



Producer: _____

Project or Contract: _____

Location: _____

County: _____

Farm Name: _____

Tract Number: _____

Practice Lifespan - 1 year



Practice Purpose(s):

This practice is used to accomplish one or more of the following purposes (check all that apply):

- Improve soil health
- Reduce soil erosion
- Reduce emissions of greenhouse gases (CHG)
- Reduce pesticides and nutrients transported to surface water, groundwater, and air
- Improve plant productivity and health
- Reduce plant pest pressure
- Enhance habitat for wildlife, pollinators, and other beneficial invertebrates

Producer's Goals and Objectives:

Empty rectangular box for entering goals and objectives.

The following map(s) are attached to this organic management plan:

- All fields or locations planned for Organic Management
- Location of designated sensitive areas and associated setbacks, buffer zones and diversions
- Soil survey map and inherent soil properties of each map unit for all managed areas

If you have questions about this planned practice, contact:

Name:		Tel:		Email:	
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823 – Organic Management (Interim Practice) Implementation Requirements

General Requirements (*check whether it's met*):

Met

The producer developed Organic System Plan (OSP) adheres to the USDA's National Organic Program (NOP) Standards.

- Organic production areas are protected from unintended introduction of prohibited substances through defined boundaries, buffer zones or diversions.
- All inputs and other materials follow the National List of allowed and prohibited substances, methods, and ingredients.
- Only certified organic seed is used for all crops including cover crops (unless organic seed is not commercially available, then untreated, non-genetically modified organism (GMO), conventionally produced seed is used).
- Ash obtained from the burning of a plant or animal material are applied only when the material burned has not been treated or combined with a prohibited substance or the ash is not included on the National List of Prohibited Substances for Use in Organic Crop Production
- NOP-allowed pest control materials are utilized only when other tactics have not provided needed control.
- Crop residues are only burned to suppress the spread of disease or to stimulate seed germination.
- Crop rotations must meet the Organic Certifier's minimum requirements.
- Buffers must be established / maintained as stated in the NOP plan.

The producer(s) is coordinating all organic management activities/inputs with a NOP approved Organic Certifier(s).

Organic certifier name: _____

If crops in rotation are a part of the operation:

 N/A

Soil erosion rate of Tolerable (T) or less.

- RUSLE 2 soil erosion benchmark system is attached or documentation for small areas based on site visualization and professional judgment
- RUSLE 2 soil erosion with planned system is attached, *if no change, document benchmark and planned on same RUSLE 2 report*. Small areas can be based on site visualization and professional judgment

Nutrients must be applied according to LGU (Iowa State University).

- Nitrogen applied not to exceed ISU recommended rates.
 - Corn Nitrogen Calculator using but can't exceed the .05 price ratio when manure is used and .08 for other non-manure sources, to determine the overall rate of N recommended
 - Other ISU approved Nitrogen recommendations, e.g., Late-Spring Soil Nitrate Soil Test
- The Phosphorus P-Index must be completed to determine risk assessment level.
 - Low or Very Low risk assessment: Manure can be applied to meet, but not exceed, the N needed for the crop.
 - Medium risk assessment: 1X phosphorus crop rotation removal rate
 - High or Very High risk assessment: No phosphorus application
- Sensitive Areas as identified in Chapter 65 of the Iowa Administrative Code must be addressed when using manure by:
 - Injecting or incorporating manure inside the sensitive areas
 - Or by installing / maintaining a minimum of a 50' permanent perennial buffer

Pest are managed through an integrated strategy of prevention, avoidance, monitoring, and suppression (PAMS)

- Assessment completed of all PAMS practices used in current system and those that will be adopted.
 - See Pest Management standard of crop tabs for PAMS baseline and planned practices

823 – Organic Management (Interim Practice) Implementation Requirements

General Requirements Continued

If grazing livestock are a part of the operation: N/A

Met

- Prescribed Grazing Plan
 - Prescribed Grazing plan is attached
 - All Pasture Conditioning Scores (PCS) are attached for all pastures
 - Iowa Forage Livestock Balance Worksheet is attached
 - PCS must be 35 or higher in their current system or by implementing their grazing management plan that will meet the PCS score of 35 or higher

- When livestock obtain their diet by grazing pastures as well as from mechanically harvested and processed feeds, pasture forages are tested for nutrient content and accounted for in the feed ration and balance of nutrients.
 - All feeds, including grazed pasture are included in an analysis to meet the livestock's nutrient requirements and avoid excess nutrients being fed
 - For proper hay sampling go to National Forage Testing Association (NFTA)
 - www.foragetesting.org - Links – Proper Sampling Methods
 - Forage tests meet the NFTA acceptance and certification process
 - www.foragetesting.org – Certification – NFTA Certified Labs
 - Supplemental feed and/or minerals are provided as needed to balance with forage consumptions to meet the desired nutritional level for the kind and class of grazing and/or browsing livestock
 - Dietary needs of livestock are based on the National Academies of Science, Engineering, and Medicine's Nutrient Requirements of Animals series or similar scientific sources
 - Livestock feeding, handling, and watering facilities are designed and installed to minimize stress, the spread of disease, parasites, contact with harmful organisms, and toxic plants

- Provide ruminant livestock with sufficient forage to comprise at least 30% of dry matter intake during the grazing season.

