USDA NRCS
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

332- Contour Buffer Strip Implementation Requirements

Producer: _____ **Project or Contract:** _____

Location: _____ **County:** _____

Farm Name: _____ **Tract Number:** _____

Practice Location Map

(showing detailed aerial view of where practice is to be installed on farm/site, showing all major components, stationing, relative location to any landmarks, and survey benchmarks)

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____ Cover Sheet

____ Specifications

____ Drawings

____ Cost Estimate and Project Bid Form

____ Operation & Maintenance

Utility Safety / One-Call System Information

On the map, delineate the contour baseline(2) and stable outlets for concentrated flow.

Description of work:

_____

NRCS Review Only

Designed By:	_____	**Date:**	_____
Checked By:	_____	**Date:**	_____
Approved By:	_____	**Date:**	_____

332 – Contour Buffer Strip
Implementation Requirements

The Practice Purpose(s):

____ Reduce sheet and rill erosion.

____ Reduce transport of sediment and other waterborne contaminants downslope.

____ Increase water infiltration.

Field Number/Location:_____**Acres Installed:** _____ **Seeding Date:** _____

Average Width (ft):_____ **Minimum Width (ft):**_____ **Buffer Strip Length (ft):** _____

Number of Strips (ft):_____ **Spacing between Strips (ft):** _____

Site Preparation:_____

Planting Method:_____

Planting Description (*e.g.* pure grass seed mix exactly on contour, *etc.*):

SEEDING RATES AND SPECIES

Plant species	Lbs/acre of seed (PLS)	Total lbs of seed for planned acreage
TOTALS =>	0.00	0.00

FERTILIZERS AND AMENDMENTS

Fertilizer Element	Fertilizer Form	Fertilizer Amount (lbs/acre)
N		as N
P		as P_2O_5
K		as K_2O
S		as S
Lime		
Gypsum		

Operation and Maintenance: (check all that apply)

__ Conduct all farming operations parallel to the strip boundaries except on headlands or end rows with gradients less than the criteria set forth in this standard.

__ Time mowing of buffer strips to maintain appropriate vegetative density and height for optimum trapping of sediment from the upslope cropped strip during the critical erosion period(s).

__ Fertilize buffer strips as needed to maintain stand density.

__ Mow sod turn strips and waterways at least once a year.

__ Spot seed or totally renovate buffer strip systems damaged by herbicide application after residual action of the herbicide is complete.

__ Redistribute sediment that accumulates along the upslope edge of the buffer strip/crop strip interface as needed. This sediment shall be spread evenly upslope over the cultivated strip when needed to maintain uniform sheet flow along the buffer/cropped strip boundary.

__ If sediment accumulates just below the upslope edge of the buffer strip to a depth of 6 inches or more, or stem density falls below specified amounts in the buffer strip, relocate the buffer/cropped strip interface location.

__ Cultivated strips and buffer strips shall be rotated so that a mature stand of protective cover is achieved in a newly established buffer strip immediately below or above the old buffer strip before removing the old buffer to plant an erosion-prone crop. Alternate repositioning of buffer strips to maintain their relative position on the hill slope.

__ Renovate vegetated headlands or end row area as needed to keep ground cover above 65 percent.