

CCA – 4R specialty certification proposal

Implementation of the 4R nutrient management program where production, environmental and social aspects are considered when making fertility recommendations. It also includes adaptive management to allow farmers time to try new practices and measure their results before making production changes.

Supported by TFI, EDF, NRCS and EPA

Pilot State: Ohio supported by Ohio CCA Board and Ohio Agribusiness groups

The ICCA Program would add a 4R specialty certification. It would be optional for CCAs to add this credential.

Steps to earn the credential:

1. complete the online course
 - 8 weeks, 2 hours/week, 16 CEUs in NM and S/W
 - Pre/post test, weekly quizzes
2. Complete the adaptive nutrient management implementation project – 1 to 3 years in length as continuing education, a CCA works with a farmer (client) to implement and measure one new practice learned in the online course, the progress and results are reported to ASA
3. CEU – requirement, no change in the total of 40 but NM's and S/W's minimum would each increase to 7
4. Ohio as pilot state, potentially others
5. Annual fee - \$25 charged by ICCA and local board could add an additional fee to cover their administrative expenses if desired