



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation – Supplemental Payment Activity – CCR99



Definition - Resource-Conserving Crop

Resource conserving crops are defined as:

- a) a perennial grass, legume, or grass/legume grown for use as forage, seed for planting, or green manure,
- b) a high residue producing crop, or
- c) a cover crop following an annual crop.

Note: This enhancement can apply to either the adoption of a resource-conserving crop rotation (RCCR) or an existing rotation that meets the criteria for improving a resource-that meets the

criteria of an RCCR that is modified to a higher conservation level such as:

- a) more years of grass and/or legumes,
(Limited to those rotations with a current increment in perennial grass and/or legumes of two or three years)
- b) more crop diversity,
- c) more annual crops with cover crops, or
- d) more years of a high residue crops, etc.).
(Addition of high residue crops resulting in successive plantings of the same crop is not permissible.)

Land Use Applicability

This enhancement is applicable on cropland (not applicable for orchards or permanent hayland)

Benefits

A resource-conserving crop rotation means a crop rotation that includes at least one resource conserving crop, and reduces wind and water erosion, increases soil organic matter, improves soil fertility and tilth, interrupts pest cycles, reduces depletion of soil moisture or reduce the need for irrigation in applicable areas, and may provide protection and habitat for pollinators.

Criteria for Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation

General Criteria:

1. The rotation shall cover at least 3 years of the CSP contract.
2. The resource conserving crop rotation is considered adopted when the resource conserving crop is planted on at least 1/3 of the rotation acres. The resource conserving crop must be adopted by the third year of the contract and established or planted on all rotation acres by the fifth year of the contract.



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Cropping Criteria Options:

1. A minimum of two crops if one of the crops is a perennial lasting at least 2 years, OR;
2. A minimum of 2 crops, if no perennial, with a cover crop (not harvested) following one of the crop years (no silage or crop residue removed from the system), this may include a summer fallow if seeded to a cover crop, OR;
3. A minimum of 3 crops, if no perennial, where at least 1/2 the rotation consists of high residue crops.

Documentation Requirements for *Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation*

Planned Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation(s):

List crop rotation(s), resource conserving crops, and cover crops that will follow the specific crops as applicable for each rotation to receive supplemental payment:

Rotation#1: _____ Fields: _____ Years _____
Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: _____

Rotation#2: _____ Fields: _____ Years _____
Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: _____

Rotation#3: _____ Fields: _____ Years _____
Resource Conserving Crop(s) to be used: _____

Records:

- Crop rotation records by field
- Cover crops planted



MINNESOTA SUPPLEMENT TO THE RESOURCE CONSERVING CROP ROTATION (CCR99) SUPPLEMENTAL PAYMENT ACTIVITY:

1. **A minimum of 2 crops if 1 of the crops is a perennial lasting at least 2 years** (the perennial crop must be in rotation with annual crops). If you are already in a rotation with a minimum of 2 crops and 1 of the crops is a perennial lasting at least two years, you only qualify for this option if:
 - You agree to lengthen the rotation by retaining the perennial crop for at least one additional year beyond your normal rotation length or;
 - You agree to start this rotation on additional acres beyond those normally planted to a perennial crop.

The following are perennial grasses, legumes, or grass/legume mixes grown for use as forage, seed for planting or green manure that could last at least 2 years:

Alfalfa	Kentucky bluegrass	Sweetclover
Alfalfa / brome	Kura Clover	Timothy
Berseem Clover	Medics	Tall fescue
Birdsfoot trefoil	Orchardgrass	White Clover
Crimson Clover	Perennial Ryegrass	
Hairy Vetch	Red Clover	

2. **A minimum of 2 crops, if no perennial, with a cover crop (not harvested) following 1 of the crop years (no silage or crop residue removed from the system). This may include a summer fallow if seeded to a cover crop. Cover crops must be established early enough in growing season to provide adequate cover.** The following are cover crops:

Alsike Clover	Forage Radish	Spring Wheat
Annual Ryegrass	Hairy Vetch	Sweetclover
Barley	Mustards	Triticale
Buckwheat	Oats	Turnip
Cereal Rye	Oilseed Radish	White Clover
Cowpeas	Red Clover	Winter Wheat
Crimson clover	Sorghum/Sudangrass	
Field pea	Hybrids	

- Removal of Stover by baling or other methods is not allowed (no silage or crop residue can be removed from the system).
- Cover crops seeded in the spring, at or before planting a full season crop, which are subsequently destroyed prior to harvesting the full season crop; do NOT qualify for this option.



3. **A minimum of 3 crops, if no perennial, where at least ½ the rotation consists of high residue crops.** The following are high residue producing crops:

Barley	Flax	Sorghum
Buckwheat	Millet	Sorghum/Sudangrass
Canola	Oats	Triticale
Cereal Rye	Popcorn	Winter Wheat
Corn	Spring Wheat	Perennial Ryegrass

- All high residue crops may not be harvested for silage or have greater than 40% of the stover baled and removed. Other low residue crops can be harvested for silage and/or have crop stover removed
- Residual grazing of crop stover is allowed.

If there are high residue crops that you would like to include in a resource conserving crop rotation that are not listed above, please contact your local NRCS field office to determine if the crop is appropriate for this activity.

Examples of Resource Conserving Crop Rotations for Option #3:

- Corn-Soybeans-Wheat
- Corn-Soybean-Sugar Beets-winter wheat
- Soybeans, winter wheat, soybeans, spring wheat

If you are already in a rotation with a minimum of 3 crops where at least ½ of the rotation consists of high residue crops you only qualify for this option if:

- You agree to lengthen the rotation by planting another high residue crop and that crop is not planted in consecutive years (successive plantings of the same crop is not permissible) or:
- You agree to start this rotation on additional acres beyond those normally planted to these requirements.

Examples of planting another high residue crop in a Corn-Soybean–Wheat rotation:

- Corn-Soybean-Wheat–Canola