



Definition

Monitoring and evaluation are the actions and activities, using acceptable tools and protocols, to measure the effectiveness of conservation practices and systems, and/or to provide data for model development, verification, and validation for use of results in non-monitored fields.

Purpose

- Provide site specific field data for input into models to predict practice/system performance.
- Sample and measure practice performance to treat soil, water, air, plant, animal, and energy resources.

This practice will measure the quality of the water leaving a field and will provide an idea of the benefits obtained from existing conservation practices.

Criteria - General

Sampling protocols and equipment requirements are found in the *Methods of Data Collection, Sample Processing, and Data Analysis for Edge-of-Field, Streamgaging, Subsurface-Tile, and Meteorological Stations at Discovery Farms and Pioneer Farm in Wisconsin, 2001–7*

<http://pubs.usgs.gov/of/2008/1015/pdf/ofr2008-1015.pdf>.

The following parameters will be sampled:

Installation, monitoring, and maintenance will require the participation of the manufacturer or a qualified private or public water monitoring agent.

Water monitoring analyses will be collected for a 1-year period and provided to NRCS prior to payment. NRCS will assist in interpreting the results for further management considerations.

Other Considerations

This methodology is best coordinated with professional water monitoring agencies or groups for installation of the collection unit and data analyses.

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