

5MER-8 – Hurricane Ian Replacement Fertilizer Applications

(1) The following counties encountered Category 1-4 strength hurricane force winds and/or received rainfall that exceeded either three inches in three days or four inches in seven days as a direct result of Hurricane Ian: Brevard; Broward; Charlotte; Collier; Desoto; Flagler; Glades; Hardee; Hendry; Highlands; Hillsborough; Indian River; Lake; Lee; Manatee; Marion; Martin; Miami-Dade; Monroe; Okeechobee; Orange; Osceola; Palm Beach; Polk; Putnam; Saint Johns; Saint Lucie; Sarasota; Seminole; Sumter; and Volusia. Producers in these counties that are enrolled in Best Management Practices (BMPs) for Florida Vegetable and Agronomic Crops (Rule Chapter 5M-7, F.A.C.), Florida Sod (Rule Chapter 5M-9, F.A.C.), Florida Cow/Calf Operations (Rule Chapter 5M-11, F.A.C.), Florida Specialty Fruit and Nut Crop Operations (Rule Chapter 5M-13, F.A.C.), Florida Citrus (Rule Chapter 5M-16, F.A.C.), and Florida Dairies (Rule Chapter 5M-17, F.A.C.) are authorized to apply replacement fertilizer applications to reestablish crops impacted by Hurricane Ian.

(2) Replacement fertilizer applications must be made between October 1, 2022, and the expiration of this rule. The Department recommends that producers conduct soil testing to confirm the need for replacement fertilizer prior to any applications.

(3) Any replacement fertilizer applications authorized by this rule shall not constitute an improper implementation of best management practices for BMP implementation verification purposes pursuant to Rule Chapter 5M-1, F.A.C.

(4) In addition to records required by Department rule, producers applying replacement fertilizer, pursuant to this rule, shall maintain all application and soil testing records.

Rulemaking Authority 403.067(7)(c)2., 570.07(10), 570.07(23) FS. Law Implemented 403.067(7)(d)2.c., 403.067(7)(d)3. FS. History – New 11/21/2022.