



Residue Management - Ridge Till

Conservation Practice Job Sheet

(Code 329c)

Wyoming - Natural Resources Conservation Service

July 2003

For:	Farm #:
Field(s):	Tract #:
Designed By:	Approved By:
	Signature:
Date:	Date:

Definition

Managing the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and other plant residues on the soil surface year-round, while growing crops on preformed ridges alternated with furrows protected by crop residue.

Purposes (check all that apply)

- Reduce sheet and rill erosion.
- Reduce wind erosion.
- Maintain or improve soil organic matter content and tilth.
- Manage snow to increase plant-available moisture.
- Modify cool wet site conditions.
- Provide food and escape cover for wildlife.



The Natural Resources Conservation Service provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment.

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Condition where practice applies

This practice applies to all cropland and other land where crops are grown. This practice includes tillage and planting methods commonly referred to as ridge till or ridge planting. It does not include no-till planting on ridges, or bedding or listing operations, that bury crop residues.

General Specifications:

1. Following crop harvest and secondary residue removal, crop residues shall be maintained with no additional disturbance until planting.
2. Ridge height shall be maintained throughout the harvest and winter seasons by controlling equipment and livestock traffic.
3. After planting, residues are to be maintained in the row furrows until ridges are rebuilt through cultivation.
4. Loose residue remaining on the field after harvest shall be uniformly distributed.
5. Cultivation and planting equipment designed to operate on ridges shall be used.

Residue and Ridge Height Management:

Crop	Percent of Residue to Maintain After Overwintering	Ridge Height/Spacing	
		After Planting	After Final Cultivation

Residue to be Removed by Grazing or Baling:

Crop	Grazing / Baling Period	% Surface Cover Remaining

Questions concerning these specifications and/or crop substitutions should be directed to the Natural Resources Conservation Service office at (phone) _____.