TECHNICAL NOTES

U S Department of Agriculture | Natural Resources Conservation Service

TN – AGRONOMY – CA-56 | March 2000

SOIL QUALITY TECHNICAL NOTES - AGRONOMY NO. 5 AND NO. 6

Enclosed are copies of the fifth and sixth Agronomy series Soil Quality Technical Notes produced by the NRCS Soil Quality Institute titled:

Agronomy No. 5: Herbicides

Agronomy No. 6: Legumes and Soil Quality

Soil Quality Institute Agronomist Michael D. Hubbs in Auburn, Alabama is the principal author and editor of Technical Note No.5. Jon Sticka, NRCS Area Agronomist in Dickinson, North Dakota, is the principal author of Technical Note No.6 and Michael Hubbs was the editor.

It is the goal of the Soil Quality Institute to provide useful information that supports sustainable agriculture and will help field offices in assisting clients/decision makers to consider the whole resource (soil quality) in conservation planning. These Technical Notes are meant to be used with the corresponding conservation practice standards to assist planners when developing alternatives with the client/decision maker.

Technical Note No. 5 discusses the behavior and use of herbicides with a table listing 78 herbicides organized by herbicide families with information on their fate in the environment and leaching potential and surface loss potential.

Technical Note No. 6 discusses Nitrogen fixation by legumes, the importance of inoculating seed with the proper strain of Rhizobia bacteria, and the soil changes resulting from growing legume crops.

Field offices are encouraged to provide copies of these Technical Notes (as well as any other Technical Notes) to clients/decision makers, as needed, to accelerate progressive conservation planning.

This page was prepared by Walt Bunter, Earth Team Agronomist, Resource Technology Staff, Natural Resources Conservation Service, Davis, California.