

Reduced Tillage Operations

Conservation Activity Job Sheet

(NJEnergy04)

Participant _____

Crop Year _____

STIR Ratings (Less Than 60, 30, & 15)

Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) is a calculation performed by NRCS. It is based on the soil type and the crop management system used by the producer. It is an index, between 1 and 100, used to evaluate the effect of ground-disturbing tillage passes on soil quality. Higher numbers indicate greater disturbance; lower numbers indicate less disturbance.



The components of STIR are: operating speed of tillage equipment, tillage type, tillage depth, and the percent of surface area disturbed. Weights are assigned to each component to calculate the index. This index is useful in making residue management decisions that impact long-term productivity issues.

STIR is one of three outputs from the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation Version 2.0. (RUSLE2). The other outputs are a soil loss estimate and a soil organic matter trend estimate from the Soil Conditioning Index.

Documentation Required: STIR ratings from RUSLE2.

I certify that I used reduced tillage methods on all farm acres certified for payment.

Signature

Date