

Proposed Changes to the 2011 EQIP practice payment schedule

GENERAL INSTRUCTIONS/PROGRAM PROVISIONS/GENERAL PROVISIONS

- Established payment caps (Provision 14) as being per individual or entity for the life of the current farm bill for specified management practices. Payment caps also are used on a per practice basis for specified practices.

PRACTICE STANDARD 472 – ACCESS CONTROL (formerly USE EXCLUSION) (ac)

- Payment Cap established.

PRACTICE STANDARD 314 – BRUSH MANAGEMENT (ac)

- New practice.
- Moved invasive species control for woody plants to this standard.

PRACTICE STANDARD 340 - COVER CROP (ac)

- Eliminated separate payment rates for small grain fall versus spring seeded.
- Payment Cap established

PRACTICE STANDARD 356 - DIKE (ft)

- Clarified fill height measurement.

PRACTICE STANDARD 554 – DRAINAGE WATER MANAGEMENT (ac)

- Payment Cap established

PRACTICE STANDARD 647 - EARLY SUCCESSIONAL HABITAT DEVELOPMENT AND MANAGEMENT (ac)

- Added component for Hydroaxe

PRACTICE STANDARD 666 - FOREST STAND IMPROVEMENT (ac)

- Added component for white pine blister rust control

PRACTICE STANDARD 422 – HEDGEROW PLANTING (ft)

- New practice

PRACTICE STANDARD 315 – HERBACEOUS WEED CONTROL (ac)

- New practice
- Moved invasive species control for non-woody plants to this standard.
- Moved establishment weed control for all grass plantings to this standard.
- Establishment weed control payment is for either 2 mechanical treatments or 1 chemical treatment.

PRACTICE STANDARD 590 - NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT (ac)

- Revised to Basic and Enhanced components
- All 590 will use an advisor certified by NRCS as a nutrient specialist (private sector or SWCD/JPB individual). NRCS will act as an advisor only as a last resort
- Irrigation Water Management (449) is a required core practice for use on irrigated land where 590 is applied.

- Drainage Water Management (554) is a required core practice where feasible, for use on drained land where 590 is applied. Field slope must be $\leq 0.5\%$ and existing subsurface tile lines must be on the approximate contour.
- If core practices have already been applied, they will be documented in the plan and required to be continued.
- Erosion must be controlled as close to T as possible but at least to 6 tons per acre per year.
- Concentrated flow erosion must be controlled/stabilized as much as possible.

PRACTICE STANDARD 512 - PASTURE AND HAY PLANTING (ac)

- Added Legume Interseeding

PRACTICE STANDARD 595 - PEST MANAGEMENT (ac)

- Removed all weed control aspects and invasive species items
- Added IPM for orchards, level 1 and level 2
- Payment Cap established

PRACTICE STANDARD 516 - PIPELINE (ft)

- Added Directional boring

PRACTICE STANDARD 528 - PRESCRIBED GRAZING (ac)

- Payment Cap established

PRACTICE STANDARD 345 - RESIDUE AND TILLAGE MANAGEMENT- MULCH TILL (ac)

- Payment for Mulch Till is limited to those fields where the primary resource concern is wind erosion and the primary soils to be addressed are in Wind Erodibility Group 1 or 2.

PRACTICE STANDARD 329 - RESIDUE AND TILLAGE MANAGEMENT - NO TILL, STRIP TILL (ac)

PRACTICE STANDARD 346 - RESIDUE AND TILLAGE MANAGEMENT- RIDGE TILL (ac)

- Payment Cap established

PRACTICE STANDARD 643 - RESTORATION AND MANAGEMENT OF DECLINING HABITATS (ac)

PRACTICE STANDARD 391 - RIPARIAN FOREST BUFFER (ac)

PRACTICE STANDARD 612 - TREE/SHRUB ESTABLISHMENT (ac)

PRACTICE STANDARD 645 - UPLAND WILDLIFE HABITAT MANAGEMENT (ac)

PRACTICE STANDARD 380 - WINDBREAK (ft)

- Moved component for tree shelters to each practice
- Moved component for Animal Repellant to each practice
- Incorporated payment for establishment weed control for trees into payment rates
- Payment for trees is the same regardless of establishment weed control method used.

PRACTICE STANDARD 638 - WATER AND SEDIMENT CONTROL BASIN (no)

- Added 3 new separations to fill heights
- Clarified fill height measurement.

PRACTICE STANDARD 614 - WATERING FACILITY (no)

- Removed separate payment for tire tanks

PRACTICE STANDARD 798 – SEASONAL HIGH TUNNEL SYSTEM FOR CROPS

- Removed the requirement for existing cropland.
- Removed restriction regarding installation of electrical & ventilation systems, but any additional costs for such systems are the responsibility of the participant.

CONSERVATION ACTIVITY PLANS – 2011 PROGRAM

- Conservation Activity Plans will be offered in 2011
- Nutrient Management Plan – Written
- Irrigation Water Management Plan – Written
- Agricultural Energy Management Plan, Headquarters – Written
- Agricultural Energy Management Plan, Landscape – Written
- Drainage Water Management Plan – Written
- Conservation Plan Supporting Organic Transition – Written
- Only certified Technical Service Providers (TSPs) may be used to provide services for development of conservation activity plans

ORGANIC INITIATIVE PAYMENT SCHEDULE

- A separate payment schedule will be issued for Organic applicants
- 328, 511, 590, and 595 have specific items to Organic applications