

NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSERVATION PRACTICE SPECIFICATION

## 386 - FIELD BORDER

### I. SCOPE

The work shall consist of furnishing all materials and placing them on all designated areas to the limits as shown on the drawings, or as staked in the field, and performing cultural operations to establish a field border.

### II. MATERIALS

#### Seed

All seed shall be delivered to the site tagged and labeled in accordance with the California Agricultural Code, and shall be acceptable to the County Agricultural Commissioner.

Bag tag figures will be evidence of purity and germination. Time since date of seed test shall not exceed 9 months.

Seed shall be of a quality that weed seed shall not exceed 0.5% of the aggregate of pure live seed (PLS) (% germination x % purity) and other material.

#### Fertilizer

Unless otherwise specified on the Practice Requirements sheet, all fertilizer shall be uniform in composition, dry and free flowing, pelleted or granular.

All fertilizer shall be labeled in accordance with applicable state regulations and bear the warranty of the producer for the grade furnished.

#### Inoculants

The inoculant for treating legume seeds shall be a pure culture of Nitrogen fixing bacteria prepared specifically for the plant species and shall not be used later than the date indicated on the container. A mixing medium, as recommended by the manufacturer or approved substitute, shall be used to bond the inoculant to the seed. For nonpellet inoculated seed, two times the amount of the inoculant recommended by the manufacturer shall be used and seed shall be sown within 24 hours.

For pellet inoculated seed, at least 30 pounds of inoculant shall be used per 1,000 pounds of raw seed and the seed shall be labeled to show the Lot Number, Expiration Date, and Percent Coat of the finished product. Pellet inoculated seed shall be kept cool and sown within 180 days.

#### Chemicals

All pesticides used in performing this practice shall be Federally, State, and locally registered and shall be applied strictly in accordance with authorized and registered uses, directions on the label, and other Federal or State policies and requirements. Chemical containers shall be properly stored and disposed of in a safe manner.

### III. SEEDING MIXTURE AND PLANTING DATE

The seed(s) and rate(s) specified on the Practice Requirements sheet shall be used.

The seeding rate(s) shall be the weight exclusive of any coating material. Any legume seed used shall be inoculated. Based on bag tags, seeding rates shall be adjusted to insure the required amounts of pure live seed.

Planting shall be performed during the period that is specified on the Practice Requirements sheet.

### IV. SEEDBED PREPARATION

Unless otherwise specified on the Practice Requirements sheet, the area to be planted shall be weed free and have a firm seedbed which has previously been roughened by scarifying, disking, harrowing, chiseling, or otherwise worked to a depth of 2 to 4 inches, except when planting no-till. No implement shall be used that will create an excessive amount of downward movement of clods on sloping areas.

Trash, weeds, and other debris that will interfere with seeding or maintenance shall be removed.

Seedbed preparation shall be suspended when soil moisture conditions are not suitable for obtaining a satisfactory seedbed.

## **V. FERTILIZING AND SEEDING**

### **Fertilizing**

The fertilizer(s) and rate(s) specified on the Practice Requirements sheet shall be used.

When required and unless otherwise specified on the Practice Requirements sheet, fertilizer shall be applied in any way that will result in uniform distribution. The fertilizer shall be incorporated into the soil as part of the seedbed preparation or as part of the seeding operation.

### **Seeding**

Unless otherwise specified on the Practice Requirements sheet, seed shall be drilled at the depth specified on the Practice Requirements sheet.

Seeding shall be performed as nearly as practical across the slope unless otherwise specified on the Practice Requirements sheet.

## **VI. IRRIGATION**

When specified, irrigation water shall be applied during the establishment period at the times and rates listed on the Practice Requirements sheet.

## **VII. ADDITIONAL CULTURAL OPERATIONS**

Cultural operations performed shall maintain a plant population that provides at least 60 percent ground cover not including any noxious weeds. Mowing can be performed for control of noxious weeds or for a designated firebreak. No tillage shall be performed except for injecting or banding fertilizer through knives. Periodic mowing can be performed to reduce rank growth and maintain species populations.

Herbicides used shall not endanger the planted species, except when required for control of noxious weeds.

## **VIII. OTHER REQUIREMENTS**

Other details for the establishment and maintenance of the plants including, but not limited to, the need for livestock and traffic control shall be applied when specified on the Practice Requirements sheet.

Measures and methods that enhance fish and wildlife values, protect visual resources, and maintain key shade, food, and den trees shall be performed when specified on the Practice Requirements sheet.

Operations shall be done in such a manner that soil erosion and air and water pollution are minimized and held within legal limits.

The owner, operator, contractor, and other persons shall conduct all work and operations in accordance with proper safety codes for the type of equipment and operations being performed with due regards to safety of all persons and property.