

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE



Tennessee Specification Sheet Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP) Cooperative Conservation Partnership Incentive

COOPERATIVE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE (CCPI) PLANNING AND SPECIFICATION WORKSHEET -BOBWHITE QUAIL HABITAT - FISCAL YEARS 2009-2010

Priority Counties

West Tennessee: **Carroll, Crockett, Dyer, Fayette, Gibson, Haywood, Henry, Lauderdale, Madison, Obion, Tipton, Weakley**

Northern Middle Tennessee: **Montgomery, Robertson, Sumner**

Southern Middle Tennessee: **Coffee, Franklin, Giles, Lincoln, Maury**

Cumberland Plateau: **Cumberland, Loudon, Meigs, McMinn, Monroe, Rhea**

Upper East Tennessee: **Greene, Hawkins**



Contract Requirements

- Practices must be started within 12 months of contract approval.
- Contract length 2-10 years. At least 1 year of operation/maintenance required after the last practice installed. Participant must maintain the established cover for the contract period.
- Eligible practices/treatments are:
 1. Minimum 5 acres of native grass/forb establishment, with 2.5% to 30% shrub establishment, "woodland edge feathering", or a combination. Up to 10% of the planned native grass establishment acreage is eligible for perennial food plots with no incentives.
 2. Manipulation of at least 5 acres of existing (**not under state or federal govt. contract**) native grass/forb stand by either strip disking, strip herbiciding, or prescribed burning, with required legume interseeding; required shrub establishment of between 2.5% and 30% of grass acreage, or edge feathering, if no existing shrub habitat exists.
 3. Prescribed burning of thinned pine or hardwood stands with basal areas of 40 or less and within 550 yards (500 meters) of existing native grass fields. If further than 550 yards away, thinned woodlands must be at least 20 acres in size.

Eligible Payments

- EQIP provides 75% of the state average cost for the installation of eligible practices for most participants; 90% of the state average cost for eligible "limited resource", "beginning", or "socially disadvantaged farmers".
- NRCS payments based on EQIP "Payment Schedule" in place at contract approval.
- The Tennessee Wildlife Resources Agency (TWRA) provides a one time incentive payment of \$100/acre for the **establishment** of approved native grass mixtures, subject to participant application and approval. Shrub establishment will be by planting or edge feathering, without additional incentive payment.
- TWRA provides a one time incentive payment of \$30/acre for strip disking, strip herbiciding, or prescribed burning (with required legume interseeding) of **existing** native grass stands, after participant application and approval.
- TWRA provides a one time incentive payment of \$200/acre for each acre of native shrub or hedgerow establishment associated with **existing** native grass stands (from 2.5% up to 30% of existing grass acreage), subject to participant application and approval.
- TWRA provides a one time incentive payment of \$15/acre for prescribed burn of "thinned woodland" near native grass stands, after participant application and approval. Woodlands must be within 550 yards, or at least 20 acres.
- TWRA incentive payments limited to a maximum of \$5,000 per contract. To receive TWRA incentive payments, incentivized practices must be implemented, and incentive payment forms properly completed and submitted by June 1, 2011. TWRA incentive funds are limited, and will be dispensed on a first come first serve basis.

EQIP CCPI

Eligible Native Grass/Forb and Shrub Mixtures

Mix 1	(per acre)	Mix 2	(per acre)	Mix 3	(per acre)
Little bluestem	3 lb	Little bluestem	2 lb	Little bluestem	2 lb
Sideoats grama	1 lb	Sideoats grama	2 lb	Sideoats grama	1 lb
Switchgrass (Blackwell)	0.5 lb	Indiangrass	0.5 lb	Big bluestem	0.5 lb
Native forb/legume mix (2 species)	2 lb	Native forb/legume mix (2 species)	2 lb	Indiangrass	0.5 lb
				Switchgrass	0.5 lb
				Native forb/legume mix (2 species)	2 lb.

Native forb/legume species eligible for the above three native grass mixtures include:

Blackeyed susan	Purple prairie clover	Partridge pea	Illinois bundleflower	Maximilian sunflower
Lanceleaf coreopsis	Purple coneflower			

Shrub Component – An equal mixture of 3 species from the list below (only one sumac species). Consider mixtures that provide the longest bloom period possible in the growing season. All shrubs are planted on an 8x8 foot spacing between 12/1 and 4/1. Shade tolerant species (except spicebush) do well in full sun and will produce more flowers with more light exposure.

<u>Species</u>	<u>Bloom period</u>	<u>Shade tolerance</u>	<u>Site Condition Range *</u>
Crabapple (<i>Malus angustifolia</i>)	March-April	Full sun	Moist, well drained
Dogwood, silky (<i>Cornus amomum</i>)	March-May	Shade tolerant	Moist to poorly drained
Plum, Chickasaw (<i>P. angustifolia</i>)	March-May	Shade tolerant	Dry, well drained
Spicebush (<i>Lindera benzoin</i>)	April	Prefers shade	Moist, somewhat poorly drained
Plum, American (wild) (<i>P. Americana</i>)	April-May	Shade tolerant	Moist, well drained
Chinkapin (<i>Castanea pumila</i>)	April-June	Partial shade	Dry, well drained
Indigobush (<i>Amorpha fruticosa</i>)	April-June	Full sun	Moist, mod. well drained
Sumac, fragrant (<i>Rhus aromatica</i>)	April-June	Partial shade	Dry, well drained
Beautyberry (<i>Callicarpa americana</i>)	May-July	Partial shade	Moist, mod. well drained
Elderberry (<i>Sambucus canadensis</i>)	May-July	Partial shade	Moist, somewhat poorly drained
Sumac, shining (<i>Rhus capallinum</i>)	June-July	Full sun	Dry, well drained
Sumac, staghorn (<i>Rhus hirta</i>)	June-July	Shade tolerant	Dry, well drained
Viburnum, Mapleleaf (<i>V. acerifolium</i>)	May-August	Shade tolerant	Moist, well drained to Dry

- **Moist = Wetter than moderately well drained soil; good moisture holding capacity; generally not hydric.**
- **Dry = Drier than a well drained soil, tending toward droughty.**
- **Poorly drained = generally a hydric soil due to persistent high water table.**
- **Somewhat poorly drained = Wetness limited soil (2w or 3w) usually not hydric.**



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