

RESIDUE MANAGEMENT, SEASONAL

PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 344



RESIDUE MANAGEMENT, SEASONAL -This practice is managing protective amounts of crop residue on the soils surface during a prescribed time of the year, by delaying primary tillage or seedbed preparation until immediately prior to planting time.

PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice generally applies to cropland but may also be used on other areas where field crops are grown such as wildlife or recreation lands. The practice only applies to crops that produce sufficient amounts of residue to protect the soil from erosion.

Erosion can be significantly reduced by this practice in locations where delaying seedbed

preparation allows residue to be left on the soil surface during critical periods for protection from wind and water erosion. Crops grown using this tillage system are generally planted in a relatively clean seedbed.

The excessive removal or burial of plant residue by tillage, baling, or grazing can produce negative impacts on the purpose of the practice. These activities should not be performed without evaluating the impacts.

Additional information including standards and specifications for this practice are available in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.