

Landowner _____

What Is Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment?

Grazing land mechanical treatment is the process of modifying the physical soil and/or plant conditions with mechanical tools. Examples of tools may include pitting, contour furrowing, disking, chiseling, ripping or subsoiling, and aeration or plugging.

Purpose

Grazing land mechanical treatment utilizes mechanical tools to fracture compacted soil layers, break up sod bound conditions and thatch, and renovate and stimulate plant communities.

How It Helps The Land

The major roles of grazing land mechanical treatment are to improve soil permeability, reduce water runoff and increase infiltration, increase desirable plant vigor, reduce undesirable plant competition, and improve productivity and yield.

Where The Practice Applies

Grazing land mechanical treatment is applicable to pastureland, rangeland, grazed forest, and native pastures where the slopes are less than 20 percent and where one or more of the above purposes have been identified as a resource concern.

Where To Get Help

For assistance in planning some type of grazing land mechanical treatment, contact your local Natural Resources Conservation Service or your local Conservation District office.

Conservation Management Systems

Grazing land mechanical treatment is recommended as part of a resource management system that addresses all natural resource concerns and the objectives of the landowner or operator. For this practice to be fully effective, prescribe grazing, range planting, pasture and hayland planting, pest management, nutrient management, and other grazing lands practices should be considered.

Operation And Maintenance

For the long-term operation and maintenance of grazing land mechanical treatment, the implementation of a good prescribed grazing plan is essential. The practice may need to be repeated if the desired effects of this practice are lost over time.

Specifications

Site-specific requirements and provisions are listed on the specifications sheet. Specifications included in this job sheet are based on guidance contained in the local Field Office Technical Guide.

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Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment - Specifications Sheet

Landowner/Cooperator: _____ Field Office: _____

Plan Number: _____ Location: _____ County: _____

Purpose/Objectives of the Practice (Check all that apply)

- Fractures compacted soil layers and improve soil permeability
- Reduce water runoff and increase infiltration
- Break up sod bound conditions and thatch to increase plant vigor
- Renovate and stimulate plant community for greater productivity and yield
- Other (specify) _____

Site Information

Field Number(s): _____ Acres: _____ Planned Installation Date: _____

Soils: _____ Ecological Site(s) (Native): _____

Similarity Index (Native): _____ Pasture Condition (Introduced): _____

Density of desirable plants (No. Plants/ft²): _____ Slope: _____

Extent of treatment area in Acres and how determined: _____

Planned treatment type or method:

- Contour Furrowing
- Pitting
- Disking or Other Means
- Chiseling (Vegetative Composition Concern)
- Chiseling (Compaction and/or Restrictive Layers Concern)
- Deep Ripping
- Aeration or Plugging

Specific Equipment Planned for the type or method selected: _____

Design/Planned Information

Contour Furrowing: → Dam Spacing: _____ Depth: _____ Width: _____ Horizontal Interval: _____

Pitting: → Depth: _____ Width: _____ Length: _____ Spacing: _____

Disking or Other Means: → Number of Operations: _____ Depth: _____ % of Vegetation Destroyed _____

Chiseling (Vegetative Composition Concern): → Depth: _____ Spacing: _____ % of Vegetation Destroyed _____

Chiseling (Compaction and/or Restrictive Layers Concern): → Depth: _____ Spacing: _____

Deep Ripping: → Depth: _____ Spacing: _____

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Aeration or Plugging: → Average Depth of Treatment: _____ Estimated Percent Disturbance: _____

Livestock Deferment: From _____ To _____ Prescribed Grazing Plan Written: → Yes _____ No _____

Operation and Maintenance

Implementation of a good prescribed grazing plan is essential for the long-term operation and maintenance of this practice. If the desired effects of this practice are lost over time, the practice may need to be repeated.

Grazing Land Mechanical Treatment - Job Sketch

Draw or sketch the field(s), showing planned treatment areas or areas to be excluded from treatment. Inside each sketched field, enter total field acres and net application acres. Other relevant information, such as complementary practices or adjacent field conditions may be included.

Location Map (Show North Arrow)

Field No.(s) _____ Acres _____ Map scale _____ (N/A if not to scale)

I certify that this practice is designed and planned according to NRCS-Oklahoma Standards and Specifications.

Designed by: _____ Title: _____ Date: _____

Additional Specifications and Notes:

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