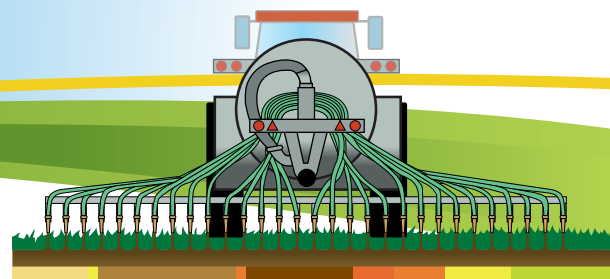


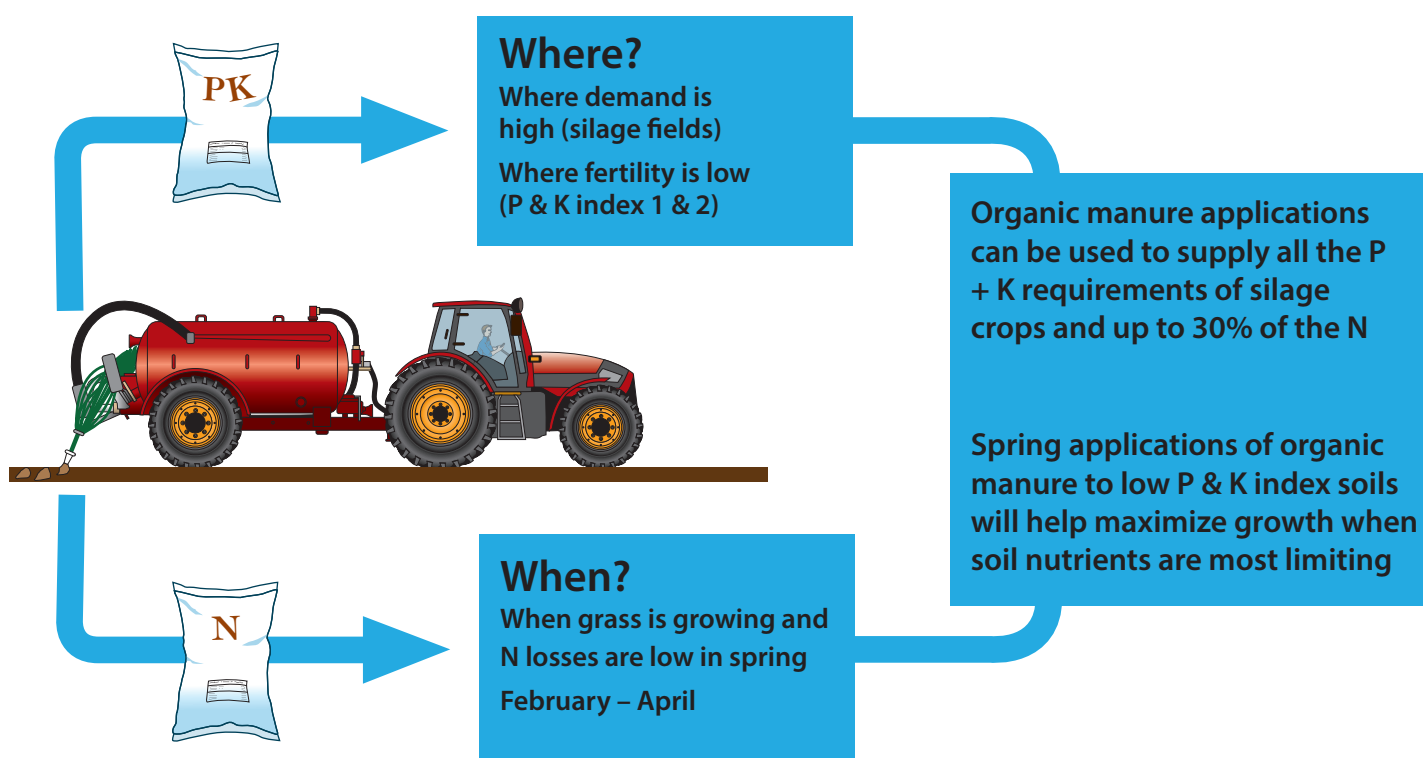
Soils, Nutrients and Fertiliser Factsheet

Organic Manure

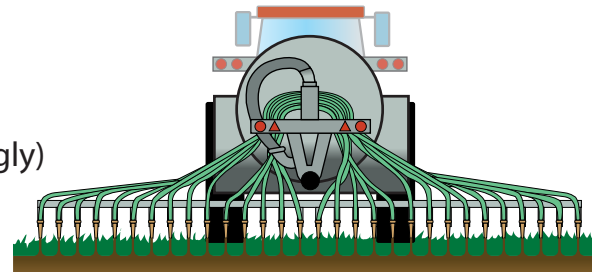


Organic manure is a valuable source of plant nutrients. The key aim is to maximise the value of slurry, i.e. get the most from its P and K content as well as N. This will be achieved by making sure that it goes to the right place at the right time at the right rate

- P & K – Right Place – Spread on fields/paddocks where fertility is low and where the nutrient demand is highest (e.g. silage field)
- N – Right Time – Spread when potential N losses are low and the potential for uptake by a growing crop is high (February to April)
- Method – Use a Low Emission Slurry Spreader



Plan your slurry application



- 1 Calculate the amount of slurry available
- 2 Assess nutrient value in the slurry (adjust rate accordingly)
- 3 Prioritise silage ground
- 4 Target thicker (higher dry matter) slurry to silage fields
- 5 Direct watery slurry to grazing plots

Slurry application plan

| Plot (name or no. & size) | | Crop | P Index | K Index | Feb/Mar (gals/ac, m ³ /ha) | Mar/Apr (gals/ac, m ³ /ha) |
|---------------------------|-----|------------------|---------|---------|---|---|
| 5 | 8 | Silage & grazing | 3 | 4 | | (5.4 m ³ /ha, 3,000 gals/ac) |
| 2 | 4.5 | Grazing | 1 | 2 | (2.7 m ³ /ha, 1,500 gals/ac) | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |
| | | | | | | |

Value of slurry (cattle)

| Slurry dry matter % | N (units/1,000 gals) | P (units/1,000 gals) | K (units/1,000 gals) | Value (€/1,000 gals) |
|---------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|----------------------|
| 2% (v dilute) | 4 | 2 | 13 | 16 |
| 4% (watery) | 6 | 3 | 21 | 25 |
| 6% (typical) | 9 | 5 | 32 | 39 |
| 7% (thicker) | 10 | 6 | 36 | 45 |

Note – On index 1 & 2 soils reduce slurry P availability by 50% & reduce K availability by 10%

Use the Slurry Spreading Calibration Tool on the Teagasc website



<https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/farm-management/farm-machinery/machinery-calibration/slurry-calibration-tool/>