



KANSAS SUPPLEMENT TO CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

E340E

Use of soil health assessment to assist with development of cover crop mix to improve soil health

Additional Criteria for Kansas

- Evaluate the impact of current conservation crop rotation in addressing soil organic matter depletion, as well as additional soil health objectives of the individual grower (primary assessment made in Year 1) with the Soil Health Assessment. During Year 3, complete a follow-up assessment. Obtain samples using the following procedure:
 - Collect soil samples and have the samples analyzed by a lab in years 1 and 3.
 - Sampling procedure:
 - Take 15-25 core samples randomly from each identified field. Mix samples thoroughly and save enough to fill a 1-quart sealable, plastic bag.
 - Consider previous crop row spacing and fertilizer placement, and avoid over sampling in these areas.
 - Collect core samples to a depth of 6 inches.
 - Long term no-till fields should be sampled to a depth of 4 inches.
 - Sampling equipment:
 - Use a stainless steel soil-sampling probe.
 - Shovels can be used, if they are rust free and clean.
 - Handling:
 - Samples DO NOT need to be air dried prior to shipping, but should not be saturated either.

(more)



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- Label the sample and include the following information:
 - Name
 - Email
 - Phone number
 - State, where field is located
 - County, where field is located
 - Farm Service Agency (FSA) Tract number
 - FSA Field Number
 - Land use: cropland, pasture
- Ship samples to:
 - Any laboratory capable of performing, at a minimum, an assessment that must account for soil organic matter. The specific assessment selected should provide the grower information based on their soil health objectives (The Haney Soil Health Nutrient Test).
- For cover crops added to the cropping system, refer to [Kansas Conservation Practice Standard 340, Cover Crop](#), Construction Specifications, for seeding requirements. A minimum of four species is required. The species will have a very good or excellent rating for increase in soil organic matter in Table 1 of the [KS-ECS-6](#), Cover Crop Design.
- Cover crops selected will be listed in Table 1 of [Form KS-ECS-6](#), Cover Crop Design.

Additional Documentation Requirements for Kansas

- For cover crops, Form [KS-ECS-6](#), Cover Crop Design, will be used.