

United States Department of Agriculture



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**FIELD OFFICE TECHNICAL GUIDE**

**CHANGE NOTICE 129**

**Purpose:** To transmit recent changes made to the electronic Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

**Effective:** This notice is effective when received.

The following materials have been added or amended within the eFOTG. In an effort to reduce paperwork, streamline work activities, and ensure field staff, clients and partner organizations have access to the latest NRCS technical materials, the official NRCS FOTG materials will be maintained in the eFOTG only. The eFOTG now to be referred to as the FOTG can be accessed at the following website <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg/>. Hardcopies of frequently used conservation practice standards may be copied into ring-binders or downloaded into or electronic “thunderbooks” in an effort to increase your efficiency in use of FOTG materials.

**Section I**

**FY 09 EQIP Payment Schedule** – The Payment Schedule lists those practices that are eligible for the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP). The incentive payments are based on typical scenarios encountered in the field and statewide average costs.

**FY 09 WHIP Payment Schedule** – The Payment Schedule lists those practices that are eligible for the Wildlife Habitat Incentive Program (WHIP). The incentive payments are based on typical scenarios encountered in the field and statewide average costs.

**Payment Schedule Cost Descriptions** – The cost descriptions provide the planner a description of components that are representative of the incentive payment by practice. The cost descriptions are applicable to both EQIP and WHIP FarmBill Programs.

**SECTION I**

***Filing Instructions***

***(For those who desire to maintain a hardcopy FOTG)***

<u>Archive</u>	<u>Insert</u>
FY 2008 EQIP Payment Schedule – Section I, Cost Data.	FY 09 EQIP Payment Schedule – Section I, Cost Data, March 2009.
FY 2008 WHIP Payment Schedule – Section I, Cost Data.	FY 09 WHIP Payment Schedule – Section I, Cost Data, March 2009.
FY 2008 Payment Schedule Cost Descriptions – Section I, Cost Data.	FY 09 Payment Schedule Cost Descriptions – Section I, Cost Data, March 2009.

**Tools Folder in Section IV of the eFOTG only:**

**Contract Payment Estimators** – These tools calculate contract payments for EQIP participants based upon a specified fund (*i.e. Statewide, Northern Everglades, Indian Reservation, Small Scale, Limited Resource*). The tool shall not be used to provide participants with an economic cost estimate of conservation practices. The Contract Payment Estimators Tool functions electronically and may be found in the eFOTG located at <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/efotg> in Section IV, C. Tools.

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**GREG HENDRICKS**

State Resource Conservationist

DIST: Electronic to all employees