

Resource Conserving Crop Rotation (RCCR) – Supplemental payment activity – CCR99



Activity Description

Resource-conserving crop rotation means a crop rotation that:

1. Includes at least one resource conserving crop as determined by the State Conservationist;
2. Reduces erosion;
3. Improves soil fertility and tilth;
4. Interrupts pest cycles; and
5. In applicable areas, reduces depletion of soil moisture or otherwise reduces the need for irrigation.

Resource-conserving crop means a crop that is one of the following:

1. A perennial grass;
2. A legume grown for use as forage, seed for planting, or green manure;
3. A legume-grass mixture;
4. A small grain grown in combination with a grass or legume green manure crop whether inter-seeded or planted in rotation.

Land Use Applicability

Cropland (this does not include permanent hayland, orchards, or vineyards).

Criteria for Resource Conserving Crop Rotations:

The resource conserving crop rotation shall include at least one of the following resource-conserving crops:

1. A perennial grass grown at least 1 year after the seeding year with at least one other crop in the rotation.
2. A legume that is grown at least 1 year after the seeding year with at least one other crop in the rotation.
3. A legume-grass mixture that is grown at least 1 year after the seeding year with at least one other crop in the rotation,
4. A small grain grown in combination with a grass or legume that is used as a green manure, whether interseeded or planted after small grain harvest with at least two other crops in the rotation. Neither the small grain residue nor the cover crop shall be harvested or grazed.



This activity can apply to the modification of an existing RCCR to a higher conservation level by one of the following methods:

1. Add years of grass and/or legumes, (Limited to those rotations with a current perennial grass and/or legumes of at least one year beyond the seeding year, but not more than 4 current years of perennial grass and/or legume).
2. Add diversity of crops grown,
3. Add annual crops with cover crops (cover crops shall not be harvested or grazed).

Contract Criteria for Resource Conserving Crop Rotation

1. The rotation shall cover at least 3 fiscal years of the CSP contract.
2. The resource conserving crop rotation is considered adopted when the resource conserving crop is planted on at least 1/3 of the rotation acres. The resource conserving crop must be adopted by the third fiscal year of the contract and established or planted on all rotation acres prior to the final annual payment.

Documentation Requirements

Planned Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation(s):

List crop rotation(s), resource conserving crops, and cover crops that will follow the specific crops as applicable for each rotation to receive supplemental payment:

Rotation#1: _____ Fields: _____ Years _____
Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: _____

Rotation#2: _____ Fields: _____ Years _____
Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: _____

Rotation#3: _____ Fields: _____ Years _____
Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: _____

Records:

- a. Crop rotation records by field
- b. Cover crops planted



Alfalfa/brome
Alfalfa/timothy

Alfalfa/Orchardgrass
Clover / Timothy

Clover/Brome

Examples of Resource Conserving Crop Rotations for Option #3

Corn-alfalfa/brome, alfalfa/brome Spring wheat – alfalfa/brome, alfalfa/brome

4. **A small grain grown in combination with a grass or legume green manure crop, whether inter-seeded or planted after small grain harvest with at least two other crops in the rotation. Neither the small grain residue nor the cover crop shall be harvested or grazed.** The following are examples of a grass or legume that could be inter-seeded or planted after with a small grain:

Alfalfa
Crimson Clover
Cowpeas
Ladino Clover
White Clover

Berseem Clover
Hairy Vetch
Field pea
Red Clover
Rye Grass

Birdsfoot trefoil
Alsike Clover
Kura Clover
Sweetclover

Examples of Resource Conserving Crop Rotations for Option #4:

Spring wheat underseeded with red clover, soybeans, canola

Spring wheat, rye (as a cover), canola, soybeans

Oats underseeded with red clover, corn with a rye cover crop, soybeans

5. **If you are already in a rotation** with a minimum of 2 crops and 1 of those is a perennial grass and/or a legume (for options 1, 2 & 3) or a minimum of 3 crops and 1 of those is a small grain grown in combination with a grass or legume (option 4), you only qualify for this activity if you modify this rotation to a higher conservation level by one of the following methods:
- You agree to start this rotation on additional acres beyond those normally planted to this rotation.
 - You agree to lengthen the rotation by retaining the perennial grass for at least one additional year beyond your normal rotation length (*limited to those rotations with **current** perennial grass and/or legumes rotation length of at least one year beyond the seeding year but not more than 4 current years of perennial grass and/or legume*) or;
 - You agree to add another (different) crop to the rotation, adding to the diversity of crops grown. This crop must not result in two low-residue crops being planted in succession; or;
 - You agree to add an additional annual crop grown with a cover crop (cover crops shall not be harvested or grazed).