

Environmental Quality Incentives Program

2012 EQIP Signup

Minnesota Supplement for:
Practice Standard 328 – Conservation Crop Rotation

Supplemental Criteria

1. Payment is not authorized for any Conservation Crop Rotation and Forage and Biomass Planting on the same acreage.

Annual Crop Rotation to 2 Years with conserving crop

1. For Conservation Crop Rotation, payment is authorized on eligible acres, not to exceed 3 separate payments during the term of a contract. Participants must be able to demonstrate that the applied for acres have a prolonged history of continuous annual crop. Participants receiving the Organic Conservation Crop Rotation payment are not eligible for the Annual Crop Rotation payment on any acres. Participants utilizing the Low residue crops to high residue rotation are not eligible for the Annual Crop Rotation on the same acres.
2. Payment is made after the most conserving crop of the crop rotation is planted. Payment is made only on those acres seeded to the most conserving crop.
3. Eligible acres are those where the current rotation is annual crops and is significantly changed to include at least two years or more of rotation legumes, grass and legume mixtures, and other approved green manure and cover crops.
4. Per national policy 515.80.A5, If an EQIP plan of operations includes conservation practices related to organic production or the transition to organic production, the participant must develop and implement as scheduled, an organic system plan, prior to applying a conservation practice. Note: The participant must work toward implementing the required plan but it is not a requirement that all planned items be included in the contract.

Low Residue specialty crops to High Residue crops

1. For Low Residue specialty crops to High residue rotation, a one-time payment is authorized on eligible acres. Participants receiving the Organic Conservation Crop Rotation payment are not eligible for this payment on any acres. Participants utilizing the Annual Crop Rotation are not eligible for this rotation on the same acres.
2. Payment is to be made after the 2nd year of the high residue crop is planted. When installed, the final crop rotation will be a minimum 4 year rotation with 2 years of high residue crops.
3. Eligible acres are those where the current rotation is comprised of low residue, specialty crops AND 33% or less of high residue crops. The rotation must be significantly changed to include at least 50% of high residue crops AND be a minimum 4 year rotation. Low residue specialty crops are sugarbeets, potatoes, dry

edible beans, and dry peas. Low residue specialty crops are generally harvested with a digging or knifing operation that destroys the crops residue leaving little residue to manage. High residue crops are corn and small grains.

4. The high residue crops must be maintained with adequate soil cover over the winter to control soil erosion. A minimum of 30% cover will be maintained over winter.