

## Requirements for Forage Biomass Planting (512) 2012 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

### Eligible lands: Crop and Pastureland

#### Cropland (existing land use):

Cropland conversion is eligible. All approved species listed in the FOTG under 512 can be planted for cropland conversion to pasture or hay land.

#### Pasture (existing land use):

No more than 20% of the total pasture acreage is eligible for Warm Season Grass planting (This does not mean 20% of each field). Current stocking rate for the operation and documentation in the GRAZE Program (Forage Animal Balance software) must show 33% or less of the livestock requirement comes from supplemental feed (e.g. hay).

#### Hayland (existing land use):

Hayland is only eligible for the establishment of NWSG.

Based on the criteria listed above and soil, forage management, and production needs select one of the following forages:

<u>Species</u>	<u>Rate/ac</u>	<u>Planting Date</u>	<u>Landuse</u>
<b>Bermudagrass</b>	8 lb/ac	April 15 – July 1	Pasture only
<b>Bermudagrass</b> sprigs or cuttings	24 cu. Ft./ac	April 15 – July 1	Pasture only
<b>Native Warm Season Grass (NWSG)</b> Any mix of the following grasses: Big bluestem, Indiangrass, Little bluestem plus optional 2 to 5 lb of Virginia wildrye	8 lb to 10 lb PLS/ac NWSG + 2 to 5 lb/ac Va. Wildrye	April 1 – June 10	Pasture or Hay
Switchgrass	8 lb to 10 PLS/ac	April 1 – June 10	Pasture or Hay
Eastern gamagrass	10 lb to 12 lb PLS/ac	April 1 – June 10	Pasture or Hay

Note: In general due to switchgrass and eastern gamagrass not being tolerant of imazapic they are not planted in mix with other grasses. If NWSG is planted, *there is no harvest or grazing for 2 years from date of establishment unless approved by Area Biologist or State Grazing Specialist.*

**All Plantings will apply fertilizer according to a soil test less than 12 months old.**

<http://soilplantandpest.utk.edu/publications/soilfertilizerpubs.htm> . Fertilizer code for native grass is NWSG.