

Missouri 2010 MRBI Policies for (799) Monitoring and Evaluation

This FY10 MRBI Policy is based on the Interim Final Rule (IFR) for EQIP, published 1/15/09 in Vol. 74, No. 10 of the Federal Register, under 7 CFR Part 1466, and the Interim Final Rule (IFR) for WHIP, published 1/16/09 in Vol. 74, No. 11 of the Federal Register, under 7 CFR Part 636, and the MRBI Request-for Proposal (RFP), published 3/2/2010 in Vol. 75 No. 40 of the Federal Register, pages 9380 thru 9387.

Planned conservation practices must be maintained for the lifespan of the practice, as indicated on the NRCS-CPA-1155 or -1156. All practices must also meet the minimum criteria in the Conservation Practice Standard (see the Missouri eFOTG) and the criteria listed below. Extents above the minimum necessary to meet practice criteria are not eligible for payment. Note: Payment for some practices is only authorized when used in conjunction with another practice, as detailed in the Conservation Plan of Operation (CPO). Payment for any (799) Monitoring and Evaluation option is only available when used in conjunction with another MRBI-listed practice. In addition, any (799) option that is structural (has an "S" on the option line) must be used in conjunction with a 'Data Collection' option, to meet the requirement of the (799) Conservation Practice Standard.

Maximum Amounts for the life of the contract are established on certain conservation practices or options, as noted in this Policy. EQIP funds provide financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to help these producers enhance agricultural and forested lands in a cost-effective and environmentally beneficial manner. Establishing Maximum Amounts for the contract allows Missouri NRCS to make EQIP funding assistance available to a larger number of eligible farmers, ranchers and forest producers here in Missouri, and also as a method to make funding available to eligible producers regardless of size of operation (i.e., by not obligating large amounts of funds on operations with more acres, Missouri EQIP funds will be available to a larger number of separate operations). Maximum Amounts for the contract are not intended for multiple offers on different acres when those acres are controlled by the same applicant(s), where 'control' means possession of the land by ownership, written lease, or other legal agreement (as generally indicated on FSA's EZ156 &/or AD-1026A forms). HU Maximum Amounts refers to the maximum contract payment for Historically Underserved Farmers (Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers as defined in the 2009 EQIP Interim Final Rule).

HU Payment Rate refers to the payment rate for Historically Underserved Farmers (Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers as defined in the 2009 EQIP Interim Final Rule)

Payments for some (799) Testing and/or Collection options (identified by "M" in the option line), are intended to be implemented at least two years, but no more than three years within the length of the contract. The first payment will be made as a 'baseline type' payment (prior to installation of another MRBI-listed practice), with the second payment made after installation of the MRBI practice and completion of the second (799) Testing and/or Collection activity. Please note that all 'In-Field Monitoring' options must be used in conjunction with (590) Nutrient Management, even if the applicant is not eligible for any (590) financial assistance.

The contract holder is responsible for the installation, use, and maintenance of all components required in the conservation management system.

Monitoring Plan: Each MRBI Contract holder participating in the MRBI Interim Conservation Practice Standard (799) Monitoring and Evaluation will develop a monitoring plan (contract monitoring plan). The monitoring plan will comply with the (799) Conservation Practice Standard and be utilized to identify the appropriate conservation practice payment schedules for interim practice (799) for contract purposes. The monitoring plan will be used to identify the activities that will be performed, on an annual basis, to comply with contract time lines and identify when an activity has been completed so payment can be requested.