- Outdoor access will include access to natural vegetation

Additional Criteria

Additional Criteria: To Reduce Erosion and Improve Soil Health

- Enhancements to SOM quality and quantity, habitat for beneficial soil organisms, and soil aggregate stability are applied:
 - IFSHA Assessment is attached
 - Maintain year around soil coverage
 - Limit fallow periods in the rotation to less than 25 percent of the calendar year
 - Minimize soil disturbances by tillage, livestock, concentrated nutrients, and crop protection materials

- For cropland, a Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) of 0.1 or higher for the crop rotation.-
 - SCI analysis is attached or documentation for small areas based on site visualization and professional judgment

- Average Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) of 60 or less for the crop rotation
 - STIR analysis is attached or documentation for small areas based on site visualization and professional judgment

823 – Organic Management (Interim Practice) Implementation Requirements

Additional Criteria: To Reduce Erosion and Improve Soil Health Continued:

Met

- At least one cover crop must be used in the rotation which is allowed to grow to canopy closure or at least 1 tons (dry) above ground biomass / acre

- The use of concentrated organic nitrogen (N) sources such as poultry litter, manure slurry, feather meal, and blood meal are managed to provide not more than 50% of total crop N requirement. The balance of N is provided through legume N fixation, slow-release sources, and SOM mineralization. When high soil phosphorus (P) limits the use of manure and compost, the use of legumes for N is increased.

- ^{N/A} Floors and alleys in orchards, vineyards, berries, and other perennial horticultural crops are maintained in year- round living plant cover, or in dormant vegetation, residues, or organic mulch.

- ^{N/A} In rotations dominated by vegetables or other low-residue production crops, sufficient higher-residue production crops (e.g., specialty grains), high-biomass cover crops, and perennial sod crops are integrated to meet the above criteria for soil erosion and soil health

Additional Criteria: Reduce Plant Pest Pressure and Prevent Transport of Pesticide to Surface and Groundwater:

- Provide nectar, pollen, and habitat for natural enemies of crop pests by planting and maintaining diversified mixes of flowering plants meeting the criteria of NRCS CPS 327 or other appropriate NRCS CPS.

- Additional criteria to reduce/discontinue use of, or mitigate for effects of, pest management activities that may create environmental impacts to water, animal, or air natural resources in NRCS CPS 595 needs to be completed.

- Implement pesticide mitigation activities for pollinator and beneficial insect species.

Additional Criteria: Enhance Habitat for Wildlife, Pollinators, and other Beneficial Invertebrates

- Establish and maintain perennial habitat plantings on at least 5% of the total acreage of the organic operation.
 - Select a diversity of primary native plant species that provide food, shelter, nesting sites, and other habitat needs for desired wildlife, pollinators, and other beneficial organisms. *To meet this over 50 percent of the cover type must be native species.*
 - These plantings must be undisturbed areas. The perennial habitat plantings are to be managed as wildlife/pollinator habitat. They can have incidental disturbance e.g., turning on them, but no travel lanes allowed. They can be grazed but for not more than 2 weeks of the growing season or one month when incidentally grazing crop/cover crop during the dormant season. Having once/year is allowed if included in the habitat management plan.

823 – Organic Management (Interim Practice) Implementation Requirements

Specific Additional Operation and Maintenance Requirements for Your Practice:

Additional Note for Implementation

**823 – Organic Management (Interim Practice)
Implementation Requirements**

Practice Specifications Approval and Completion Certification

Design Approval

Job Class:

Designed By:	Date:	Job Approval Authority (JAA):
Approved By*:	Date:	Job Approval Authority (JAA):

**Approved By signature is only required if the planner does not have the proper JAA.*

Producer Acknowledgement

- a. I have received a copy of the specifications and understand the contents, including the scope and location of the practice.
- b. I will comply with all ordinances and laws pertaining to the application of this practice.
- c. All changes will be approved by NRCS prior to installation to ensure standards are met.
- d. Maintenance is necessary for proper performance during the life of the practice. The practice life is 1 year.
Program requirements may require longer maintenance, check the program contract.

I have reviewed all specifications and agree to install as specified:

Producer Signature:	Date:
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Certification Statement

NOP Certifier, _____ was contacted on _____ and the producer's organic plan is being properly implemented.

I certify that implementation of this conservation practice is complete, meets criteria for the stated purpose(s) and meets the NRCS conservation practice standard and specifications.

NRCS Signature:	Date:	Job Approval Authority (JAA):
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Notes: *(Note any alterations between design specifications and installation):*