Nitrogen Management Considerations

- Never grow sugarbeets without a 3 to 4 foot soil test for nitrogen
- Consider split applications of fall and sidedress nitrogen to maximize yield and quality
- Don't fall apply nitrogen fertilizer on coarse textured soils prone to spring flooding
- Consider use of proven nitrification inhibitors with fall nitrogen applications
- Consider obtaining a soil test for residual nitrate nitrogen before sidedressing
- Injecting sidedress nitrogen 3 inches or deeper is recommended
- Up to 50% of surface applied sidedress nitrogen could be lost with unfavorable conditions
- Sidedress nitrogen applications should very seldom be made after canopy closure
- Avoid prepile harvest of beets that receive sidedress nitrogen if possible
- Sidedress dry fertilizer nitrogen on a dry sugarbeet canopy
- Foliar in-season nitrogen application is the least effective method
- When using foliar nitrogen apply it to a wet canopy during cool weather conditions if possible
- Sidedress application of nitrogen after canopy closure has a high risk of lowering crop quality
- Sidedressing as little as 10 lbs of nitrogen is not practical

Contact your agriculturist, crop consultant or extension soil fertility specialists for assistance with fertilizer management considerations.