

# GET TO KNOW 4RCERTIFICATION

A PROGRAM OF THE MISSOURI FERTILIZER CONTROL BOARD

*Missouri farmers have the privilege and responsibility to protect families, communities, and resources. Land in Missouri has prospered for generations at the hands of farmers, and it will rely on farmers to continue remaining productive for generations to come. Missouri's 4R Nutrient Stewardship program is here to assist farmers in that noble task. The 4R Certification program gives you and your retailer a consistent, repeatable way to support your farm using a science-based framework for plant nutrition management and sustained crop production – while also considering the specific needs of each field.*

## Producer benefits of using a 4R Certified retailer and/or 4R practices

- 4R practices are a grounded approach to nutrient management.
- Proactive implementation of 4R practices is a great alternative to increased regulation as seen in other states.
- The principles of the 4R program include using fertilizer
  - from the *right source*
  - at the *right rate*
  - at the *right time*
  - in the *right place*
- When used together, the 4Rs can help improve agricultural productivity and maintain soil resources for generations to come.
- It is well documented that crop and forage yields can increase overtime with better nutrient and soil management.
- Cost-share programs are becoming more plentiful with options available through USDA grants as well as the Missouri Soil and Water Conservation Program and USDA-NRCS. Nutrient management can make a big impact on yields while increasing crop uptake. Participation requirements include but are not limited to:
  - 2.5 acre grid or zone soil sampling completed during off season before application of fertilizer.
  - Nutrient recommendations prepared by a 4R Certified retailer based on field-specific soil samples.
  - Fertilizer applied within a 10% margin of error according to retailer-prepared nutrient recommendations.
  - Nitrogen applied in two-pass application system with one during growing season.

*For more information on this opportunity, please contact the Missouri 4R Certification Program Administrator, Mitchell Rice at [mrice@mofcb.com](mailto:mrice@mofcb.com) or 573-636-6131. More information is also available at [mofcb.com](http://mofcb.com)*



**A GROUNDED APPROACH TO NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT**

