United States Department of Agriculture

Nebraska
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Conservation Practice Overview

Pest Management Conservation System (Code 595)

A Pest Management Conservation System (PMCS) is a system that combines an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) decision making process with natural resource conservation to address pest and environmental impacts.

IPM combines biological, cultural, and other alternatives to chemical control with planned use of pesticides to keep pest populations below damaging levels, while minimizing harmful effects of pest control on humans and natural resources.

Practice Information

PMCS uses conservation related prevention, avoidance, monitoring and suppression (PAMS) techniques to address pest and natural resource concerns. It employs strategies that keep pest populations below economically damaging or historic levels. A PMCS can mitigate for suppression techniques that impact natural resources and can minimize pest resistance.

PMCS is crop, soil and/or land use specific and adheres to applicable elements and guidelines accepted by the University of Nebraska.

When pesticides are part of a PMCS, the current version of Windows Pesticide Screening Tool (WIN-PST) is used evaluate the potential of pesticides to move with water and eroded soil/organic matter and affect non-targeted organisms associated with chosen pesticides. WIN-PST uses U.S. Environmental Protection Agency data for labeled pesticides and USDA Soil Survey to predict pesticide movement through one of the four pesticide loss pathways: leaching, solution runoff, soil adsorbed runoff and drift. Additional mitigation techniques and/or planned conservation practices may be required based on final WIN-PST soil/pesticide interaction hazard ratings.

Common Associated Practices

A Pest Management Conservation System (595) is commonly associated with conservation practices such as Conservation Crop Rotation (Code 328), Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329), Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345), Conservation Cover (327), Filter Strip (Code 393), and Cover Crop (340).

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.