



Growing Forward

**Promote Environmentally Responsible
Agriculture**

GUIDELINES

April 1, 2009 - March 31, 2013

Canada 


New **Brunswick** Nouveau

GUIDELINES	3
ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT	3
ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES.....	3
SUPPORTING ON-FARM SUSTAINBLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (BENEFICIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES)	5
ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING.....	7
APPENDIX 1 – NEW BRUNSWICK BMP LIST	9
APPENDIX 2 - ENHANCED FUNDING TO SELECTED BMPS FOR NEW BRUNSWICK 2009-2013.....	14

Environmentally Responsible Agriculture

2009 (updated 2011)

GUIDELINES

ENVIRONMENTAL IMPACT

All projects funded or supported under this program must be environmentally sound and if an environmental assessment is required, it will be in accordance with a process which is consistent with the requirements of the *Canadian Environmental Assessment Act* and its *Regulations*.

ADMINISTRATION GUIDELINES

1. Application Process:

Clients are responsible to submit an application under Growing Forward (GF), together with any required supporting documents (project details, budget information and contractors/suppliers quotes or engineer's estimates), to any Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries regional office or directly to the Growing Forward Administrator, Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries, P. O. Box 6000, Fredericton, NB E3B 5H1 or by email at GFCAadmin@gnb.ca. Application forms are available at any Regional office of the Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries or on line at www.gnb.ca/0180/ApplicationBMP.pdf

2. Project Review and Approval:

Upon project decision, the applicant will be notified in writing. The name of the designated Project Officer will be included on each project approval letter.

Projects initiated before receipt of written approval may not be funded. Costs incurred prior to project approval will not be eligible costs (no retroactivity).

Project approvals are based on an approval within one fiscal year (April 1 to March 31).

3. Applicant's responsibilities:

To provide access to records and/or premises to staff of the New Brunswick Department of Agriculture, Aquaculture and Fisheries and persons authorised by DAAF, for inspection, evaluation, demonstration, audit and public information purposes, upon request.

To provide to DAAF, upon request, any necessary information related to the evaluation of the project.

Demonstrate a significant commitment to the project.

4. Submission of Claim:

Upon completion of the project, the applicant must submit the Claim for Reimbursement form to the Project Officer. The form must be accompanied by the detailed invoice(s) (an original invoice or a copy are acceptable) and proof of payment for each of the eligible items as indicated in the contract. The proof of payment can be a paid in-full invoice or receipt signed by the vendor (please print individual's name below the signature so that signature can be identified), a cancelled cheque, a bank statement or a credit card statement.

Claim for reimbursement must be submitted no later than the date specified in the contract. The Project Officer must certify that the project is complete.

In the case of claims for energy audits (see Beneficial Management Practice – BMP #35), the audit report must be approved by Efficiency NB prior to payment of claim.

Travel costs will be based on applicable New Brunswick government rates. The non-recoverable portion of HST may be an eligible expense if included within submitted project budgets.

It is expected that successful applicants will administer the contribution to their project, and that adequate financial administrative procedures are in place. If adequate financial procedures are not available, the applicant must involve another capable organization in the project and its administration. If no acceptable organization can be found, DAAF may administer the funds upon the request of the client. If approved, administration charges shall not exceed 10% of the actual project funds administered by the applicant. The eligible administration costs are based on those expenses invoiced to and paid directly by the applicant and claimed through the project.

The Department may hold back a portion of the approved funding until the required final report(s) have been submitted. The project officer must certify that the project and report are complete. Failure to submit acceptable final and/or summary reports may also affect funding approval decisions for future projects.

Upon request, initial advances on project costs may be considered for up to 50% of the approved project amount. Dependent on the nature of the project, subsequent advances for up to 50% of the remaining approved project amount may be provided once a claim for the initial advance has been processed and the project officer has certified that project activities are meeting their projected targets.

SUPPORTING ON-FARM SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURAL PRACTICES (BENEFICIAL MANAGEMENT PRACTICES)

Description:

This initiative will assist producers in taking concrete steps to improve the environmental performance of their operations. A menu of options will be available for targeted implementation of on-farm actions including an increased focus on promoting public benefit practices. New Brunswick will increase financial support in the form of increased caps or percent support for some on-farm actions or BMPs. There will also be a focus on energy conservation and energy audits with programs that can be used to retrofit facilities or enhance farming practices to become more energy efficient. Participation will be predicated on the completion of an eligible Environmental Farm Plan (EFP).

