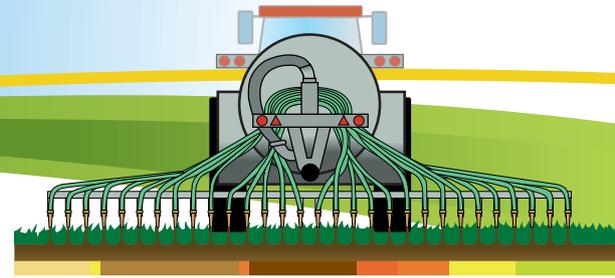


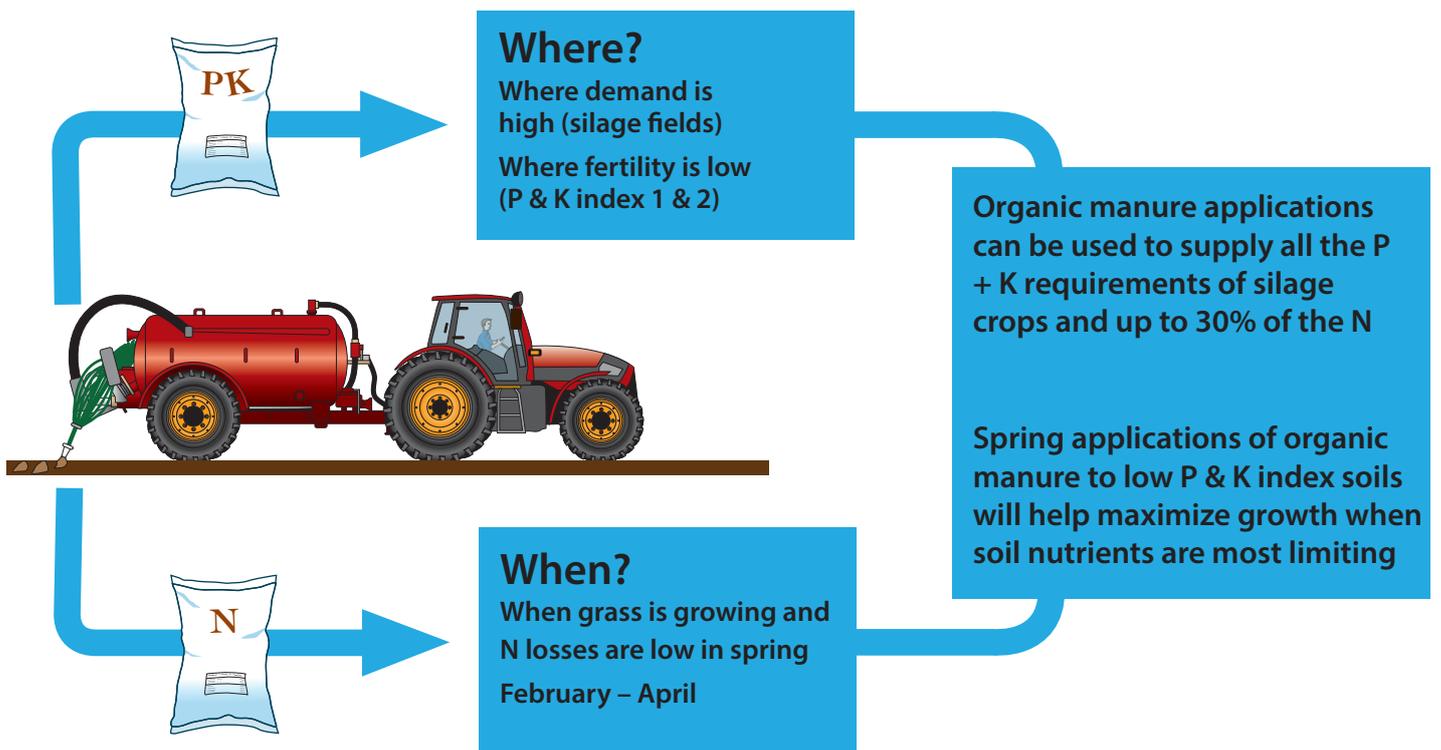
# Soils, Nutrients and Fertiliser Factsheet

## Organic Manure

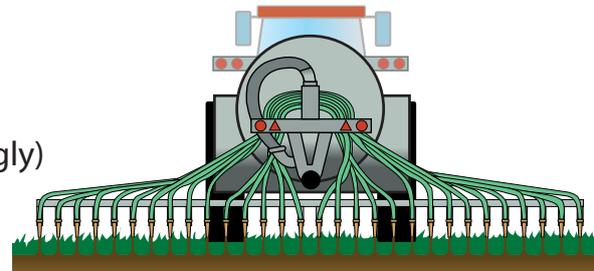


Organic manure is a valuable source of plant nutrients. The key aim is to maximise the value of slurry, i.e. get the most from its P and K content as well as N. This will be achieved by making sure that it goes to the right place at the right time at the right rate

-  P & K – Right Place – Spread on fields/paddocks where fertility is low and where the nutrient demand is highest (e.g. silage field)
-  N – Right Time – Spread when potential N losses are low and the potential for uptake by a growing crop is high (February to April)
-  Method – Use a Low Emission Slurry Spreader



## Plan your slurry application



- 1 Calculate the amount of slurry available
- 2 Assess nutrient value in the slurry (adjust rate accordingly)
- 3 Prioritise silage ground
- 4 Target thicker (higher dry matter) slurry to silage fields
- 5 Direct watery slurry to grazing plots

## Slurry application plan

Plot (name or no. & size)		Crop	P Index	K Index	Feb/Mar (gals/ac, m <sup>3</sup> /ha)	Mar/Apr (gals/ac, m <sup>3</sup> /ha)
5	8	Silage & grazing	3	4		(5.4 m <sup>3</sup> /ha, 3,000 gals/ac)
2	4.5	Grazing	1	2	(2.7 m <sup>3</sup> /ha, 1,500 gals/ac)	

## Value of slurry (cattle)

Slurry dry matter %	N (units/1,000 gals)	P (units/1,000 gals)	K (units/1,000 gals)	Value (€/1,000 gals)
2% (v dilute)	4	2	13	16
4% (watery)	6	3	21	25
6% (typical)	9	5	32	39
7% (thicker)	10	6	36	45

Note – On index 1 & 2 soils reduce slurry P availability by 50% & reduce K availability by 10%

Use the Slurry Spreading Calibration Tool on the Teagasc website



<https://www.teagasc.ie/rural-economy/farm-management/farm-machinery/machinery-calibration/slurry-calibration-tool/>