Practice Code	Practice Unit	Conservation Practice	Pmt Unit	Payment Rate	Maximum Amount 4/	HU Payment Rate	HU Maximum Amount 4/	Lifespan
		Monitoring and Evaluation						
		Edge of Field Flow Monitoring Surface Flow Equipment (S)	Number	\$11,099.00		\$13,391.00		
		Edge of Field Flow Monitoring Terrace UGO Flow Equipment (S)	Number	\$4,030.00		\$4,836.00		
		Edge of Field Flow Monitoring Drain Tile Flow Equipment (S)	Number	\$4,514.00		\$5,417.00		
		Edge of Field Monitoring Weather Station Equipment (S)	Number	\$523.00		\$628.00		
		Edge of Field Flow Monitoring Data Collection (M)	Number	\$716.00		\$859.00		
		Edge of Field Water Sampling Portable Sampler (S)	Number	\$3,815.00		\$4,578.00		
		Edge of Field Water Sampling Data Collection (per 10 events) (M)	Number	\$5,091.00		\$6,109.00		
		Protocol (procedure) for Edge-of-Field activities conducted under Conservation Practice Standard Interim (799) Monitoring and Evaluation is based on the Technology Acceptance Reciprocity Partnership (TARP) Protocol for Storm Water Best Management Practices Demonstrations, in-field water quality research project, municipal combined sewer overflow (CSO) and storm water flow monitoring publications.						
799	Number	In Field Monitoring Pre-Plant Soil Testing (M)	Acre	\$3.11	\$900	\$3.73	\$1,100	1 Year
		In Field Monitoring Pre-Sidedress (late-spring) Soil Testing (M)	Acre	\$3.11	\$900	\$3.73	\$1,100	
		In Field Monitoring Crop Canopy Color Sensing (M)	Acre	\$12.85	\$3,850	\$15.42	\$4,625	
		In Field Monitoring In Season Crop Tissue Testing (M)	Acre	\$4.12	\$1,250	\$4.94	\$1,500	
		In Field Monitoring Cornstalk Nitrate Tissue Testing (M)	per Field	\$366.30	\$3,300	\$439.56	\$3,900	
		In Field Monitoring Soil Health Testing (M)	per Test	\$82.00	\$2,450	\$99.00	\$2,975	
		Protocol (procedure) for In-Field activities conducted under Conservation Practice Standard Interim (799) Monitoring and Evaluation largely evaluates the soil- and plant tissue-based status of nitrogen for corn production. These tests do not directly measure water quality benefits when installing conservation practices. Rather, they utilize soil and plant indicators of sufficient but not excessive nitrogen fertilizer application. These In-Field tests were developed to help fine-tune the application of nitrogen fertilizer to maximize agronomic and economic benefits for corn production systems, and have not been calibrated for other nutrients or other crops. NOTE: All In-Field options must be used in conjunction with "Nutrient Management" in order to accurately evaluate nutrient application and plant use.						

1. See the "Monitoring and Evaluation" interim conservation practice standard.

FY10 Missouri NRCS
EQIP Policies for (799) Monitoring and Evaluation in the MRBI Project

Practice Code	Practice Unit	Conservation Practice	Pmt Unit	Payment Rate	Maximum Amount 4/	HU Payment Rate	HU Maximum Amount 4/	Lifespan
<p>Monitoring Plan: Each Contract holder participating in the MRBI with Interim Conservation Practice Standard (799) Monitoring and Evaluation will develop a monitoring plan (contract monitoring plan). The monitoring plan will comply with the standard and be utilized to identify the appropriate conservation practice payment schedules for interim practice 799 for contract purposes. The monitoring plan will be used to identify the activities that will be performed, on an annual basis, to comply with contract time lines and identify when an activity has been completed so payment can be requested. Payment for any (799) Monitoring and Evaluation option is only available when used in conjunction with another MRBI-listed practice.</p>								
Footnotes and Acronym Information								
3/		HU Payment Rate refers to the payment rate for Historically Underserved Farmers (Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers as defined in the 2009 EQIP Interim Final Rule)						
4/		Maximum Amounts for the life of the contract are established on certain conservation practices or options, as noted in this Policy. EQIP funds provide financial assistance to eligible farmers and ranchers to help these producers enhance agricultural and forested lands in a cost-effective and environmentally beneficial manner. Establishing Maximum Amounts for the contract allows Missouri NRCS to make EQIP funding assistance available to a larger number of eligible farmers, ranchers and forest producers here in Missouri, and also as a method to make funding available to eligible producers regardless of size of operation (i.e., by not obligating large amounts of funds on operations with more acres, Missouri EQIP funds will be available to a larger number of separate operations). Maximum Amounts for the contract are not intended for multiple offers on different acres when those acres are controlled by the same applicant(s), where 'control' means possession of the land by ownership, written lease, or other legal agreement (as generally indicated on FSA's EZ156 &/or AD-1026A forms). HU Maximum Amounts refers to the maximum contract payment for Historically Underserved Farmers (Limited Resource Farmers, Beginning Farmers, and Socially Disadvantaged Farmers as defined in the 2009 EQIP Interim Final Rule).						
M		Conservation activities that generally require site-specific management techniques and/or methods, and have a practice lifespan of one year. In <i>some cases</i> , as indicated by "M" in the option line, the option must be adopted/applied at least two years within the length of the contract period (but no more than three years). These are only available for payment on acres where the practice option has not been previously applied &/or utilized, and where there will be a higher level of management.						
S		Conservation practices that are either structural or vegetative, and involve the establishment, construction, or installation of site-specific measures. Vegetative practices involve the establishment or planting of site-specific vegetative measures. Payments are established as a one-time only payment, not multi-year payments.						