Objective:

To facilitate activities aimed at conserving and enhancing the natural resources utilised by the New Brunswick agriculture industry, to minimise the impact that agricultural activities can have on the environment, and to provide support for activities which have a public benefit component.

Program Criteria:

This program is for implementation of Beneficial Management Practices (BMPs) under the Canada/New Brunswick Growing Forward's strategic outcome of a Sector that Contributes to Society's Priorities.

All program criteria (applicant eligibility, program conditions, eligible projects, funding levels and caps, etc.) shall conform to those listed in the New Brunswick BMP List and the applicable BMP descriptions can be found in Appendix 1 and Appendix 2.

Program Caps:

The total program cap for an individual farm operation for all combined BMPs will be \$50,000 between April 1, 2009 and March 31, 2013 (except for Enhance Funding to Selected BMPs found in Appendix 2 and for BMP 3502: On-Farm Energy Efficiency - Implementation).

Eligible Applicants:

All owners/operators of farms established in New Brunswick are eligible to apply under this program provided they meet the following conditions:

- i) have attained legal age in the Province of New Brunswick;
- ii) have an approved EFP Action Plan (**as of January 1, 2010**; this plan must be completed in the 4th edition (2004) or a more recent version) ;

- iii) where applicable, have an action identified in their EFP Action Plan that corresponds to the BMP funding being applied for;
- iv) have an approved on-farm energy audit from Efficiency New Brunswick, in addition to an approved EFP, to access funding under the Energy Audit Implementation and On-Farm Renewable Energy Beneficial Management Practices.

ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT PLANNING

Description:

This program will support and promote the development, adoption and implementation of environmental management practices through knowledge transfer activities such as workshops, development and implementation of environmental management tools, and production of technical resource materials. This component is also intended for studies on climate change adaptation and preparedness and to potentially support the implementation of response plans at the producer or regional level. Supporting energy knowledge and capacity building will also be covered under Environmental Management Planning.

Objective:

The objective of this program is to provide the best information available to the farming community (producers, associations and other stakeholders) in support of environmental management planning.

Program Elements:

Knowledge Transfer and Capacity Building

Objective:

Increase awareness and education of producers and other stakeholders of environmental management issues, energy efficiency and renewable energy sources.

Eligible projects:

Field demonstrations, workshops, and the preparation, promotion, and distribution of tools and educational and technical materials to and by producers, farm organizations, educational institutions, and other interested stakeholders needed to explain the principles and practices associated with environmental management and renewable energy sources.

Eligible Applicants:

Any organization (private or public), institution, or individual involved in information dissemination or innovation with the potential to support the environmental sustainability of New Brunswick's agriculture sector is eligible.

Assistance Level:

Funding of up to 100% of approved budget items to develop awareness activities and appropriate educational materials.

Funding may be approved for up to 100% of approved budget items, for farm organizations or Agro-Environmental Clubs to hold workshops or field days to introduce farmers to the environmental management planning concept, related technologies, farm practices, departmental programs, and technical support. Priority may be given to projects that have a provincial or commodity based scope.

Funding up to 100% of approved budget items for development and/or acquisition of environmental management tools and training in the use of these tools.

Funding of up to 100% of approved budget items for projects covering the production of technical material and activities to increase awareness of energy efficiency and alternate renewable energy sources.

Funding up to 100% of approved budget items for training activities for the industry and auditors for energy efficiency.

APPENDIX 1 – NEW BRUNSWICK BMP LIST

BMP Category Code	BMP Category Description	BMP Practice Code	BMP Practice Description	Cost Share	Caps
01	Improved Manure Storage and Handling	0101	increased storage to meet winter spreading restrictions (including satellite storage)	50%	\$50,000
		0102	improved features to prevent risks of water contamination (leaks, spills)		
		0103	slurry storage covers to reduce odours and GHG emissions		
		0104	containment systems for solid manure (includes covers)		
		0105	assessment and monitoring of existing manure storage infrastructure		
		0106	engineering design work (this practice code will stand alone if project does not proceed for economic, technical or environmental reasons)		
		0107	more efficient manure cleanout systems to reduce water use and decrease manure volumes		
		02	Manure and Wastewater Treatment		
0202	composting systems for manure				
0203	anaerobic biodigestors for manure management reasons				
0204	engineering design work (this practice code will stand alone if project does not proceed for economic, technical or environmental reasons)				
03	Manure Land Application	0301	specialized/modification to equipment for improved manure application	50%	\$10,000
05	Farmyard Runoff Control	0501	upstream diversion around farmyards; downstream protection (eg. catch basins, retention ponds, constructed wetlands, effluent treatment)	50%	\$50,000
		0502	construction of impermeable base and/or roof for minimizing runoff from livestock pen areas and confinement areas (feed bunks, water infrastructure, walls and electrical costs are not eligible)		
		0503	engineering design work (this practice code will stand alone if project does not proceed for economic, technical or environmental reasons)		

