



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
210 Walnut Street, Room 693  
Des Moines, IA 50309-2180

November 7, 2007

### 330 – MGT – STAFF ASSISTANCE TO TECHNICAL SERVICE PROVIDERS

Direction is being provided to address the issue of Technical Service Providers (TSPs), non-TSP service providers, and/or producers coming into field offices and requesting Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS) staff to run RUSLE2 and P-Index.

The following situations may arise when RUSLE2 or P-Index information is requested:

- When producers come into the office requesting technical assistance from NRCS for conservation planning, staff will schedule that assistance as workload allows. If the producer is requesting the RUSLE2 and P-Index to do a manure management plan for DNR, and would like NRCS to provide assistance, staff can provide that assistance as workload allows. Assistance will be given according to NRCS Nutrient Management Standard (590).
- If the producer has hired a non-TSP service provider to complete the Iowa Department of Natural Resources Manure Management Plan, it is the role of the non-TSP service provider to complete the RUSLE2 and P-Index. If the producer has a TSP, the RUSLE2 and P-Index are part of the TSP's responsibility. NRCS field offices may direct the TSP or non-TSP service provider to the NRCS Iowa TSP website for information regarding RUSLE2 and Iowa P-Index training opportunities at <http://www.ia.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/TSP.html>. Staff can also provide specific answers to questions on how to run RUSLE2 or P-Index, particularly if it is a unique situation in the county or area. However, staff is not to do the work for the TSP or non-TSP service provider.
- When a producer hires a TSP to complete a Nutrient Management Plan or a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan, the producer and the TSP are required to attend a pre-planning meeting with the NRCS district conservationist or conservation planner. NRCS, producer, and TSP roles and responsibilities, including the role of the TSP in completing RUSLE2 and P-Index calculations, should be discussed at the meeting. If the TSP is not available for the pre-planning meeting, or if subsequent planning information is provided to the producer, it is the responsibility of the producer to convey the information to the TSP.

If additional information is needed please contact Barbara Stewart, State Agronomist at 515 323-2260 or [barbara.stewart@ia.usda.gov](mailto:barbara.stewart@ia.usda.gov), or Judy Martinson, TSP Coordinator at 515 323-2229 or [judy.martinson@ia.usda.gov](mailto:judy.martinson@ia.usda.gov).

/s/Karen Woodrich, Acting  
Richard Van Klaveren  
State Conservationist

E