

## National Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative (NSHTI)

**Initiative Description/Summary:** Through the National Seasonal High Tunnel Initiative (NSHTI), NRCS will assist producers to extend the growing season for high value crops in an environmentally safe manner. The initiative has the potential to assist producers in addressing a resource concern by improving plant quality, improving soil quality, and reducing nutrient and pesticide transport.

As in previous years, the maximum practice extent for a Seasonal High Tunnel (798) eligible for a practice payment shall be five percent of an acre per agricultural operation. This can be a single or multiple structures for a maximum of five percent of one acre coverage.

**Approved Land Types** – The following land uses are eligible for this initiative: cropland only.

**Core Practices** offered for this initiative: A core practice is **required** to be planned in each Seasonal High Tunnel contract.

Practice Name	Practice Code
Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops	798

### **Conservation Practices Eligible For Payment:**

<u>Practice Code</u>	<u>Practice</u>
342	Critical Area Stabilization
362	Diversion
412	Grassed Waterway
441	Irrigation System, Microirrigation
607	Surface Drainage, Field Ditch
798*	Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops

\* 798 Structures cannot exceed 5% of one acre per operation roughly 2178 sq. ft. **Participant must construct a “kit” type structure and other required components.** (Only metal framed structures are eligible for financial assistance.) Maintain receipts on these projects to determine the total costs and the manufacturer’s instructions for installing the high tunnels.

Site selection is critical to prevent soil erosion from occurring. Crops must be planted into natural soil bed (not raised bed or pots). This includes field grown ornamentals. This practice does not include greenhouses or low tunnel systems that may cover single crop rows. Note: These structures should not be referred to as greenhouses.