

ALLIANCE PRACTICE WORKSHEET INSTRUCTIONAL GUIDE NORTH DAKOTA

CONSERVATION CROP ROTATION (328)

This instructional guide is to be used in congruence with the associated document “Alliance Practice Worksheet, North Dakota: Conservation Crop Rotation (328), to aid in its completion.

FARM INFO

- Complete this section in accordance with the information you submitted on your enrolled contract.
- For practice area, enter the total acres across all fields where the practice will be applied. If only a portion of an enrolled field will have the practice, only enter acreage associated with the practice.

PRACTICE: CONSERVATION CROP ROTATION (328)

- Provides a link to the NRCS Field Office Technical Guide: Conservation Practice Standards and Support Documents, from which the Practice Worksheet was created for ND. Several Resource Tables that are referenced in this document below can be found in their original form at this link.
- Provides a list of required information that will be filled in below to be submitted in accordance with your signed agreement prior to issuing your completed practice payment.

MAINTAIN OR IMPROVE SOIL HEALTH & ORGANIC MATTER

- Provides description of how to meet the Practice Standard.
- The enrolled acreage must follow all listed bullet points.
- The Soil Condition Index (SCI) rating will be calculated using a tool called the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation version 2 (RUSLE2). Your Conservation District Staff member can assist you in completing the tool, with your role as producer being to provide any information about the applicable acreage to the staff member to help them run the tool and deliver these metrics.

CURRENT MANAGEMENT – CROP ROTATION

- If your existing crop rotation meets all of the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section, then you should fill this table out to reflect your current rotation and that the high residue crop being grown on that acreage, is growing within the year of the contract. Refer to the table below for acceptable high residue crops.
- If your existing crop rotation does not meet the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section – for example, if you need to add a high residue crop as your third crop in the rotation – complete this table for the existing rotation, adding the new rotation that reflects the changes that meet the standard later in the form under “Planned Management-Crop Rotation”

- The chart below from the USDA NRCS ND Conservation Crop Rotation Fact Sheet lists acceptable high residue crops that can be added. This table can also be found on the NRCS link listed under the header “Practice: Conservation Crop Rotation (328)” on Page 1 of the practice worksheet.

High Residue Crops	Low Residue Crops
Small Grains	Edible Beans
Corn for Grain	Soybeans
Forages	Corn for silage
	Sunflowers
	Flax, canola, peas
	All root crops

- “Field” Column: Enter the applicable FSA field number under which you enrolled. If you discover you have enrolled duplicate field numbers for this practice, please also include the FSA tract number.
- “Acres” Column: Enter the number of acres enrolled in this practice that exist in this field number.
- “Planned Crops (In Sequence)” Column: list, in the order that you grow them, the crops that are grown in the current rotation. For example, if your current rotation is a two-crop rotation of Corn and Soybeans, in the box enter “Corn, Soybeans”.
- “Crop Type 1/” Column: refers to the following chart of crops (this information can also be found on the Instructions tab of the Conservation Crop Rotation – Intensity Diversity Excel Worksheet at the NRCS Link included on Page 1 of the Practice Worksheet):

Cool-Season Grass	Warm-Season Grass	Cool-Season Broadleaf	Warm-Season Broadleaf
Barley	Corn	Crambe	Alfalfa
Canary Seed	Millet	Field Pea	Amaranth
Durum Wheat	Perennial Grass	Flax	Chickpea
Oat	Sorghum	Lentil	Dry Edible Bean
Triticale	Sudangrass	Lupine	Potato
Spring Wheat		Mustard	Safflower
Winter Rye		Sweetclover	Soybean
Winter Wheat		Canola	Sugar Beet
			Sunflower

- “Estimated Soil Loss (water)”, “Estimated Soil Loss (wind)”, and “Soil Conditioning Index” Columns: should all be completed with the help of your local Conservation District Staff member. Please contact them to have these calculated.

CURRENT MANAGEMENT – FIELD OPERATIONS

- If your existing crop rotation meets all the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section and you do not need to change anything to meet them, then you should fill this table out to reflect the operations pertaining to the high residue crop being grown on that acreage, within the year of the contract.
- If your existing crop rotation does not meet the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section – for example, if you need to add a high residue crop as your third crop in the rotation – then complete this table for the existing rotation, adding the new operations pertaining to the management that reflects the changes that meet the standard later in the form under “Planned Management- Field Operations”
- “Field” Column: Enter the applicable FSA field number under which you enrolled. If you have enrolled duplicate field numbers for this practice, please also include the FSA tract number.
- “Acres” Column: Enter the number of acres enrolled in this practice that exist in this field number.
- “Field Operation” Column: Describe your field operations for the field enrolled. For example, you will need to include any application(s) of herbicides, fertilizers, if you terminate a crop then include that and the way you terminate it mechanically or chemically, planting, and harvest. Include any other operations such as these that are not captured in these examples.
- “Time of Field Operation (month/year)” Column: Enter the month and year to reflect the timing at which the operation described occurred, is occurring or will occur.

