

**Conservation District Helps Farmers & Water Quality with
Late Season Cornstalk Nitrate Testing**

The Snyder County Conservation District offered a service for farmers that sampled corn fields in 2015 determining whether they had too little, too much or enough nitrogen for corn growth. Three hundred five (305) acres were tested this year.

A Conservation District technician first asked interested farmers about their manure and fertilizer application history. The technician then visited the corn fields to cut corn stalk sections for analysis. Afterwards, cornstalk samples were cut into smaller pieces and shipped to Penn State for testing. Interested farmers paid \$12.00 to the Conservation District for each test kit mailed to Penn State. The farmer also paid for postage, and mileage if outside Snyder County. Test results were sent to the farmer.



Photos above taken in 2011

Additional information about late season cornstalk nitrate testing can be found on the [Penn State Agricultural Analytical Lab's web site on the subject](#). For more information about other programs offered by the Conservation District, contact [us](#) at 570-837-3000.





Above: Barry Spangler, Agricultural Conservation Technician, prepares cornstalk samples for analysis and mailing. (Photo taken in 2012)

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