08	Product and Waste Management	0801	improved on-farm single use storage and handling of agricultural products (eg. liquid fertilizer, silage storage with proper containment, double walled petroleum storage and single use pesticide storage facilities) dry fertilizer storage facilities will not be eligible for funding	30%	\$15,000
		0802	improved on-farm storage, handling, and disposal systems for agricultural waste (eg. fruit and vegetable cull piles, wood waste)		
		0803	composting systems for agricultural waste (eg. livestock mortalities fruit, vegetable, wood, straw residue)		
		0804	engineering design work (this practice code will stand alone if project does not proceed for economic, technical or environmental reasons)		
09	Water Well Management	0901	sealing & capping old water wells	70%	\$6000
		0902	protecting existing water wells from surface contamination		
10	Enhancing Riparian and Agro-ecosystem Health	1001	alternative watering systems for livestock – where livestock no longer has access to a watercourse	70%	\$50,000
		1002	buffer establishment and planting of forages for riparian protection (planting and establishment costs for trees and shrubs for the year of planting and one year after the planting year, or the termination of the Growing Forward Program, whichever comes first)		
		1003	fencing to manage grazing and improve riparian condition or function (fencing of the water/wetland frontage only is eligible)		
		1006	improved riparian crossings (streams, wetlands, etc)		
		1008	wetland restoration		
		1009	Riparian erosion control utilising environmental hydrologic engineered solutions		
12	Erosion Control Structures	1201	construction and repair of erosion control structures: contour terraces, grassed and rocked waterways, gully stabilization, bank stabilization, erosion control matting, silt fencing, drop inlet systems and enhanced infiltration systems, in-channel control, retention ponds and erosion control dams	50%	\$50,000
		1202	engineering design work (this practice code will stand alone if project does not proceed for economic, technical or environmental reasons)	70%	

14	Improved Cropping Systems	1401	equipment modification on pre-seeding implements for restricted zone tillage for row crops, seeding and post seeding implements for low disturbance placement of seed and fertilizer	30%	\$15,000
		1402	chaff collectors and chaff spreaders installed on combines		
		1403	precision farming applications: GPS information collection, GPS guidance (ie: autosteer, lightbars, software) manual and variable rate controllers for variable fertilizer application		
		1404	equipment modification for inter row seeding of cover crops (eg. relay crops)		
16	Integrated Pest Management	1601	equipment modification for improved application	50%	\$15,000
		1602	information collection and monitoring (eg. network capable weather stations, trapping devices)		
		1603	biological control agents		
		1604	cultural control practices		
		1605	mobile water tanks		
		1606	integrated approaches (cultural, mechanical, and biological) for control of invasive species (eg. leafy spurge, purple loosestrife, scentless chamomile and non vertebrate pests)		
18	Irrigation Management	1801	irrigation equipment modification/improvement to increase water or nutrient use efficiency	30%	\$15,000
		1802	equipment to prevent backflow of altered irrigation water into water sources		
		1803	improved infiltration galleries and irrigation intake systems		
19	Shelterbelt Establishment	1901	establishment of shelterbelts for farmyard, livestock facilities, wildlife habitat enhancement, field (planting and establishment costs for trees and shrubs for the year of planting and one year after the planting year, or the termination of the Growing Forward Program, whichever comes first)	70%	\$20,000
		1902	tree materials required for shelterbelt establishment		
23	Preventing Wildlife Damage	2301	fencing or netting to protect stored feed, concentrated livestock, high-value crops, drip irrigation systems, and other agricultural activities	50%	\$10,000
		2302	scaring and repellent systems and devices		

