

Prepared for: _____

Prepared by: _____

Farm: _____ Tract: _____ Date: _____



OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Perform all tillage and planting operations parallel to contour baselines or terraces, diversions, or contour buffer strip boundaries where these practices are used, provided the applicable row grade criteria are met.

Additional Operation and Maintenance requirements specific to this Plan:

DEFINITION

Using ridges and furrows by tillage, planting and other farming operations to change the direction of runoff from directly downslope to around the hill slope.

PURPOSE

- Reduce sheet and rill erosion.
- Reduce transport of sediment and other water-borne contaminants.
- Increase water infiltration.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

This practice applies on sloping land where annual crops are grown. For orchards, vineyards and nut crops use practice Contour Orchard and Other Fruit Areas (331).

CRITERIA

The maximum row grade will not exceed 2%. Up to 3% row grade may be permitted within the upper 150 ft of the row.

CONSIDERATIONS

1. Contour farming is most effective on slopes between 2 and 10 percent.
2. The closer the row grade is to the true contour, the greater will be the erosion reduction.
3. Grassed waterways, water and sediment control basins, or other suitable practices should be used to protect areas of existing or potential concentrated flow erosion.

SPECIFICATIONS

Contour Farming will be prepared for each planning unit according to criteria. Specifications will be recorded using North Carolina specification sheets, job sheets, narrative statements in conservation plans, or other acceptable documents.

Client Name:		Farm #:	
County:		Tract #:	
Program::		Field(s):	
Date:			

Rotation and Type of Tillage

Crop	Type of Tillage and Percent Ground Cover

Baseline(s): A baseline is the contour line(s) laid out in the field to establish tillage and planted row patterns. Assistance to establish the baseline(s) will be provided by the NRCS local field office. A narrow strip of grass (1-5 feet wide), diversion, terrace, or markers will help to maintain the baseline(s).

Maximum Row Grade(s)

Field(s)	Maximum Row Grade for Contour