

Approved Alternative Conservation Systems

Northern Illinois Crop Management Zone 4¹

1. **Corn - Soybeans**
No-till corn after soybeans leaving 40% residue cover
No-till soybeans after corn leaving 70% residue cover
2. **Corn - Corn - Soybeans**
No-till corn after soybeans leaving 40% residue cover
Spring mulch-till corn after corn leaving 50% residue cover
No-till soybeans after corn leaving 80% residue cover
3. **Continuous Corn**
Spring mulch-till leaving 50% residue cover
4. **Corn - Soybeans - Small Grain**
Spring mulch-till corn after small grain leaving 50% residue cover
No-till soybeans after corn leaving 70% residue cover
Mulch-till small grain after soybeans leaving 30% residue cover
5. **Corn - Corn - Small Grain - Hay**
Spring plow corn after hay
Spring mulch-till corn after corn leaving 30% residue cover
Spring mulch-till small grain after corn leaving 30% residue cover
Legume hay
6. **Corn - Corn - Small Grain - Hay – Hay**
Fall plow corn after hay
Mulch-till corn after corn leaving 30% residue cover
Mulch-till small grain after corn leaving 30% residue cover
Legume hay for 2 years

Note: These systems represent the minimum treatment needed to meet conservation compliance requirements but may not control soil loss to "tolerable" levels. All residue cover percents represent minimum ground cover after planting.

1. The Illinois RUSLE 2 Crop Management Zone (CMZ) map is found in Section I, E. Erosion Prediction, 1. Water Erosion, RUSLE 2.
http://efotg.nrcs.usda.gov/efotg_locator.aspx?map=IL