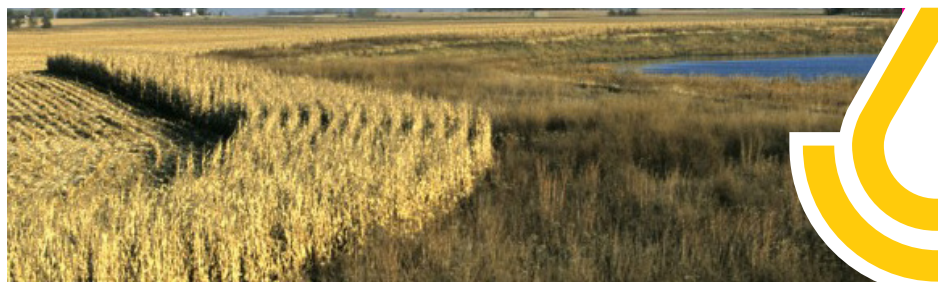


Field Border

Wisconsin Job Sheet 386



Field Border

A strip of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field.

Purpose

This practice supports one or more of the following purposes:

- Reduce soil erosion from wind
- Protect soil and water quality
- Provide wildlife food and cover and pollinator or other beneficial organism habitat
- Increase carbon storage
- Improve air quality

Practice Information

The field containing the border is usually, but not necessarily, cropland. The border is generally converted from cropland but may be created by removing large trees at the edge of woodland, leaving a transition zone of herbaceous and small woody plants. Field borders are functional and aesthetically pleasing.

Plans and Specifications

Specifications shall be prepared for each site and purpose and recorded in the approved implementation requirements document.

- Practice purpose(s).
- Field border widths and lengths based on local design criteria.
- Field border location(s) within the field(s) or farm boundary.
- Species to be used and the location and planting density of the species used.
- Site preparation requirements.
- Timing of planting and planting method.
- Liming or fertilizer requirements.
- Operation and maintenance requirements.



Operation and Maintenance

Field borders require careful management and maintenance for performance and longevity. The following O&M activities will be planned and applied as needed:

- Repair storm damage.
- Remove sediment from above, within, and along the leading edge of the field border when accumulated sediment either alters the function of the field border or threatens the degradation of the planted species.
- Shut off pesticide sprayers and raise tillage equipment to avoid damage to field borders.
- Shape and reseed border areas damaged by animals, chemicals, tillage, or equipment traffic.
- Do not use the field border as a hay yard or machinery parking lot for any extended period of time, especially if doing so will damage or impair the function of the field border.
- Maintain desired vegetative communities and plant vigor by liming, fertilizing, mowing, disking, or burning and controlling noxious and invasive weeds to sustain effectiveness of the border.
- Repair and reseed ephemeral gullies and rills that develop in the border.
- Minimally invasive vertical tillage (e.g., paraplowing) may be performed in rare cases where compaction and vehicle traffic have degraded the field border function. The purpose of the tillage is strictly to relieve soil compaction and increase infiltration rates so as to provide a better media for reestablishment of vegetation and field border function.
- When managing for wildlife, maintenance activities that result in disturbance of vegetation should not be conducted during the primary nesting, fawning and calving seasons. In addition, when managing for wildlife, pollinator, and beneficial habitat, conduct any pesticide spray operations in the production area in a manner that prevents exposure of the field border to the pesticides, taking into account toxicity of the materials used to non-pest organisms, and weather conditions. Activities should be timed to allow for regrowth before the growing season ends whenever possible. The optimal vegetative successional state shall be maintained to accommodate target wildlife species' requirements.
- Periodic removal of some products such as medicinal herbs, nuts, and fruits is permitted provided the conservation purpose is not compromised by the loss of vegetation or harvesting disturbance.
- Avoid vehicle traffic when soil moisture conditions are saturated.
- Maintain records of the field border maintenance as needed by the land user.



Field Border Documentation Worksheet

Clients Name _____ Tract Number _____

Acres Planned _____ Acres Installed _____ Seeding Date _____

Average Width _____ Minimum Width _____ Field Border Length _____

Site Preparation _____ Planting Method _____

Practice Purpose (check all that apply)

Reduce soil erosion from wind

Protect soil and water quality

Provide wildlife food and cover and pollinator or other beneficial organism habitat

Increase carbon storage

Improve air quality

Operation and Maintenance

Repair storm damage.

Remove sediment from above, within, and along the leading edge of the field border when accumulated sediment either alters the function of the field border or threatens the degradation of the planted species.

Shut off pesticide sprayers and raise tillage equipment to avoid damage to field borders.

Shape and reseed border areas damaged by animals, chemicals, tillage, or equipment traffic.

Do not use the field border as a hay yard or machinery parking lot for any extended period of time, especially if doing so will damage or impair the function of the field border.

Maintain desired vegetative communities and plant vigor by liming, fertilizing, mowing, disking, or burning and controlling noxious and invasive weeds to sustain effectiveness of the border.

Repair and reseed ephemeral gullies and rills that develop in the border.

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Periodic removal of some products such as medicinal herbs, nuts, and fruits is permitted provided the conservation purpose is not compromised by the loss of vegetation or harvesting disturbance.

Avoid vehicle traffic when soil moisture conditions are saturated.

Maintain records of the field border maintenance as needed by the land user.

SEEDING RATES AND SPECIES (WOODY SPECIES UNITS ARE PLANTS/LINEAR FT.)		
Plant Species	Lbs./acre of Seed (PLS)	Total lbs. of Seed for Planned Acreage
TOTALS →		



FERTILIZERS AND AMENDMENTS

Fertilizer Element	Fertilizer Form	Fertilizer Amount (lbs./acre)
N		as N
P K		as P_2O_5 as K_2O
S Lime		as S
Lime		

Trees and Shrubs: Document the number of shrubs and trees planted, spacing within row and row to row and total linear feet.

Comments



Project Job Approval Class _____

Design Approval

Designed By:

Date:

Approved By:

Date:

Job Approval Authority:

Client Acceptance

I have reviewed and understand the implementation requirements and agree to complete the work accordingly. Failure to meet these plans and specifications may jeopardize any continued NRCS technical assistance or program cost sharing applied for. I understand that it is my responsibility to secure all necessary permits and licenses, and to complete the work in accordance with all local, state, and federal laws. Modification of these implementation requirements must be approved by the NRCS before installation. I assume all responsibility for negotiations and contract agreements with contractors.

Signature:

Date:

Installation and Certification

The installed practice meets NRCS technical standards and specifications. The "redlined" information reflects any changes made during installation of the practice.

Printed Name:

Date:

Title:

Job Approval Authority:

Signature:

Date:

Notes:

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