

1.1 Senator ..... moves to amend S.F. No. 1575 as follows:

1.2 Delete everything after the enacting clause and insert:

1.3 "Section 1. **BIOFERTILIZER WATER PRESERVATION PROGRAM.**

1.4 Subdivision 1. **Definitions.** For the purposes of this section, "commercial nitrogen  
1.5 fertilizer" means a fertilizer with a nitrogen content of no less than 25 percent.

1.6 Subd. 2. **Program established.** In consultation with the commissioner of natural resources  
1.7 and soil and water conservation districts in Minnesota, the commissioner of agriculture  
1.8 must develop and administer a biofertilizer water preservation pilot program to address  
1.9 water quality by incentivizing Minnesota farmers to improve nitrogen management and  
1.10 incorporate innovative technologies into the farmers' crop nutrient management plans. The  
1.11 commissioner must determine which products qualify for the program, including soil  
1.12 amendments, fertilizers with nitrogen fixing properties, biological sources of nitrogen, and  
1.13 other biofertilizers.

1.14 Subd. 3. **Payments to qualified farmers.** (a) In consultation with farmers and the  
1.15 fertilizer industry, the commissioner may establish a per acre payment rate, not less than  
1.16 \$5 per acre, for payments provided to a qualifying farmer. The program may provide an  
1.17 annual per acre incentive payment to a qualifying farmer who verifies through documentation  
1.18 that the farmer has reduced commercial nitrogen fertilizer rates by using a qualifying product  
1.19 in the farmer's crop nutrient management plans by the lesser of:

1.20 (1) 15 percent; or

1.21 (2) 30 pounds per acre.

1.22 (b) The Department of Agriculture must annually review and may adjust the per acre  
1.23 payment rate based on inflation and emerging fertilizer technology.

1.24 Subd. 4. **Qualifications.** To qualify for the biofertilizer water preservation program, a  
1.25 farmer must:

1.26 (1) be a farmer in the state; and

1.27 (2) submit documentation to the commissioner, including a crop nutrient management  
1.28 plan that will reduce the use of commercial nitrogen fertilizers at the reduction rate required  
1.29 under subdivision 2 by using a qualifying product determined by the commissioner under  
1.30 subdivision 1.

1.31 Subd. 5. **Report required.** (a) By January 8, 2028, the commissioner must report on  
1.32 the program, including the following information:

(1) the program's required minimum commercial nitrogen fertilizer reduction rate under subdivision 3 and whether an increase in the minimum reduction rate is necessary; and

(2) additional qualifying products that may be used by farmers in the program. When making this determination, the commissioner must consider newly available technologies and products capable of reducing commercial nitrogen fertilizer applications.

(b) The commissioner must submit the report to the chairs and ranking minority members of the legislative committees with jurisdiction over agriculture policy and finance.

Sec. 2. **APPROPRIATION.**

\$5,000,000 in fiscal year 2026 is appropriated from the general fund to the commissioner of agriculture to establish and administer the biofertilizer water preservation program. Notwithstanding Minnesota Statutes, section 16A.28, any unencumbered balance at the end of fiscal year 2026 does not cancel and is available in fiscal year 2027. "

Delete the title and insert:

"A bill for an act  
relating to agriculture; establishing the biofertilizer water preservation pilot  
program; appropriating money."