

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

ROW ARRANGEMENT

(Acre)

CODE 557

DEFINITION

Establishing a system of crop rows on planned grades and lengths primarily for erosion control and water management.

SCOPE

This standard applies to row management on all cropland where crops are grown in rows and a problem of inadequate drainage, soil erosion, or inadequate use of available rainfall or irrigation water exists.

PURPOSE

To establish row crops in direction, grade, and length so as to provide adequate drainage and erosion control and permit optimum use of rainfall and irrigation water.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

Proper row arrangement is applicable:

- As part of a surface drainage system for a field where the rows are planned to carry excess water to surface drains.
- To facilitate optimum use of water in graded furrow irrigation systems.
- In dryland areas where it is necessary to control the grade of rows to use available rainfall more fully.
- On sloping land, with or without other conservation practices, where control of the length, grade, and direction of rows can help reduce soil erosion.

DESIGN CRITERIA

General

Row arrangement shall facilitate the use of applicable farm machinery in the field.

Surface Drainage

As part of a surface drainage system, row arrangement shall:

1. Conform with the drainage part of the technical guide for the area regarding grade and length.
2. Facilitate flow of excess water from the field into surface ditches.

Furrow Irrigation

As part of a furrow irrigation system, row arrangement shall:

1. Conform with the irrigation guide for the area regarding grade and length.
2. Facilitate irrigation water management in the field.

Erosion Control and Water Conservation

As part of an erosion control and/or water conservation system for a field, row arrangement shall:

1. Conform with the technical guide for the area for the particular practice for which the row arrangement is a facilitating measure.
2. Conform with the grade and length requirements for terraces if the arrangement is used without another engineering practice.

Conservation practice standards are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the current version of this standard, contact the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

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Statewide

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

Plans and specifications for row arrangements shall be in keeping with this standard and shall describe the requirements for properly applying the practice to achieve its intended purpose.