USDA United States Department of Agriculture

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE IL-108

Purpose. To provide an additional Alternative Cropping System (ACS) for certain soils in Northeast Illinois.

Background. The 1985 Food Security Act as amended allow for the use of Alternative Conservation Systems on HEL Cropland. Alternative Conservation Systems are documented in the field office technical guide as systems that achieve a substantial reduction in soil loss and therefore satisfy the requirements for Highly Erodible Land Compliance. The 1996 Federal Agriculture Improvement and Reform Act defined substantial reduction to be a 75 percent reduction of the potential erodibility not to exceed:

2T for local approval
2-4T for state conservationist's approval
>4T for Director of COD, National Headquarters approval

This standard applies to ACS developed after July 3, 1996. ACS's approved prior to July 3, 1996 will continue to be approved for use on HEL cropland.

This notice provides for the addition of the following Alternative Conservation System into Section III, FOTG in the following counties.

Champaign	LaSalle
Ford	Livingston
Iroquois	Will/South Cook
Kankakee	Vermilion
Kendall	

Corn-Soybean rotation
Corn after spring tillage leaving 20% ground cover after planting. Soybeans no-till drilled leaving 70% ground cover after planting.

The above ACS applies only to the following soil series:

Blount	Morley	Symerton
Swygert	Varnga	Frankfort
Elliott	Nappanee	Markham
Clarence	Chatsworth	St. Clair

This ACS may not be used where the 75% reduction in potential erodibility is less than 2 times the tolerable soil loss limit. Potential erodibility is determined using the following RUSLE Factors: