

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSERVATION PRACTICE OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

**STRIPCROPPING  
(Acre)  
CODE 585**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

**General**

Sediment accumulations along strip edges shall be smoothed or removed and distributed over the field as necessary to maintain practice effectiveness.

When headlands are in permanent cover, renovate as needed to keep ground cover above 65 percent. No-till renovation of headlands is recommended but in any case should only include the immediate seedbed preparation and reseeding to a sod-forming crop with or without a nurse crop. Maintain full headland width to allow turning of farm implements at the end of a tilled strip to double back on the same strip.

**Operation and Maintenance Specific to Erosion by Water**

Conduct all farming operations parallel to the

strip boundaries except on end rows that have gradients flatter than the criteria set forth in this standard or where the end rows have at least 75 percent residue cover.

Plant correction areas as closely as possible to the contour. Using no-till in the correction areas or seeding close-grown crops rather than row crops increases options.

Mow sod turn-strips and *grassed waterways* at least once a year. Harvesting is optional.

**Operation and Maintenance Specific to Erosion by Wind**

Erosion-resistant strips in rotation shall be managed to maintain the planned vegetative cover and surface roughness during periods when wind erosion is expected to occur. The protective cover must be adequate to inhibit the initiation of wind erosion and the surface roughness will be sufficient to trap saltating soil particles originating upwind.