United States Department of Agriculture

CONSERVATION ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY

E329144Z

CONSERVATION STEWARDSHIP PROGRAM

No till to reduce energy

Conservation Practice 329: Residue & Tillage Management, No Till

APPLICABLE LAND USE: Crop (Annual & Mixed)

RESOURCE CONCERN ADDRESSED: Inefficient Energy Use

PRACTICE LIFE SPAN: 1 Year

Enhancement Description

Establish a no till system which reduces total energy consumption associated with field operations by at least 25% compared to current tillage system (benchmark). Each crop in the crop rotation shall have a Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) of no greater than 20. The current NRCS wind and water erosion prediction technologies must be used to document STIR calculations and energy consumption.

Criteria

- Residue shall not be burned.
- All residues shall be uniformly distributed over the entire field. Removing residue from the row area prior to or as part of the planting operation is acceptable.
- No full-width tillage is performed from the time of harvest or termination of one cash crop to the time of harvest or termination of the next cash crop in the rotation regardless of the depth of the tillage operation. The Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) value shall include all field operations that are performed during the crop interval between harvest or termination of the previous cash crop and harvest or termination of the current cash crop (includes fallow periods). Each crop must have a STIR value no greater than 20.
- Reduce the total energy consumption associated with field operations by at least 25% compared to the current benchmark tillage system. Use The current NRCS wind and

water erosion prediction technologies for determining energy use to document energy use reductions.

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Documentation Requirements

- Residue and Tillage Management, No till, 329, 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 calculate STIR value and energy consumption.