
ENHANCEMENT: ANNUALLY APPLY A MODIFIED CROP ROTATION TO IMPROVE WILDLIFE HABITAT BY ESTABLISHING A GRAIN OR ANNUAL LESPEDEZA CROP THAT IS LEFT UNMANIPULATED FOR AT LEAST 9 MONTHS

DESCRIPTION

By enhancing your cover crop management in this manner, you will improve quail brood foraging habitat, foraging, over-wintering and migration habitat for Meadowlark, Loggerhead shrike, Sparrows and other songbirds that nest, or forage in crop stubble and residue.

This activity involves planting a grain or lespedeza crop and leaving it undisturbed (not mowed, not rolled, not disked, not burned) for 9 consecutive months each year. As the crop grows, matures and decays it provides browse, forage (grain), nesting and brood rearing cover for grassland birds and other wildlife. This practice can follow the normal pattern of crop rotation among fields.

The \$100 per acre enhancement payment is based on the acreage of cover crop followed each year.

REQUIREMENTS

Include these practice requirements in the conservation plan:

- Plant a grain or annual lespedeza cover crop at normal agronomic seeding rates.
- Do not apply fertilizer or pesticide.
- Do not harvest crop, make hay, bush-hog, disc, burn or otherwise manipulate the cover crop.
- Leave the crop residue undisturbed for 9 consecutive months.

Maintain records of the practice using the table on the back of this sheet.

RECORDKEEPING: In order to verify compliance with the requirements, use this form to document the implementation and maintenance of this enhancement.

Field(s)	Cover Crop Planted	Cover Planting Date	Cover Manipulation Date	Date Checked