

Strip cropping

Definition/Purpose

A strip cropping practice means to grow planned alternating strips of erosion resistant and erosion susceptible crops or fallow in a systematic arrangement across a field to improve water quality. Benefits may include reduced soil erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved and sediment-attached substances.

Policies

1. Precision land forming and smoothing for strip cropping is intended to be used only where existing terraces, diversions or other minor landscape features must be removed prior to initiating a strip cropping system.
2. When determining the acreage for which payments can be made for this practice, only the acreage actually planted shall be considered. The area occupied by farm roads, best management practices, ditches, structures, etc. shall not be included in the planted acreage.
3. Strips must be maintained as installed for five years.

STRIP CROPPING	
Maintenance Period	5 years
BMP Units	ACRES
Required Effects	SOIL_SAVED PHOSPHORUS_SAVED ACRES_AFFECTED (planted acres and drainage area)
JAA/NRCS Standard unless otherwise noted	ECS - 585 – Strip cropping
Supporting Practices	ECS - 328 - Conservation Crop Rotation ECS - 511 - Forage Harvest Management
CS2 Reference Materials	NC-ACSP-11 Signature Page Map with BMP location, fields, and roads