Some questions that can be answered with a nutrient management plan:

- What is the nutrient status of pasture soils and forages produced?
- What is the nutrient content of manure sources applied to pastures?
- How much nutrients are pastures receiving?
- Are pastures under-fertilized?
- Can pasture production be increased with modifications to application rates and timing?

The Humboldt County Resource Conservation District (HCRCD) was formed in 1987 as a Special District of the County of Humboldt. The HCRCD staff work with the Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) to provide assistance to private landowners in voluntary planning, design, and installation of soil and water conservation practices in Humboldt County.

If you are interested in completing a Nutrient Management Plan for your dairy, contact HCRCD (707) 786-9766 or (707) 444-9708 ext. 116

The goal of the Humboldt County Resource Conservation District:

★ to provide voluntary, cooperative resource conservation assistance to meet the objectives of the landowner

Funding for this project has been provided in full or in part through an agreement with the State Water Resources Control Board. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the State Water Resources Control Board, nor does mention of trade names or commercial products constitute endorsement or recommendation for use.
What is nutrient management planning?

- managing the amount, source, placement, form, and timing of applications of nutrients and soil amendments
- budgeting to supply nutrients for plant production
- minimizing agricultural nonpoint source pollution of surface and ground water resources

What types of information are used to develop a nutrient management plan?

- **Facility**
  total acres (owned or leased); soils; manure storage infrastructure and capacities; locations of wellheads, ditches, sloughs, or other sensitive areas
- **Animals**
  numbers of milk and dry cows, heifers, calves and bulls
- **Crops**
  types and acreage of crops grown, and yields
- **Manure application equipment**
  types of equipment used (i.e. solid spreader, big gun, stationary gun, honeywagon); calibration rates; mainline access and pumping rate
- **Laboratory testing**
  manure sources; soils; irrigation water; and crops/forages

Together, all this information is evaluated and recommendations are made for nutrient application amounts and timing. Recordkeeping forms are provided to track applications to specific fields and crop types, to record soil and manure testing and equipment calibrations.

Financial and technical assistance for nutrient management planning is available through:

- NRCS EQIP contracts
- Limited funding currently available through HCRCD

If you are interested in completing a Nutrient Management Plan for your dairy, contact HCRCD at (707) 786-9766 or (707) 444-9708 ext. 116