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NEBRASKA RANGE AND PASTURE TECHNICAL NOTE HANDBOOK  
190-VI  
Issue 5

SUBJECT: ECS – RANGE AND PASTURE TECHNICAL NOTE – DETERMINING CANOPY  
BASED ON AVERAGE TREE CANOPY DIAMETER AND TREES PER ACRE

Purpose. To Issue Range and Pasture Technical Note 21

Effective Date. Effective When Received

Explanation. Determining canopy cover for the purpose of planning, scheduling, and applying Conservation Practice 314, Brush Management, is the baseline requirement in providing alternatives to clients.

Brush infestation must average at least a low canopy level, (5% or higher) by target specie or a combination of target species to meet the minimum treatment threshold. Refer to 314DP for canopy cover levels and more specific guidance on when brush management should be recommended. For example, Osage orange, three percent; honey locust, three percent; and Eastern red cedar, four percent, for a total of 10 percent canopy of all undesirable species. Even though the individual species canopy percentages are under the low canopy level for each species, the combination of the three species (existing in the same plant community) exceeds the low canopy level; therefore meeting the minimum resource concern threshold.

Filing Instructions. File the [Range and Pasture Technical Note 21](#) in your Nebraska Range and Pasture Handbook. The attached updated [Technical Note Index](#) should be placed in your Nebraska Range and Pasture Handbook and the previous index recycled.

If you have any questions please contact Ritch Nelson, Acting State Resource Conservationist, at (402) 437-4100 or by e-mail at [ritch.nelson@ne.usda.gov](mailto:ritch.nelson@ne.usda.gov)

/s/ Craig Derickson

CRAIG DERICKSON  
State Conservationist

Enclosures

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