

About S.T.A.R.

- The Stewardship committee of Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District have developed a FREE tool to assist farm operators to evaluate their own nutrient loss management practices and to promote “best management practices” on individual fields.
- The S.T.A.R. evaluation system assigns points for each cropping, tillage, nutrient application, and soil conservation activity on individual fields. The rating ranges from 1 to 5 stars.



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S.aving
T.omorrow's
A.griculture
R.esources

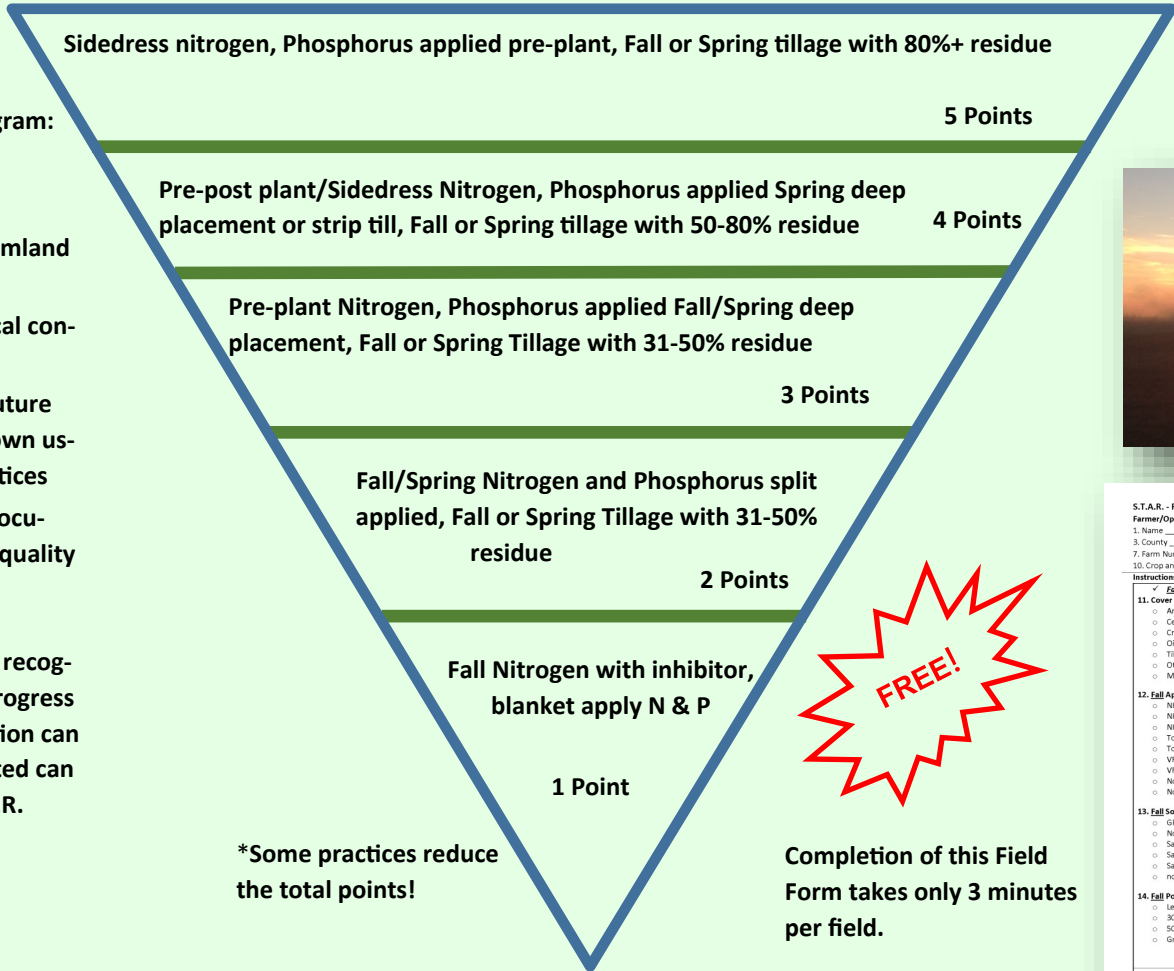


Trademarked by:





Listed below are some practices utilized in the rating system and the points that could be assigned: *



Potential benefits of using this program:

- Increase net farm income
- Decrease nutrient loss
- Promote producers for new farmland leases
- Assist producers in securing local conservation cost share
- Assist producers in obtaining future market premiums for crops grown using conservation cropping practices
- Assist producers in obtaining documentation in support of water quality issues

Participants of this program will be recognized by the community for their progress in showing that agriculture production can be sustainable. Each field that is rated can have a sign that indicates the S.T.A.R. rating at no cost to the farmer.

