Township Testing Program
Combined Initial and Final Nitrate Testing Results, 6-12-19

The Minnesota Department of Agriculture (MDA) has designed a Township Testing Program to determine current nitrate-nitrogen conditions in private wells. Townships are selected based on their vulnerability to groundwater contamination and the percentage of row crop agriculture.

The figure presents the current testing results by township. Townships with hash lines represent initial (first year) testing results and townships without hash lines are final. Initial results represent private well drinking water regardless of the potential source of nitrate. Final results are determined using two rounds of sampling and a process to remove wells with construction concerns, insufficient construction information and those near potential non-fertilizer sources of nitrate. Final results only include results that are potentially impacted by applied commercial fertilizer. Townships noted with initial results may change based on follow-up sampling and well assessments. Detailed sampling results are available at: www.mda.state.mn.us/townshiptesting.