

Deep Tillage

Conservation Practice Job Sheet FL-324-JS

Natural Resources Conservation Service, Florida

October 2009



Subsoiler in residue

Deep tillage is performing a tillage operation below the normal tillage depth to modify the physical or chemical properties of a soil. The purposes of deep tillage are to fracture restrictive soil layers, bury or mix soil deposits from wind or water erosion or flood over wash, and to reduce the concentration of soil contaminants, which inhibit plant growth. The practice of deep tillage applies to land having adverse soil conditions which inhibit plant growth, such as compacted layers formed by field operations, restrictive layers such as cemented hardpans, over wash or deposits from wind and water erosion or flooding, and contaminants in the root zone. The tillage operations are referred to as deep plowing, subsoiling, ripping or row-till.

This practice has the potential to convert (by draining) or degrade wetlands. Therefore, impacts to existing wetland functions shall be assessed. USDA Food Security Act Wetland Conservation Provisions apply. This practice must comply with NRCS wetland technical assistance policy contained in the General Manual, Title 190, Part 410.26.

Site-specific requirements for deep tillage are listed on the Site Specific Sheet. These specifications are prepared in accordance with Florida NRCS conservation practice standard, Deep Tillage, Code 324, and are designed to meet the resource needs and the producer's objectives.

Operation and maintenance for the reduction of soil compaction shall require that deep tillage be performed whenever compaction reoccurs. When deep tillage has been performed to reduce the concentration of soil contaminants, the contaminate levels in the root zone shall be monitored to assist with determining when or if treatment will be reapplied. Certification of this practice can be done by completing the applied columns.

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**Deep Tillage
SITE SPECIFIC SHEET**

Land User:		County:	Date:
Farm #:	Tract #:	Field # (s):	
Purpose (check all that apply)			
<input type="checkbox"/> To fracture restrictive layers		<input type="checkbox"/> To reduce concentration of soil contaminants	
<input type="checkbox"/> To bury or mix soil deposits from wind, water or flood over wash		<input type="checkbox"/> Other	

Site Information		
	Planned	Applied
Acres		
Soil Texture		
Soil Moisture (at time of deep tilling)		
Slope (%)		
Depth to Restrictive Layer		
Depth of Soil Deposit (if applicable)		
Contaminant (ID & Unit)		

Tillage Information		
Equipment Used		
Depth of Tillage		
Chisel Point Spacing (In.)		
Date/Timing of Tillage		

Additional Notes:

Planned by: _____	Signature: _____	Date: _____
Certified by: _____		