*Some practices reduce the total points!

Completion of this Field Form takes only 3 minutes per field.



S.T.A.R. - Field Form - 2017
Farmer/Operator Information

1. Name _____ 2. Field name/acres _____
3. County _____ 4. Township _____ 5. Section _____ 6. Range _____
7. Farm Number _____ 8. Tract Number _____ 9. Watershed _____
10. Crop and Year _____

Instructions: check mark those cropping, nutrient, cover crop and tillage activities you utilize on an individual field.

<p>11. Cover crops (check all that apply)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Annual ryegrass <input type="checkbox"/> Cereal rye <input type="checkbox"/> Crimson clover <input type="checkbox"/> Oilseed <input type="checkbox"/> Tillage radishes with or without oats <input type="checkbox"/> Other cover crop species _____ <input type="checkbox"/> Mix _____ 	<p>15. Winter Applied Nutrient Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Phosphorus (0-46-0, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Potash <input type="checkbox"/> None applied
<p>12. Fall Applied Nutrient Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> NH₃ with no inhibitor <input type="checkbox"/> NH₃ with inhibitor <input type="checkbox"/> NH₃ applied with temperatures above 50 degrees <input type="checkbox"/> Total N needs fall applied <input type="checkbox"/> Total P needs fall applied (0-46-0, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> VRT applied N <input type="checkbox"/> VRT applied P <input type="checkbox"/> No N applied <input type="checkbox"/> No P applied 	<p>16. Spring Applied Nutrient Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Phosphorus (0-46-0, etc.) <input type="checkbox"/> Potash <input type="checkbox"/> None applied
<p>13. Fall Soil Sampling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> GPS Soil Sampling <input type="checkbox"/> Non GPS Soil Sampling <input type="checkbox"/> Sample every 3 years or less <input type="checkbox"/> Sample every 4 years <input type="checkbox"/> Sample more than 4 years <input type="checkbox"/> none 	<p>17. Spring Applied Nutrient Activities</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> N split applied Fall and Spring <input type="checkbox"/> Total N needs applied preplant <input type="checkbox"/> N split applied pre and post planting <input type="checkbox"/> N total needs are side dressed <input type="checkbox"/> P applied preplant <input type="checkbox"/> P applied with planter <input type="checkbox"/> No N applied <input type="checkbox"/> No P applied
<p>14. Fall Post-Fieldwork Residue Coverage (check one)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 30% <input type="checkbox"/> 30%-50% <input type="checkbox"/> 50%-80% <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than 80% 	<p>18. Crop Rotation</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Corn-soybean <input type="checkbox"/> Continuous corn <input type="checkbox"/> Continuous soybean <input type="checkbox"/> Any rotation with small grain <input type="checkbox"/> Any rotation with forage
<p>20. In Field Conservation and Management Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Stream grass filter strip <input type="checkbox"/> Terraces/contours <input type="checkbox"/> Saturated buffers <input type="checkbox"/> Bioreactors <input type="checkbox"/> Field edge planting <input type="checkbox"/> Pollinator plantings <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ 	<p>19. Spring Soil Sampling</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> GPS Soil Sampling <input type="checkbox"/> Non GPS Soil Sampling <input type="checkbox"/> Sample every 3 years or less <input type="checkbox"/> Sample every 4 years <input type="checkbox"/> Sample more than 4 years <input type="checkbox"/> none
<p>21. Tillage Practices</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Fall conventional <input type="checkbox"/> Fall mulch till <input type="checkbox"/> Fall strip till <input type="checkbox"/> Fall no till <input type="checkbox"/> Other _____ 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <input type="checkbox"/> Spring conventional <input type="checkbox"/> Spring mulch till <input type="checkbox"/> Spring reduce till <input type="checkbox"/> Spring strip till <input type="checkbox"/> Spring no till

1/2/18 Champaign County Soil and Water Conservation District



Not all management practices are listed above. Feel free to give us a call at 217-352-3536 ext. 3 if you want to learn more about the S.T.A.R. program.