



CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E328101Z

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

Conservation crop rotation on recently converted CRP grass/legume cover for water erosion

Conservation Practice 328: Conservation Crop Rotation

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed)

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Soil Erosion

PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 1 Year

Enhancement Description

Implement a crop rotation management system on crop land acres that have recently converted from CRP grass/legume conservation cover to annual planted crops. Crop rotation minimizes disturbance resulting in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) less than 10 and reduces soil erosion from water to below soil tolerance (T) level. The current NRCS wind and water erosion prediction technologies must be used to document the rotation, soil erosion estimate, and STIR calculations. *This enhancement is limited to acres where the conversion event took place not more than 2 years prior. Enhancement not applicable on hayland.

Criteria

- This enhancement is limited to acres where the conversion from CRP grass/legume conservation cover to annual cropland took place not more than 2 years prior to enrollment in CSP. This enhancement is not applicable on hayland.
- Crops shall be grown in a planned sequence as outlined in Plans and Specifications. The crop rotation shall include a minimum of three different crop types. For purposes of these criteria a cover crop is considered a different crop.
- Select crops, a tillage system, and cropping sequences that will produce sufficient and timely quantities of biomass or crop residue which, in conjunction with other



practices in the management system, will reduce soil erosion from water to below soil tolerance (T) level (average annual soil loss).

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- Determine the amount of biomass or crop residue needed by using current NRCS wind and water erosion prediction technologies.
- Where applicable, plan suitable crop substitutions when the planned crop cannot be planted due to weather, soil conditions, or other local situations.
- Crop management minimizes soil disturbance resulting in a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) less than 10 for the crop rotation (management STIR value).

Documentation Requirements

- Conservation Crop Rotation, 328, Implementation Requirements document must be completed per the Plans and Specifications for the planned purpose.
- The current NRCS wind and water erosion prediction technologies must be used to document the crop rotation, soil erosion estimate, and STIR calculation.