

**Resource Conserving Crop Rotation (RCCR) – Supplemental payment activity – CCR99**



**Activity Description**

**Resource-conserving crop rotation** means a crop rotation that:

1. Includes at least one resource conserving crop as determined by the State Conservationist;
2. Reduces erosion;
3. Improves soil fertility and tilth;
4. Interrupts pest cycles; and
5. In applicable areas, reduces depletion of soil moisture or otherwise reduces the need for irrigation.

**Resource-conserving crop** means a crop that is one of the following:

1. A perennial grass;
2. A legume grown for use as forage, seed for planting, or green manure;
3. A legume-grass mixture;
4. A small grain grown in combination with a grass or legume green manure crop whether inter-seeded or planted in rotation.

**Land Use Applicability**

Cropland (this does not include permanent hayland, orchards, or vineyards).

**Criteria for Resource Conserving Crop Rotations:**

The resource conserving crop rotation shall include at least one of the following resource-conserving crops:

1. A perennial grass grown at least 1 year after the seeding year with at least one other crop in the rotation.
2. A legume that is grown at least 1 year after the seeding year with at least one other crop in the rotation.
3. A legume-grass mixture that is grown at least 1 year after the seeding year with at least one other crop in the rotation,
4. A small grain grown in combination with a grass or legume that is used as a green manure, whether interseeded or planted after small grain harvest with at least two other crops in the rotation. Neither the small grain residue nor the cover crop shall be harvested or grazed.



This activity can apply to the modification of an existing RCCR to a higher conservation level by one of the following methods:

1. Add years of grass and/or legumes, (Limited to those rotations with a current perennial grass and/or legumes of at least one year beyond the seeding year, but not more than 4 current years of perennial grass and/or legume).
2. Add diversity of crops grown,
3. Add annual crops with cover crops (cover crops shall not be harvested or grazed).

#### **Contract Criteria for Resource Conserving Crop Rotation**

1. The rotation shall cover at least 3 fiscal 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 fiscal year of the contract and established or planted on all rotation acres prior to the final annual payment.

#### **Resource Conserving Crops**

- Cover crops
  - Rye
  - Wheat
  - Oats
  - Hairy vetch
  - Crimson clover
  - Arrowleaf clover
  - Cowpeas
  - Australian winter peas
  - Buckwheat
- High residue crops
  - Corn for grain
  - Winter wheat harvested for grain
  - Grain Sorghum
- Perennial crops
  - Bahia grass
  - Switch grass
  - Fescue
  - Other cool and warm season grasses/legumes



Resource Conserving Crop Rotations (Examples)

- Rotation#1: Corn for grain – Winter wheat harvested for grain – Soybeans (double cropped)  
Resource conserving crops: Corn, wheat harvested for grain
- Rotation#2: Corn for grain – Cotton with Rye cover crop – Peanuts  
Resource conserving crops: Corn, Rye cover crop
- Rotation#3: Peanuts - Wheat harvested for grain – Soybeans double cropped – Corn harvested for grain  
Resource conserving crops: Corn, Wheat harvested for grain
- Rotation#4: Bahia grass 2 years, Peanuts, Cotton
- Rotation#5: Fescue 2 years, Tobacco 2 years

**Note: Cover crops shall not be harvested or grazed.**

One (1) Geographic Area for the State under each category; Agricultural Land and NIPF Land

**Documentation Requirements**

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:

- a. Crop rotation records by field
- b. Cover crops planted