

LIV3 Effective Organic Nutrients

Why is this good for water quality?

The aim

Making better use of manures or slurries through either yard-based equipment, additives or precision application techniques can significantly reduce nutrient losses to watercourses. These practices improve soil structure and organic matter, enhancing water infiltration and reducing surface runoff and erosion. Healthy soils with active microbial life also help to breakdown pollutants more effectively, further protecting water quality.

Why is this good for my farm?

Organic manures release nutrients slowly, improving plant growth and reducing the need for synthetic fertilisers. Organic manures offer a cost saving on inorganic nutrient sources and provide a varied profile of nutrients. Better soil structure makes land easier to work and more resilient to drought, while increased microbial activity boosts nutrient availability. Over time, this leads to healthier crops, improved yields, and a more sustainable farming system.

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Payment Rate: 50% of cost, up to £5,000

Specification

- This option is designed to fund projects that will enable better use of manures or slurries; this could range from yard-based equipment to allow the export of nutrient forms to the accurate placement of nutrients in field.
- Bokashi along with other composting techniques are good examples of improving the use of manure by retaining nutrients, but often the practice requires additional additives of equipment to complete.
- Equipment to separate or make nutrients more easily distributed to the correct locations is permitted.
- The project must facilitate the effective placement or transfer of nutrients to an area where they are required, this should be supported by a nutrient management plan (NMP).
- A demonstrable impact on nutrient balances must be achieved, improve the retention of nutrients within manure heaps.
- The option cannot be used to fund legislative requirements such as storage bases and tanks.
- For applications over £5000 value, proposals must be discussed with advisor and be proportional to land within catchment.
- Applicants are expected to complete the action in a way that could be reasonably expected to achieve the actions aim.
- Funded once per farm, per 5-year (2025-2030) period.

Evidence to apply

- Before images if appropriate
- Quotes for work or equipment
- Maps to show field heap location if applicable
- Yard drainage plans

Evidence to claim

- After images of completed works
- Invoices for works or equipment
- Spreading risk maps
- NMP
- Manure analysis