Purpose. To provide guidance regarding cover crop scenario omission on Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 Regional Conservation Partnership Program (RCPP) cost list.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2022

Background. National Bulletin 300-22-22 provides states guidance on the use of nationally developed State-specific RCPP 2018 payment schedules. For FY2022 Iowa chose not to use project-specific cost lists and instead use the nationally developed Iowa specific payment schedule to support land management and rental (LMR) producer contracts.

The payment schedule was uploaded to Conservation Desktop and is called RCPP 2018. It was later discovered that the “Cover Crop - Basic (Organic and Non-organic)” scenario was erroneously omitted, and that the cost list could not be corrected for FY2022.

Explanation. This bulletin identifies which scenario from the FY2022 RCPP 2018 payment schedule will be used in place of “Cover Crop - Basic (Organic and Non-organic)”.

For FY2022 only, planners will use the “Cover Crop – Multiple Species (Organic and Non-organic)” scenario for any RCPP 2018 applicants wanting to implement the “Cover Crop - Basic (Organic and Non-organic)” scenario. Applicants selected for funding won’t be required to seed more than one winter hardy species. However, planners can encourage applicants to seed more than one species.

Planners will document this decision in the client’s Conservation Assistant Notes (NRCS-CPA-6), citing this bulletin as support for selecting “Cover Crop – Multiple Species (Organic and Non-organic)” as a substitution for “Cover Crop - Basic (Organic and Non-organic)” scenario for FY2022. A copy of this bulletin should be uploaded with the NRCS-CPA-6 notes in the Document Management System (DMS).

Any applicants requesting to implement a multi-species cover crop are not exempt from following the cover crop standard and specifications for “Cover Crop – Multiple Species (Organic and Non-organic)”.

Contact. If you have questions, please contact Sam Adams, Assistant State Conservationist-Programs, at (515) 323-2209 or at sam.adams@usda.gov.

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