



EQIP 595 PRACTICE GUIDELINES: Reduced-risk options to current methyl bromide use in fumigated fruits and vegetables

EQIP 2007 Cost list item: (1) Virtually Impermeable Film—VIF Tarping (maximum 15 acres per operation for FY 2007)

Name/EQIP Contract #: _____

General description/Purpose of practice: VIF is a relatively new type of plastic mulch that will reduce soil-to-atmosphere methyl bromide gas flow. The use of this tarping will result in reduced use of methyl bromide due to greater gas retention and efficiency.

Conditions for Practice Eligibility: To be eligible for this practice, producer must have utilized methyl bromide without a retentive management tarp during the previous crop growing season. This practice is only allowed for use with methyl bromide, and not with reduced-risk alternative fumigants *at this time*.

Practice procedures and criteria:

- Mulch must be VIF or metallic-type film with equally low permeability to methyl bromide, and it must be installed properly for maximum effectiveness.
- Methyl bromide application rates must be a minimum of **25% lower** than the maximum labeled rate for the crop to be grown.
- Documentation of a reduced rate of methyl bromide use must be provided to the designated conservationist in order for practice to be certified as complete. The table below may be used for recordkeeping.
- This management system may be implemented and cost-shared annually on the same acreage for up to 3 years, and is capped at 15 acres per operation for FY 2007 (same 15 acre crop area each year for 3 consecutive years).

EQIP RECORDKEEPING FOR RETENTIVE TARPING (Annual practice)

Type of retentive tarping used (VIF or equal alternative)	Date(s) tarping installed	Area treated(tract, field, acres)	Crop to be grown	Maximum labeled MB rate	MB application rate with tarping	Date applied

Applicant initials