2027 Nutrient Budget Tool

> Complete your Nutrient Budget from Continuum Ag in about 15 minutes using TopSoil.

Why you need a Nutrient Budget Now?

Starting with the 2027 crop, every field enrolled in 45Z needs a written nutrient budget before any nutrients are applied.

45Z is a federal tax incentive that rewards the production of lower-carbon fuels, including ethanol, based on the fuel's carbon intensity. Farmers who qualify under Golden Grain Energy's program objectives will receive added value for their verified low-carbon grain.

What is a Nutrient Budget?

A nutrient budget is a simple written plan for the nitrogen (N), phosphorus (P), and potassium (K) going onto your field this season, and the amount your crop is expected to take off. It's the record the USDA requires.

Already applied fertilizer for 2027?

If you can show with your Agricultural Expert or Soil Test that you had a plan put together BEFORE fertilizer went on, you must confirm compliance and/or complete a Nutrient Budget as soon as possible. The best way to do this is by completing a Nutrient Budget on TopSoil, and keeping detailed and dated records of your existing plan.

How it works:

The Nutrient Budget is a short online form in TopSoil®, our farm data platform. You enter your fields, crops, yield goals, and planned fertilizer. TopSoil calculates pounds per acre of N, P, and K, creates the USDA-required budget, and emails it to you to sign.

Already wrote your own budget based on soil samples less than 2 years old, or worked with an Agricultural Expert? You don't have to redo it in TopSoil, but doing so is the best way to make sure you've covered everything required.

<<<*Learn more about how to complete your Nutrient Budget on page 2 >>>*

Contact Us 855.805.5700 continuum.ag sales@continuum.ag

Have this ready before you start:

- Soil test lab reports from the last 2 years (PDF or CSV), or the name and email of your Agricultural Expert
- Field list with planted acres and crop for each field
- Yield goals (your crop insurance APH works well)
- Fertilizer plan: each product and rate per acre (use your average rate if you run variable rate)
- Manure analysis from this crop year, if you apply manure
- Cover crop plans: species, planned seeding date, and planned termination date

Completing Your Nutrient Budget

1. Go to **topsoil.ag** and create an account, or log in.
2. On the dashboard, **click Nutrient Budget.**
3. **Choose your basis:** select a soil test from the last two years and upload the lab reports, or name the Agricultural Expert whose advice your rates are based on.
4. **Enter your fields.** For each one, add the crop, acres, yield goal, cover crop, planned fertilizer products and rates, and any manure. TopSoil calculates pounds per acre for you. Use Copy to reuse a plan on another field.
5. **Review and submit.** Your work saves as you go, so you can stop and pick it back up later.

After You Submit:

You'll get an email asking you to sign your plan. Once it's signed, you're done, and Continuum Ag keeps the signed plan on file.

- **Soil test basis:** sign on the farm producer line and you're finished.
- **Agricultural Expert basis:** you sign first. Then your Agricultural Expert receives the plan and a short statement to sign.

Tip: Sign as soon as the email arrives so nothing holds up your enrollment.

Questions?

Contact Sales@continuum.ag

Scan the QR Code or visit TopSoil.ag to get started on your nutrient budget today**!**

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