

Stripcropping

Definition/Purpose

A Stripcropping practice means to grow crops and sod in a systematic arrangement of alternating strips or bands across the slope to improve water quality. Benefits may include reduced soil erosion, sedimentation and pollution from dissolved and sediment-attached substances. The crops are arranged so that a strip of grass or close-growing crop is alternated with a strip of clean-tilled crop, fallow, or no-till crop, or a strip of grass is alternated with a close-growing crop.

Policies

1. Land smoothing for stripcropping is intended to be used only where existing terraces, diversions or other minor landscape features must be removed prior to initiating a stripcropping system.
2. BMP soil and phosphorus impacts are required on the contract. Include the planted acreage and drainage area as well. Refer to the Minimum NCACSP Effects Requirements table later in this section for the correct methods of calculation.
3. Minimum life of BMP is five (5) years.

Standards

N. C. NRCS Technical Guide, Section IV, Standard #585 (Stripcropping, Field), #585 (Stripcropping, Contour), #328 (Conservation Crop Rotation), and #511 (Forage Harvest Management)