



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
430 G Street #4164  
Davis, CA 95616-4164  
Phone (530) 792-5667  
Fax (530) 792-5793

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May 28, 2010

## **CALIFORNIA TECHNICAL GUIDE 450-VI**

### **TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE NO. 104**

**SUBJECT: Section I - Issue new and revised Technical Notes**

**Purposes:**

Issue revision to Soils Technical Note No. CA-20, new Soils Technical Note No. CA-21, revised Agronomy Technical Note No. CA-62, New Range Technical Note Nos. CA-54 and CA-55.

**Effective Date:** When contents are received.

**Explanation:**

**Section I:** Five Technical Notes documents are posted to the eFOTG in Section 1, Technical Notes, in the Soils, Agronomy, and Range folders. Index Updates are also posted.

1. TN-SOILS-CA-20: Important Farmlands Definitions and Criteria as Applied in California, revised May 6, 2010.

This revision of Soils Technical Note CA-20 adds a Background section which provides the history behind the development of Prime Farmland criteria in California. The rest of the Technical Note remains unchanged from the previous version.

2. TN-SOILS-CA-21: USLE R-factor as a Digital Geodata Layer for HEL Determinations

A California statewide geodata layer was developed to provide a more automated and precise method to obtain R-factor values for HEL determinations. This Technical Note provides background and procedures for using the GIS R-factor data with USLE specifically for HEL determinations prescribed by the 1985 Farm Bill.

3. TN-AGRONOMY-CA-62, Revised May, 2010: California Phosphorus Index

The California Phosphorus Index is a required tool for nutrient management planning under certain circumstances in California. The Revision being issued updates the instructions for finding Soils Hydrologic Groups using Web Map Services. Remaining parts of the Technical Note remain unchanged. This Technical Note also contains a supporting Excel worksheet "Cal P Index.xls".

4. TN-RANGE-CA-54: Prescribed Grazing (528) Practice Requirement Sheet and Specification Development Support Tool (528\_spec\_tool\_R5a.xls)

An Excel File, 528\_spec\_tool\_R5a.xls, or “Spec Tool” has been developed to serve as a planning tool to capture and process data related to Grazing Lands. The spec tool provides a systematic and organized method of capturing and processing information that is essential in meeting agency planning requirements. The Technical Note issues this planning tool along with instructions for use.

5. TN-RANGE-CA-55: Understanding Prescribed Grazing (528) Module I of III

This first module of the training series “Understanding Prescribed Grazing (528)” is a self-paced prerequisite to Modules II and III of the course series. The purpose of the module is to help participants become more successful in applying conservation by demystifying conservation practice standards and associated documents as well as becoming more familiar with the basic parameters of Prescribed Grazing. This Technical Note contains the instructions to access and download Module I as a PowerPoint file called “Understanding\_528\_Module\_I.ppt”

The California eFOTG, located on the web at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/> and in my.nrcs at <https://my.nrcs.usda.gov/default.aspx>, is being updated to reflect these changes to Section I.

### **Optional Filing Instructions (for copies of FOTG maintained in Field Offices)**

Remove the old Technical Notes and replace with the revised copies. Add in the new Technical Notes to appropriate categories in the FOTG, Section 1, Subpart C. Print off new Technical Note Indexes for each category and replace in the FOTG sections.

*Terryl Kocsis, acting*

for  
DIANE B. HOLCOMB  
State Resource Conservationist

ATTACHMENTS: (electronic) (Copies will be posted to the California eFOTG.)

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