



CSP JOB SHEET

ESM-Reduce Compaction

ENHANCEMENT: STIR MANAGEMENT to Reduce Soil Compaction. (Note: This sheet applies to other enhancements).

BENEFITS

MAJOR BENEFITS:

- Reduced Soil Loss.
- Reduce rate of organic matter decomposition.
- Increased development of water-stable soil aggregates.
- Greater retention of plant residues on the soil surface.
- Reduced amounts of carbon dioxide released into the atmosphere.

NOTE: The STIR value is the Soil Tillage Intensity Rating. It uses the speed, depth, surface disturbance percent, and tillage implement type to calculate a tillage intensity rating for a crop rotation. The kind, severity, and number of disturbing passes are evaluated. More disturbance generates high ratings, which indicate more soil erosion and organic matter loss potentials.

CRITERIA

To be eligible for this enhancement payment, fields must meet the following criteria.

- Three rating levels are eligible: 31-60, 16-30, and 15 or less.
- Limit field operations to minimum needed.
- Choose implements/adjustments or GPS to minimize soil surface disturbance or control trafficked areas. NRCS can assist.
- Areas rutted by harvesting or other operations may be repaired in accordance with a plan prior approved by NRCS.
- STIR values must reflect the entire rotation and all field operations through the complete rotation cycle.

RECORDKEEPING

In order to verify performance with these criteria, you must complete the following records.

| Field | First crop year | Rotation | Tillage used for each crop | STIR value | Date Checked |
|---------|-----------------|--|---|------------|--|
| Ex: 2-4 | 2005 | 3 years: 1- corn 2-cotton rye cover 3-peanuts rye cover | No-till Strip-till No-till Strip-till Broadcast light disk | 21 | 6/20/05 6/30/06 10/30/05 5/20/07 8/30/07 |
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