PLANNED MANAGEMENT – CROP ROTATION

If your existing crop rotation meets all of the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section, then you can note: The planned rotation will not change from the current rotation. You do not need to replicate the information from above.

- If your existing crop rotation does not meet the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section, complete this table for the rotation that you plan to implement, making sure to include the new, high residue crop that will be grown in the contracted year of payment. See the table below for acceptable high residue crops.
- The chart below from the USDA NRCS ND Conservation Crop Rotation Fact Sheet lists acceptable high residue crops that can be added to the rotation. This information can also be found on the NRCS link listed under the header “Practice: Conservation Crop Rotation (328)” on Page 1 of the practice worksheet.

High Residue Crops	Low Residue Crops
Small Grains	Edible Beans
Corn for Grain	Soybeans
Forages	Corn for silage
	Sunflowers
	Flax, canola, peas
	All root crops

- “Field” Column: Enter the applicable FSA field number under which you enrolled, just as you did in the table “Current Management – Crop Rotation”.
- “Acres” Column: Enter the number of acres enrolled in this practice that exist in this field number, just as you did in the table “Current Management – Crop Rotation”.
- “Planned Crops (In Sequence)” Column: list, in the order that you plan to grow them, the crops that are grown in the planned rotation. For example, if your new rotation will include a high residue crop such as Wheat, followed by Corn and then Soybeans, in the box enter “Wheat, Corn, Soybeans”. Make sure the placement of the high residue crop within the rotation reflects that it will be grown in the contracted year of payment.
- “Crop Type 1/” Column: refers to the following chart of crops (this information can also be found on the Instructions tab of the Conservation Crop Rotation – Intensity Diversity Excel Worksheet at the NRCS Link included on Page 1 of the Practice Worksheet):

Cool-Season Grass	Warm-Season Grass	Cool-Season Broadleaf	Warm-Season Broadleaf
Barley	Corn	Crambe	Alfalfa
Canary Seed	Millet	Field Pea	Amaranth
Durum Wheat	Perennial Grass	Flax	Chickpea
Oat	Sorghum	Lentil	Dry Edible Bean
Triticale	Sudangrass	Lupine	Potato
Spring Wheat		Mustard	Safflower
Winter Rye		Sweetclover	Soybean
Winter Wheat		Canola	Sugar Beet
			Sunflower

- “Estimated Soil Loss (water)”, “Estimated Soil Loss (wind)”, and “Soil Conditioning Index” Columns should all be completed with the help of your local Conservation District Staff member. Please contact them to have these calculated.

PLANNED MANAGEMENT – FIELD OPERATIONS

If your existing crop rotation meets all of the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section, and you do not need to change anything to meet them, you can note: “The planned field operations will not change from the current operation shown above.” You do not need to replicate the information from above.

- If your existing crop rotation does not meet the requirements in the “Maintain or Improve Soil Health and Organic Matter” section – for example, if you need to add a high residue crop as your third crop in the rotation – then complete this table for the planned rotation, adding the new operations pertaining to the management that reflects the changes that meet the standard.
- “Field” Column: Enter the applicable FSA field number under which you enrolled, just as you did in the table “Current Management – Field Operations”.

- “Acres” Column: Enter the number of acres enrolled in this practice that exist in this field number, just as you did in the table “Current Management – Field Operations”.
- “Field Operation” Column: Describe your field operations that you plan to implement for the field enrolled. For example, you will need to include any application(s) of herbicides, fertilizers, if you terminate a crop then include that and the way you terminate it mechanically or chemically, planting, and harvest. Include any other operations such as these that are not captured in these examples.
- “Time of Field Operation (month/year)” Column: Enter the month and year to reflect the timing at which the operation described occurred, is occurring or will occur.

Notes Box: Include any additional notes or comments you have that might be relevant.

PRODUCER SELF-CERTIFICATION

- Read and check the agreement boxes, sign your name, and date the form.