United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

340 - Conservation Cover Implementation Requirements

Producer: _____ **Project or Contract:** _____

Location: _____ **County:** _____

Farm Name: _____ **Tract Number:** _____

Practice Location Map

(showing detailed aerial view of where practice is to be installed on farm/site, showing all major components, stationing, relative location to any landmarks, and survey benchmarks)

Index

____ Cover Sheet

____ Specifications

____ Cost Estimate and Project Bid Form

____ Operation & Maintenance

Utility Safety / One-Call System Information

Description of work:

_____

NRCS Review Only

Designed By: _____ **Date:** _____

Checked By: _____ **Date:** _____

Approved By: _____ **Date:** _____

340 - Cover Crop
Implementation Requirements

The Practice Purpose(s):

____ Reduce erosion from wind and water.

____ Increase soil organic matter content.

____ Capture and recycle or redistribute nutrients in the soil profile.

____ Promote biological nitrogen fixation and reduce energy use.

____ Increase biodiversity.

____ Suppress weeds.

____ Manage soil moisture.

____ Minimize and reduce soil compaction.

Seeding and Management: *Fill in the following table with the appropriate cover crop information for each field.*

Field #	Acres	Species	Seeding rate (lbs/ac PLS*)	Seeding date range	Seeding method	Termination date or stage	Termination method

**To figure Pure Live Seed (PLS) rates, multiply the percent purity by the percent germination. Divide the seeding rate by the percent PLS to find the bulk seed needed per acre. For example: 98% purity X 60% germination = 0.588% PLS 10 lbs/acre X 0.588% PLS = 17 lbs/acre.*

Soil Amendments, if needed. *Apply soil amendments prior to seedbed preparation or before seeding if a no-till drill is used.*

Field	N fertilizer needed (lbs/acre)	K20 fertilizer needed (lbs/acre)	P2O5 fertilizer needed (lbs/acre)

Additional specifications:

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

__ Control growth of the cover crop to reduce competition from volunteer plants and shading.

__ Control weeds in cover crops by mowing or by using other pest management techniques.

__ Control soil moisture depletion by selecting water efficient plant species and terminating the cover crop before excessive transpiration.

__ Evaluate the cover crop to determine if the cover crop is meeting the planned purpose(s). If the cover crop is not meeting the purpose(s) adjust the management, change the species of cover crop, or choose a different technology.