



511 – Forage Harvest Management Implementation Requirements

Producer:

Location:

Farm Name:

Project or Contract:

County:

Tract Number(s):

Practice Lifespan – 1 year



Practice Purpose(s): (check all that apply)

- ☐ Optimize yield and quality of forage at the desired levels
- ☐ Promote vigorous plant re-growth
- ☐ Manage for the desired species composition
- ☐ Use forage plant biomass as a soil nutrient uptake tool
- ☐ Control insects, diseases and weeds
- ☐ Maintain and/or improve wildlife habitat

Goals, Objectives, Specific Purpose:

Description of Work:

For NRCS Use Only

Designed By:

Date

Checked By:

Date

Approved By:

Date

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FORAGE HARVEST MANAGEMENT SPECIFICATIONS:

| Harvest Plans: | <u>Field(s)</u> | <u>Field(s)</u> | <u>Field(s)</u> | <u>Field(s)</u> |
|-----------------------------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| Dominant Forage Species: | | | | |
| Type of Forage: | | | | |
| Acres to Harvest: | | | | |
| Stage of Maturity: | | | | |
| Number of Cuttings: | | | | |
| Harvest Interval (Days): | | | | |
| Length of Cut (Inches): | | | | |
| Stubble Height (Inches): | | | | |
| Mower/Cutter Type: | | | | |
| Baler Type: | | | | |
| Storage Method: | | | | |
| Last Harvest Date Prior to Frost: | | | | |

Refer to the 511 Forage Harvest Management Specification Guide Sheet (attached).

A map(s) showing all fields planned for Forage Harvest Management attached.

OPERATION / MANAGEMENT AND MAINTENANCE:

- Before forage harvest, clear fields of debris that could damage machinery or if ingested by livestock, lead to sickness (for example, hardware disease) or death.
- Operate all forage harvesting equipment at the optimum settings and speeds to minimize loss of leaves.
- To control forage plant diseases, insects, and movement of weeds, clean harvesting equipment after harvest and before storing.
- Set shear-plate on forage chopper to the proper theoretical cut for the crop being harvested. Keep knives well sharpened. Do not use re-cutters or screens unless forage moisture levels fall below recommended levels for optimum chopping action.
- Follow all agricultural equipment manufacturer's safety measures when operating forage harvesting equipment.
- Regardless of silage/haylage storage method, ensure good compaction and an airtight seal to exclude oxygen and mold or bacterial formations.
- Dispose of the plastic wrap or bags used to store forage in an environmentally sound manner.

If you have questions about this planned **Forage Harvest Management** practice contact:

| | | | | | |
|-------|--|------|--|--------|--|
| Name: | | Tel: | | Email: | |
|-------|--|------|--|--------|--|

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