

Biofertilizer Innovation and Efficiency Program

2026 Payment Request Form Submission Instructions

Submissions Accepted Aug. 1 – Nov. 30

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) is now accepting documentation submissions from participants in the 2026 [Biofertilizer Innovation Efficiency Pilot Program](https://mda.state.mn.us/biofertilizer-innovation-efficiency-pilot-program) (mda.state.mn.us/biofertilizer-innovation-efficiency-pilot-program).

Please follow the short list of instructions below to submit the required documents via email.

1. Complete and sign the Payment Request Form. This can be found on the Biofertilizer Program website, under “Forms + Resources,” or attached to the document submission request email sent to all 2026 participants.
2. Once the form has been completed and all required documents have been gathered, send an email to biofertilizer.program.mda@state.mn.us.
3. The subject line should include the participant’s SWIFT ID number and the phrase “**2026 Payment Request Form.**” More information about SWIFT numbers can be found under the “Forms + Resources” section on the website.

To	biofertilizer.program.mda@state.mn.us
Cc	
Subject	00099333 2026 Payment Request Form

4. Ensure that all required documents are attached correctly. Documents can be sent as PDFs or Word Documents, or .jpg or .png files.
5. Send the email and look for a receipt email, which will include additional information about the payment process and expected timeline.

Questions

If you have questions, please get in touch by email to biofertilizer.program.mda@state.mn.us or call 651-201-6110.

Required Documentation to Receive Payment

A completed and signed payment request form must be submitted to the MDA. Documentation that shows a reduction in use of commercial nitrogen fertilizer rate by the lesser of 15% or 30 pounds per acre of the baseline rate using a qualifying biofertilizer product must be submitted to the MDA along with the payment request form to be eligible for payment.

The payment request form includes a signed declaration stating that no additional nitrogen other than what is reported in the submitted application has been, or will be, applied to the enrolled crops/acres for the duration of the growing season.

Baseline nitrogen rate

The baseline nitrogen rate is the nitrogen application rate that normally would be used for the crop in the particular field, including nitrogen credits taken for previous legume crop, manure, AMS, MAP, DAP, or other nitrogen sources. The baseline nitrogen rate is used to calculate the reduction of nitrogen application rate for program eligibility.

The baseline N rate can be based on:

- The normal nitrogen fertilizer application rate, such as, the last time the crop was grown in the field. Acceptable documentation includes a crop nutrient management plan, or field-specific as-applied maps, fertilizer weigh tickets, or invoices

or

- The [University of Minnesota crop-specific nitrogen fertilizer rate recommendations](https://extension.umn.edu/crop-production/nutrient-management) (extension.umn.edu/crop-production/nutrient-management)
 - For corn, the Maximum Return to Nitrogen (MRTN) rate at the 0.1 price ratio is used
 - For other crops, use realistic yield goals based on, for example
 - County average
 - Historical field average, using 3 to 5-yr average plus 5% increase
 - Maximum historical yield

Biofertilizer Program Nitrogen Rate

The biofertilizer program nitrogen rate is the nitrogen fertilizer rate applied to the field(s) enrolled in the program. This rate is calculated by subtracting the lesser of 30 lb. nitrogen/acre or 15% from the baseline nitrogen rate.

Acceptable documentation for the program nitrogen rate includes a crop nutrient management plan, or field-specific as-applied maps, fertilizer weigh tickets or invoices.

Biofertilizer Product

Documentation must be provided for the use of a biofertilizer product and that the application rate stated on the biofertilizer product label was used. Acceptable documentation includes field-specific as-applied maps or invoices.