



# CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



## New Mexico Supplemental Criteria and Documentation Requirements For

### All 340 Cover Crop Enhancements:

**E340101Z, E340102Z, E340106Z1, E340106Z2, E340106Z3, E340106Z4, E340107Z, E340118Z, E340119Z, E340134Z**

**General Information:** The cover crops approved for use in New Mexico are presented in the table below according to the primary purpose of the cover crop. If a particular species is not listed, but is preferred in management, the NRCS Field Office will contact the Area Resource Conservationist (ARC) or State Agronomist for approval of that species.

If not otherwise stated in the conservation enhancement activity sheet, cover crops for CSP enhancements must consist of a minimum of two species.

Grazing is allowed with restrictions on some 340 enhancements, so refer to the conservation enhancement activity sheet for those restrictions.

**E340101Z to reduce water erosion:** the water erosion period is during irrigation or during the monsoon season for dryland crops.

**E340102Z to reduce wind erosion:** the critical wind erosion period is Feb 1st to April 1st.

**E340106Z1 to increase soil health and soil organic matter:** NRCS will run WEPS for Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) and Organic Matter (O.M.) subfactor.

**E340106Z2 multi-species to increase soil health and soil organic matter:** NRCS will run WEPS for Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) and Organic Matter (O.M.) subfactor. If cover crops are grazed, a grazing plan must be developed.

**E340106Z3 orchard/vineyard to increase soil health and soil organic matter:** NRCS will run WEPS for Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) and Organic Matter (O.M.) subfactor.

**E340106Z4 use of soil health assessment:** Completing the physical and biological indicators on the NM Soil Health Basic Scorecard (released with Agronomy Technical Note 80 found at NM eFOTG Section 1, <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/treemenuFS.aspx>) will meet the minimum requirements for a soil health assessment. For a better understanding of soil organic matter, the participant may complete a standard soils test or Haney soils test. NRCS will run WEPS for Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) and Organic Matter (O.M.) subfactor.

**E340134Z suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles:** NRCS will complete the CPS 340 Implementation Requirement (IR) and document the specific pest species that will be addressed. Refer to the Cover Crop Table in the IR to identify the cover crop species that serve as alternate hosts for nematodes and diseases and that should be avoided if they will contribute to a pest problem.



# CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM



### Cover Crop Termination

Each enhancement has particular requirements for termination. Refer to the specific conservation enhancement activity sheet and the 340 specification targeting termination before 50% reproductive phase for quickest maturing species in the mix.

### Optional Actions Encouraged for Producers:

- Provide photos, information about establishment and termination successes and failures, observations such as soil temperature at planting, pests impacts on the cover crop, changes in soil properties, water infiltration, etc. (Note: Some soil characteristics take longer than others to notice changes).
- Provide photos of cover crop, especially just before termination. Take one straight down and one in each compass direction from middle of the field.
- Take soils test previous to any 340 enhancement and after the use of cover crops.
- Complete a Basic Soil Health Score Card after cover crop implementation. The NM Soil Health Score Card is found at eFOTG Section 1, Agronomy Technical Note #80.

### Approved Cover Crop Species List for New Mexico

Approval from ARC or State Agronomist is needed for species not listed in the tables below.

Cover Crops for Water and Wind Erosion E340101Z, E340102Z: the crop following the cover crop must be no-till planted. Critical erosion period is from <b>Cover crop shall not be grazed.</b>	Cover Crops for Soil Compaction Reduction E340107Z: mix must include fibrous F (less than 4”) and deep-rooted species D (more than 4”). <b>Cover crop shall not be grazed.</b>
Austrian Winter Peas (Very Good)	Barley (Very Good) (D)
Barley (Excellent)	Clovers (Excellent-Very Good) (F)
Clovers (Very Good-Good)	Milletts (Very Good) (D)
Cowpeas (Excellent)	Oats (Very Good) (D)
Mustards (Very Good)	Radish, Tillage (Excellent) (D)
Oats (Very Good)	Rye (Very good) (F)
Radish (Very Good)	Sorghums and sudangrass (Excellent) (D)
Rye (Excellent)	Sunflower (Very Good) (D)
Sorghums and Sudangrass (Excellent)	Triticale (Very Good) (D)
Triticale (Very Good)	Vetch, Hairy or Woolypod (Very Good)(F)
Wheat (Very Good)	Wheat (Very Good) (D)

\*Performance Measures in parenthesis according to Managing Cover Crops Profitably and NMSU publication “Principles of Cover Cropping for Arid and Semi-Arid Cropping Systems.” Found at: <http://www.sare.org/Learning-Center/Books/Managing-Cover-Crops-Profitably-3rd-Edition> and [http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/\\_a/A150.pdf](http://aces.nmsu.edu/pubs/_a/A150.pdf)



Cover Crops for Quick Growth and Weed Suppression E340134Z- The IR must specify which weed is being suppressed. <b>Cover crop shall not be grazed.</b>	Cover Crop to Break Pest Life Cycles E340134Z- The IR must specify which pest is being addressed. <b>Cover crop shall not be grazed.</b>
Barley (Very Good)	<b>Nematodes</b>
Buckwheat (Excellent) *May become weedy	Rye, Sorghum/Sudan
Clovers, Berseem and Subterranean (Excellent)	Field Peas and Medics
Clovers, Crimson, Red, White, Sweet (Very Good)	Mustards, Radish, Rapeseed
Cowpeas (Excellent)	
Field Peas (Good)	<b>Diseases</b>
Hairy Vetch (Good) *May become weedy	Barley, Oats, Rye
Black Medic (Excellent)	Mustards, Radish, Rapeseed,
Millets (Excellent)	Hairy Vetch *May become weedy
Mustards (Very Good)	Crimson Clover
Oats (Excellent)	Field Peas
Radish (Excellent)	Medics
Rapeseed (Very Good)	Sorghum/Sudan
Rye (Excellent)	
Wheat (Very Good)	
Woodypod vetch (Excellent)	
Sorghums and Sudangrasses (Excellent)	
Cover Crops to increase Organic Matter Content E340106Z1: minimum of 3 species from this category. E340106Z2: minimum of 4 species, with at least 2 species from each of the crop types missing in the rotation. E340106Z3: minimum of 2 species from this category. E340106Z4: minimum 4 species in the mix <b>Some cover crops may be grazed. Check enhancement</b>	Cover Crops to Uptake Excess Nutrients in the Soil E340118Z E340119Z Soil test result should be attached to the IR to document the excess nutrients present in the soil profile. <b>Cover crop shall not be grazed.</b>
Barley (Very Good)-CSG	Barley (Very Good)
Clovers (Excellent-Good)-CSB	Oats (Very Good)
Hairy Vetch (Excellent) *May become weedy	Millets (Very Good)
Millets (Very Good)- WSG	Radish (Excellent)
Mustards (Very Good)- CSB	Rye (Excellent)
Radish (Very Good)-CSB	Sorghums and sudangrass (Excellent)
Rye (Excellent)- CSG	Triticale (Very Good)
Sorghums and sudangrass (Excellent)- WSG	Wheat (Very Good)
Triticale (Very Good)- CSG	
Wheat (Very Good)- CSG	
Woodypod Vetch (Excellent)-CSB	

\*CSG- Cool season grass, WSG- Warm season grass, CSB- Cool season broadleaf, WSB- Warm season broadleaf