

## CRP NOTE #101

April 1, 2000

FSA Notice CRP-316 dated July 7, 1998 reinstated continuous CRP practices CP-18B and CP-18C. At that time it was determined that Minnesota did not have any areas eligible for either practice unless a resource problem associated with a saline seep was involved. Since then we have been informed of an agreement between USDA and the NRCS Great Plains Region to clarify the eligibility of this practice. This CRP Notice changes Minnesota policy for determining the eligibility of the CP-18C practice when a saline seep is not involved. This policy is effective as of the date of this notice and brings MN policy in line with our neighboring states to the west.

### ELIGIBILITY FOR CP-18C, ESTABLISHMENT OF PERMANENT SALT TOLERANT VEGETATIVE COVER WHEN A SALINE SEEP IS NOT ASSOCIATED WITH THE SITE.

The acreage enrolled as CP-18C will be limited to those soils with a high salinity content due to high water table and an electrical conductivity (EC) of at least 8 decisiemens per meter (ds/m). When these conditions exist the presence of a saline seep is not a requirement for eligibility. There is a limit on enrollment to no more than 50 acres per tract. When more than 50 acres exist on any tract, limit enrollment to the most critically affected areas.

#### Definition of Saline areas for Practice CP-18C

1. Areas where the county soil survey indicates soils which have been mapped as either
  - Saline soils or,
  - A saline phase

For both cases listed above, the producer must have a current (within the last 3 years) soil test to show that each eligible area has an EC greater than 8 ds/m. An on-site verification is not needed if these criteria are met.

1. Saline inclusions within non-saline soil map units when the area is determined to have an EC of 8 mmhos/cm or greater:
  - These are generally small areas and may be designated by a soil spot symbol. If a soil spot symbol exists and the criteria listed above are met, the area is eligible without on-site verification.
  - When a soil spot symbol does not exist, each individual area is required to have an on-site verification by a soil scientist to determine if the criteria are met and the extent of the area that is eligible for this practice.

Direct questions on this issue to Ken Matzdorf or Paul Flynn.