

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE SPECIFICATION
DEEP TILLAGE

(Acre)

CODE 324

1. Chiseling

- a. Field evaluations will be made to determine need and feasibility for chiseling. This can be done by pressing a tile probe into the soil and detecting when layer of resistance are felt. A hole can be dug to verify root restrictions.
- b. Chiseling can be used to break up or fracture pans or restrictive layers that are within 16 inches of the surface.
- c. Implement used must penetrate through the restrictive layer and shatter at least 100 percent of the restrictive layer between implement penetration points for close grown crops such as alfalfa and small grain. Row crops need only have the area just below or to the side of the plant shattered.
- d. Maximum spacing between implement points should not be greater than 30 inches.
- e. The chiseling operation should be done when soil is relatively dry, preferably when soil moisture is less than 30 percent of field capacity.
- f. Chiseling should be done on the contour or across slope on all sloping soils.

2. Subsoiling

- a. Field evaluations will be made to determine need and feasibility for subsoiling. This can be done by pressing a tile probe into the soil and detecting when layer of resistance are felt. A hole can be dug to verify root restrictions.
- b. Subsoiling can be used to break up or fracture restrictive layers that are deeper than 16 inches below the surface.
- c. Implement used must penetrate through the restrictive layer and shatter at least 100 percent of the restrictive layer between implement penetration points for close grown crops such as alfalfa and small grain. Row crops need only have the area just below or to the side of the plant shattered.
- d. Maximum spacing between shanks should not be greater than 60 inches.
- e. The subsoiling operation should be carried out when soil moisture content of the restrictive layer is 30 percent or less of field capacity.

Specification 324 - 2

REFERENCES

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