

Voluntary Best Management Practice programs to protect water resources

What is a Florida BMP manual?

A user-friendly tool to help producers implement conservation practices to reduce agricultural non-point source pollution impacts on water resources.

Who is involved in manual development?

- Florida Dept. of Agriculture's Office of Ag Water Policy (OAWP).
- Florida Dept. of Environmental Protection (FDEP).
- Water Management Districts.
- Grower associations.
- Florida producers.
- Environmental groups.
- Ag fertilizer & chemical suppliers.

How is a manual developed?

- Need is identified.
- Steering committee is formed.
- Agency roles are defined.
- Technical workgroups are formed.
- Draft manual is produced.
- Text is peer-reviewed.
- Public workshops are held.
- Manual is adopted in code.
- Manual is distributed to clients.

What funds are available to help implement BMPs?

State and Federal cost-share funds are available to assist producers with implementing BMPs that are costly.

How does the state university system get involved?

The BMP process incorporates university expertise.

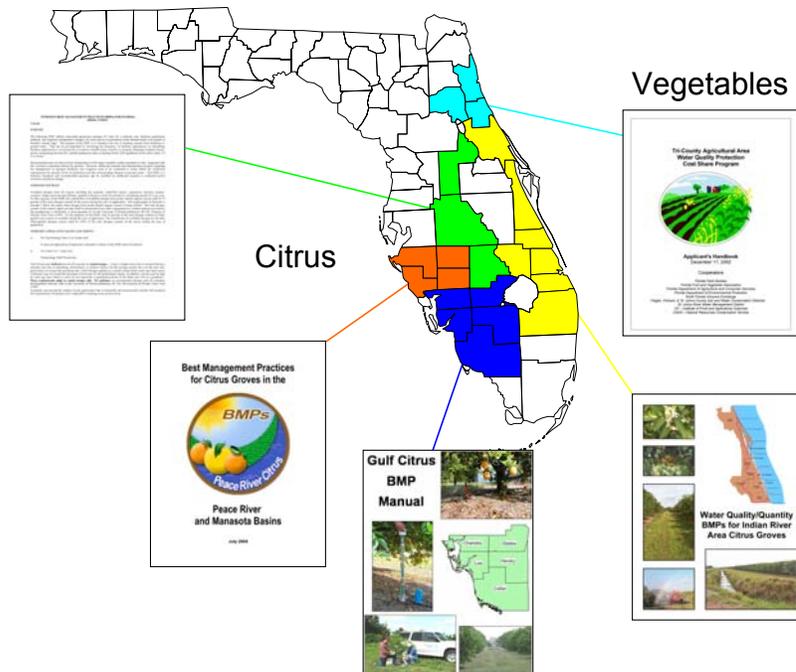
OAWP contracts UF and FAMU to work on nitrate reduction in groundwater, nutrient reduction in surface waters, and other collaborative ventures such as computer models that predict load reductions resulting from BMP implementation.

How do producers benefit?

Program participation results in a presumption of compliance with water quality standards, which provides a measure of protection for the producer against accusations of water pollution.

Several of the drainage infrastructure improvement BMPs qualify for permit exemptions from Water Management Districts.

Regional manuals



Citrus

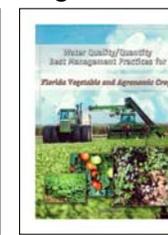
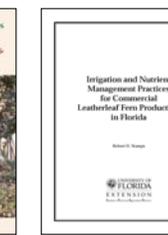
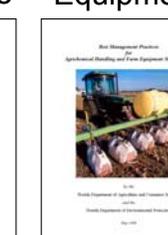
Vegetables

Gulf Citrus BMP Manual

Water Quality/Quantity BMPs for Indian River Area Citrus Groves

Best Management Practices for Citrus Groves in the Peace River and Manasota Basins

Statewide manuals

<p>Cow/calf</p> 	<p>Vegetable/ Agronomic</p> 	<p>Landscape</p> 	<p>Ferns</p> 	<p>Container-grown plants</p> 
<p>Golf course</p> 	<p>Silviculture</p> 	<p>Aquaculture</p> 	<p>Chemicals/ Equipment</p> 	<p>Fertilizer facilities</p> 

Manuals on the way: Sod ▪ Tropical Fruit ▪ In-Ground Nursery ▪ Equine