

## 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)

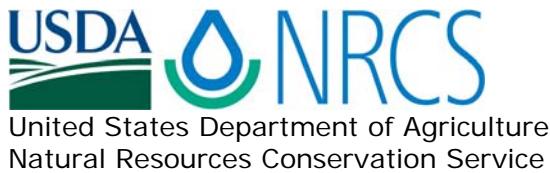
### Benefits

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

## TENNESSEE SUPPLEMENTAL INFORMATION FOR THIS ENHANCEMENT

### ***Resource-Conserving Crop Rotation – Supplemental Payment Activity – CCR99***

#### **Cropping Criteria Options:**

**Criteria 1:** The resource conserving crop for this criteria is the perennial (utilized for haying or incidental grazing) lasting at least 2 years. Cover crops for this criteria would include:

<b>Cool Season Perennial Grasses:</b>	<b>Warm Season Perennial Grasses:</b>	<b>Legumes:</b>
kentucky bluegrass	bermudagrass	alfalfa
orchardgrass	big bluestem	red clover
reed canarygrass	caucasian bluestem	white clover
tall fescue	dallisgrass	
timothy	eastern gamagrass	
	indiangrass	
	switchgrass	

Cool season grass mixtures and grass/legume mixtures would also meet this criteria.

**NOTE:** Grazed perennials would be a conserving crop when minimum grazing end heights are respected.

**Criteria 2:** The resource conserving crop for this criteria is the cover crop (not harvested) when following a low residue crop. Cover crops for this criteria would include:

barley  
crimson clover  
hairy vetch  
oats  
cereal rye  
wheat

**Criteria 3:** The resource conserving crop for this criteria is the high residue crop. High residue crops to be used for this criteria include:

corn  
small grains (including millets)  
sorghums

**NOTE:** All silage and grazed crops would be considered low residue crops.