



## Background Information for Field Assessment Exercise

Use the Field Assessment “quick check” on pages 3-4 in the Purdue Extension publication *Field Assessment for Water Resource Protection (WQ-42)*.

### FIELD ASSESSMENT EXAMPLE



- Corn and soybeans are alternated from year to year
- No cover crops are grown
- No manure is applied
- Soils are tested for nutrient, mineral, and organic matter levels once every four years, but no other nutrient monitoring methods are used
- Tends to go on what fertilizer dealer recommends for application rates on nitrogen
- Nutrients are often applied in fall along with fall plowing due to time crunch of spring planting
- Unless it is raining, herbicides are applied to schedule, and label and rates followed, but no crop scouting is conducted
- Insecticides are applied if evidence of pests present, but application is not based on economic thresholds
- Field soils and topography have not been evaluated for

potential for leaching and runoff of nutrients and pesticides

- Sensitive environmental areas (streams, karst, etc.) are recognized, but no specific management actions are taken to protect them
- Pesticides are mixed over the gravel driveway using a hose with no backflow device directly into spray tank
- Chemical jugs are triple rinsed and recycled

\*Contact Brent Ladd (765) 496-6331 or [laddb@purdue.edu](mailto:laddb@purdue.edu) for more information.

Purdue Extension

**Knowledge to Go**

1-888-EXT-INFO