater than 100,000 gallons per day (70 gallons per minute) and water use is not reported to the State of Michigan.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 327: Great Lakes Preservation
5.02) Is there an unused well located in the cropping area?	No unused well, or abandoned well properly sealed.		Unused, unsealed well in cropping area.	Public Health Code, Public Act 368 of 1978, Part 127: Water Supply and Sewer Systems

RISK QUESTION	Low Risk – 3 (RECOMMENDED)	MEDIUM RISK – 2 (POTENTIAL HAZARD)	HIGH RISK - 1 (SIGNIFICANT HAZARD)	REFERENCE OR GUIDANCE DOCUMENT
Nursery Container Management (If you do not have containers, please skip.)				
Irrigation				
6.01) What happens to runoff in areas with containers?	Runoff is collected, filtered and/or treated and reused.	Runoff does not pond and does not enter surface water.	Runoff is not collected and directly discharges to surface water.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 31: Water Resource Protection Act
Site				
6.10) How are old and unused plant containers and trays disposed?	Containers are recycled or reused appropriately.	Containers are disposed at a licensed landfill or stored on site.	Empty and partially filled containers burned or disposed of on the farm.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 115: Solid Waste Management
6.11) How is used poly from overwintering houses disposed?	Poly is recycled through a recycling company or offered to others for reuse.	Poly is disposed of in a licensed land fill or stored on site.	Poly is burned on site.	NREPA PA 451 of 1994, Part 115: Solid Waste Management
Other Environmental Risks in the Cropping System				
7.01) Are there other activities, products, processes/equipment, services, byproducts, and/or wastes in the cropping areas that pose contamination risks to groundwater or surface water?	No risk(s) identified.	Risk(s) identified and plan to mitigate the contamination risk(s).	No plan to mitigate contamination risk(s).	