24	Nutrient Management Planning	2401	consultative services to develop nutrient management plans, planning and decision support tools	70%	\$4000
		2402	electronic decision support tools	50%	\$2000
25	Integrated Pest Management Planning	2501	consultative services to develop integrated pest management plans, planning and decision support tools	70%	\$4000
		2502	electronic decision support tools	50%	\$2000
26	Grazing Management Planning	2601	consultative services to develop summer and in field winter grazing management plans, planning and decision support tools	70%	\$4000
		2602	electronic decision support tools	50%	\$2000
28	Enhancing Riparian and Agro-ecosystem Health	2801	consultative services to plan for riparian health and wetland restoration within the agricultural land base; planning and decision support tools	70%	\$5000
		2802	electronic decision support tools	50%	\$2000
29	Irrigation Management Planning	2901	consultative services for planning improved water use efficiency and reduced environmental risk of existing irrigation systems, planning and decision support tools	70%	\$4000
		2902	electronic decision support tools	50%	\$2000
31	Sustainable Agricultural Water Management	3101	agricultural water source development - water wells, ponds (must have livestock excluded and if necessary alternative water system installed), springs, dams	30%	\$50,000
		3102	water pipelines to tie into existing municipal or pasture pipelines extended from farmsteads or other farm water sources out to pastures for summer or winter grazing		
		3103	agricultural water surface drainage		
		3104	agricultural water sub-surface drainage		

32	Sustainable Agricultural Water Practices	3201	surface and groundwater source water protection including, intakes, aeration, alternative livestock watering systems (eg. solar, wind, etc), fencing around sources ,etc	50%	\$15,000
		3202	backflow prevention devices		
		3203	water use efficiency (water meters, equipment modification in barns/greenhouses/milkhouses to reduce water use)		
		3204	field runoff and drainage management for surface and sub-surface including design and implementation of new systems (treatment, decision support systems, monitoring) (not for installation of new or replacement of existing tile drains or design of new tile drains)		
		3205	cost of treatment equipment to treat source water (eg. filtration, disinfection, etc) to meet water quality standard for agricultural use (eg. crop washing facilities, milkhouse, etc)		
33	On-Farm Water Management Planning	3301	planning for sustainable water source protection, development, treatment and distribution for agricultural use: consultative services for planning improved water source development and management for agricultural purposes, monitoring and decision support tools	50%	\$6000
		3302	field runoff and drainage management planning: consultative services for planning improved water quality associated with field runoff and drainage outlets, monitoring and decision support tools		
35	On-Farm Energy Efficiency	3501	on-farm energy efficiency audits	25% ^a	\$5000
		3502	Implementation of on-farm energy efficiency action ^b	30% ^{cd}	\$15,000
36	On-Farm Agro-Forestry Planning	3601	consultative services to develop integrated agro-forestry management plans for sustainable production of agriculture (e.g. crops, livestock).	70%	\$4000
		3602	electronic decision support tools	50%	\$2000
37	On-Farm Renewable Energy	3701	engineering and financial analysis of on-farm implementation of alternate energy	50%	\$2,000
		3702	Implementation of alternate energy sources on-farm ^e	30%	\$15,000

a – Producers may also be eligible for additional financial assistance from Efficiency NB toward the cost of the energy audit.

b – A producer must have an energy audit that has received technical approval from Efficiency NB prior to funding being approved under this element (BMP 3502). In the case of new construction, this energy audit must have been completed on existing on-farm facilities.

c – Producers may also be eligible for additional financial assistance from Efficiency NB toward implementing energy efficiency implementation.

d – In the case of new construction, the 30% contribution will be based on the cost difference between conventional and energy efficient technologies.

e - Engineering and financial analysis must be completed as part of the application review for implementation of alternate energy sources (BMP 3702)

APPENDIX 2 - ENHANCED FUNDING TO SELECTED BMPS FOR NEW BRUNSWICK 2009-2013

Funding would be above and beyond the funding and outside the caps noted in Appendix 1 – New Brunswick BMP List.

ENHANCED FUNDING TO SELECTED BMPS:

To provide assistance above and beyond the existing percentage contribution and caps for the support and adoption of selected Beneficial Management Practices which provide a greater environmental benefit to the public. Annual priorities will be established for practices which have significant public benefit by April 1st of each fiscal year.

Eligible Costs:

Enhanced incentives for funding for cost associated with design, development, or implementation of selected BMPs which support public priorities.

BMP Category	BMP Practice Description	Additional Percent Contribution	Additional Dollar Contribution
Improved Manure Storage and Handling	Increased storage to meet winter spreading restrictions, engineering design work, containment systems for manure	20%	\$20,000