

# FIELD BORDER

## New Jersey Conservation Practice Job Sheet

386



### SPECIFICATIONS

Site-specific requirements are listed on the following page(s) of this job sheet. Specifications are prepared in accordance with the Field Border 386 practice standard found in the New Jersey NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. Information contained in this document is considered part of the conservation plan.

Client Name:		Town:	
Farm:		Tract:	
Designed By:		Date:	
Total Acres of Field Border Planned:			

**Purpose:** Check all that apply

Reduce erosion from wind and water	Provide wildlife food and cover
Soil and water quality protection	Improve air quality
Management of harmful insect populations	Increase carbon storage in biomass and soils.

If you have questions about this planned **Field Border** practice contact:

Name:	Tel:	Email:
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### GENERAL CRITERIA:

- Minimum field border widths on agricultural land shall be 10 feet.
- Where wildlife food and cover is the intended purpose, minimum field border width will be 25 feet. Wider field borders will provide greater habitat value and travel corridors for wildlife.
- The field borders shall be established to adapted species of permanent grass, legumes and/or shrubs. Use of locally native plant species with multiple values is encouraged.
- Plant materials, seedbed preparation, seeding rates, dates, depths, and planting methods will be consistent with the New Jersey Standard 342 – Critical Area Planting, New Jersey Standard 512 – Pasture and Hayland Planting or as approved by the State Conservationist. The specifications in standard 391– Riparian Forest Buffer will be used in planting shrubs.

### Field Border Specifications:

(PLS = Pure Live Seed)

Planned Field Border Layout	Field Border 1			Field Border 2			Field Border 3			Field Border 4		
Field Number or Name:												
Border Width (Feet):												
Total Length (Linear Feet)												
Planned Area (Acres)												
Seed: Species #1												
PLS – lbs/acre / Total Pounds												
Seed: Species #2												
PLS – lbs/acre / Total Pounds												
Seed: Species #3												
PLS – lbs/acre / Total Pounds												
Seed: Species #4												
PLS – lbs/acre / Total Pounds												
Lime (tons/acre) / Total Tons												
Fertilizer (lbs/acre)	N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O	N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O	N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O	N	P <sub>2</sub> O <sub>5</sub>	K <sub>2</sub> O
Fertilizer (Total lbs)												

## Field Border – Job Sheet

### Site Preparation

*Prepare a firm seedbed. Ephemeral gullies and rills present in the planned border area will be smoothed. Apply lime and fertilizer as indicated by soil testing. Additional requirements:*

### Planting Method

*Drill grass and legume seed \_\_\_\_\_ inches deep uniformly over area. Establish vegetation according to the specified seeding rate. If necessary, mulch the newly seeded area with \_\_\_\_\_ tons per acre of mulch material. A small grain crop may be needed as a companion crop at the rate of \_\_\_\_\_ pounds per acre (clip or harvest before it heads out). Additional requirements:*

### OPERATION / MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE:

The following O&M activities will be planned and applied as needed:

- Maintain original width and length of field border(s). Harvest, mow, reseed, and fertilize as necessary to maintain plant density and vigorous plant growth.
- Inspect after major storms, repair storm damage.
- Sediment removal - when 6 inches of sediment have accumulated at the field border/cropland interface.
- Shut off sprayers and raise tillage equipment to avoid damage to field borders.
- Areas damaged by farm machinery, erosion, drought, livestock, chemicals, etc. will be repaired promptly and re-established according to the original plan.
- Fertilize, mow, and harvest to maintain plant vigor and desired plant community.
- Competitive weed growth and/or invasion of unwanted woody plants should be controlled by applicable methods such as mowing, burning, chemical application, or manual removal. Federally recognized noxious weeds and state recognized nonnative invasive species shall also be controlled by applicable methods.
- Ephemeral gullies and rills that develop in the border will be filled, graded and reseeded promptly.
- Maintain herbaceous vegetation so that it provides at least 80% ground cover throughout the year.

### ADDITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS REGARDING FIELD BORDER:

- Field borders can be used to provide turn and travel areas for equipment and reduce airborne dust. When used for this purpose, establish grasses that are tolerant of heavy use.
- Field borders can be used to comply with required field setback distances applicable to manure and chemical applications.
- Consider mixtures of native or introduced grasses with legumes rather than a single species. An herbaceous border can be over-seeded with legumes to increase plant diversity and to provide additional wildlife benefits.
- Schedule mowing, harvesting and weed control to accommodate wildlife nesting needs and other special requirements or purposes.
- Rows of shrubs (Windbreak/Shelterbelt, 380) adjacent to or scattered shrubs within (natural regeneration or Tree and Shrubs Establishment, 612) field borders will enhance field borders ability to harbor beneficial insects such as pollinators and will also provide additional food and cover for wildlife. Shrub species such as elderberry should be used to provide nesting habitat for native bees. Maintain and encourage dead trees or snags that will provide additional wildlife roosting, nesting and feeding areas.
- If installation or maintenance of the practice has potential of affecting cultural resources (archaeological, historic, historic landscape, or traditional cultural properties), follow NRCS state policy for considering cultural resources.
- Consider using plant species that enhance biomass collection and carbon sequestration opportunities.

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**Field Border – Job Sheet**

If needed, an aerial view or a side view of the practice can be shown below. Other relevant information, complementary practices and measures, and additional specifications may be included.

**Recommendation:** Import digital photographs to indicate practice before and after effects.

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**ADDITIONAL NOTES OR INSTRUCTIONS:**



Practice Checkout:

Amount completed: \_\_\_\_\_ units

Mark as-built location on plan map and attach photos.

Remarks \_\_\_\_\_

This practice meets NRCS standards and specifications

Yes

No

Check out completed by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Certified by: \_\_\_\_\_ Date: \_\_\_\_\_