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Transmitted via Email

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MINNESOTA BULLETIN NO. 300-7-14

SUBJECT: LTP - TSP-TECHNICAL SERVICE PROVIDER (TSP) TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE (TA)
NOT TO EXCEED RATES

Purpose. To distribute guidance on use of “Not to Exceed” rates.

Expiration Date. September 30, 2007

Current TechReg TSP “Not-to-Exceed” (NTE) rates will be used to determine TSP TA rates for new line items in any Fiscal Year (FY) EQIP contract. The rates will also be used to estimate total value of conservation practice design, installation and checkout services to be provided in new contribution agreements.

Use rates in place at the time EQIP contracts were finalized when increasing units of current line items.

Using the TECHREG Website to calculate rates.

See Bulletin 300-6-21 if instructions are needed.

Supplemental NTE Rate guidance for adding nutrient or pest management TA as a new line item into EQIP contracts or adding these practices into a new Contribution Agreement .

1. EQIP contracts adding TA should be adding TA for 2nd or 3rd year management.
 - a. Use the “cropland” land use for Pest Management or Nutrient Management without manure.
 - b. Use the “CNMP” land use and nutrient management (590) for second and third year Nutrient Management with manure.

2. New Contribution Agreements
 - a. Use the “CNMP” land use and Waste Utilization Practice (633) for the 1st year of nutrient management with manure.
 - b. See 1a. and 1b. above for pest management; nutrient management without manure; or 2nd or 3rd year nutrient management with manure.
 - c. Reminder: Nutrient management should only be placed into new contribution agreements to work with producers who are not receiving the higher level of EQIP FA associated with use of a private sector TSP. Pest management is not eligible to be placed into new contribution agreements.

Supplemental NTE Rate guidance for engineering practices associated with manure, wastewater and animal by-product handling, storage, treatment or transfer.



For manure management systems comprised of numerous components select the most appropriate system(s) for practice 313, Waste Storage Facility. However, calculate and separately show the following practices not included in practice 313 systems:

Animal Mortality Facilities (316); Closure of Waste Impoundments (360); Composting Facilities (317); Waste Facility Covers (367); and Wastewater Treatment Strip (635).

Other Supplemental Guidance

Field Borders (386) - Use either Filter Strip (393) or Critical Area Planting (342) to derive rates. Remember that field border units are in feet and 393 and 342 units are in acres.

Submit a written request with documentation to the State Conservationist requesting approval of a revised rate if special circumstances exist that justify a higher technical assistance rate than indicated by the NTE calculator. The request must be made prior to obligating TA funds.

Contact your Area Engineer or Area Resource Conservationist for rates on general or specific practices not listed in the calculator. They will forward your request with their recommendations to John Brach or Jeff St. Ores in the state office for approval.

/s/

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State Conservationist

DIST: ASTC (FO)

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