

**RESIDUE MANAGEMENT - SEASONAL JOBSHEET**

Residue on cropland

**What Is it?**

Seasonal residue management is a conservation practice that manages the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residues on the soil surface during a specified period of the year. This practice is used for several purposes such as reducing soil loss from sheet and rill water erosion, reducing soil erosion from wind and associated airborne particulate matter, and increasing plant-available soil moisture. Additionally, this conservation practice can be used when renewable bioenergy feedstocks are grown and harvested and when food and escape cover are needed for wildlife.

This practice can be used on all cropland types including those acres where annual crops are grown. In the case of annual crops, this practice applies from the time the crop is harvested until the residue is buried by tillage or removed by grazing or mechanical means. For biennial or perennial species, this practice applies to the management of the residue after seed or biomass harvest until regrowth begins the next season.

**General Planning Information**

Regardless of the purpose(s) for implementing this conservation practice, the harvesting operations should be designed to distribute the residue uniformly over the field. Combines or similar harvesting equipment should be equipped with spreaders capable of redistributing harvest residue over at least 80% of the working width of the header. Residue should not be burned unless it is a Univ. Florida recommended Integrated Pest Management practice. Tillage operations during the residue management period should be limited to those operations that do not flatten or bury the residue. When used to reduce wind and water erosion or after harvesting bioenergy feedstocks, enough residue should be left after harvesting (e.g., baling, grazing, combining, etc.) to meet your erosion reduction goal. The residue should be maintained on the surface during the times of the year when erosion is most likely to occur or until the next planting or growing season. Similarly, when wildlife food and escape cover is a purpose for using this conservation practice, any tillage operations that will remove, flatten, or bury the residue should be delayed until after the wildlife management period. Specific plans implementing this conservation practice on your farm are listed on the following page.

**Operation and Maintenance**

The effectiveness of the residue management for meeting your conservation goals should be monitored on a regular basis. If these are not being met, management practices such as amount, height, etc., need to be modified or alternate conservation practices adopted so that your conservation goals are being met. Discuss any changes with the local NRCS Conservationist prior to altering the current management plan.

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Florida October 2013  
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Land User:	County:	Date:
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Farm #:	Tract #:	Field # (s):
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Purpose (check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/> Reduce sheet and rill erosion  <input type="checkbox"/> Harvest and utilize renewable bioenergy feedstocks.  <input type="checkbox"/> Provide food and escape cover for wildlife	<input type="checkbox"/> Increase plant-available moisture  <input type="checkbox"/> Reduce soil erosion from wind and associated airborne particulate matter

Acres		Amount of Residue <small>(Specify Percent, Pounds, and Height, as needed)</small>		Management Period <small>(List from and to, e.g. Oct-Feb)</small>	
Planned	Applied	Planned	Applied	Planned	Applied

Additional Specifications and Notes:

This practice is planned according to NRCS Standards and Specifications.

Conservationist:	Date:
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I agree to install this practice as explained in the above Jobsheet.

Client:	Date:
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This practice has been completed and maintained in accordance with this Jobsheet.

Certified By:	Date:
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