

**Practice: 328 - Conservation Crop Rotation**

**Scenario: #1 - Standard Rotation**

**Scenario Description:**

In this region this practice may be part of a conservation management system to: 1) Reduce sheet and rill erosion 2) Reduce soil erosion from wind 3) Maintain or improve soil organic matter 4) Manage the balance of plant nutrient 5) Improve water use efficiency 6) Manage plant pests (weeds, insects, and diseases). 7) Provide food for domestic livestock and 8) Provide food and cover for wildlife. This practice payment is provided to acquire the technical knowledge and skills necessary to effectively implement a conservation crop rotation on a typical 100 cropland farm. No foregone income. Cost represents typical situations for conventional (non-organic) producers.

**Before Situation:**

The rotation consists primarily of low residue producing row crops. Fields range from nearly flat to C and D slopes. Erosion, soil quality, and pest management are the primary concerns.

**After Situation:**

A rotation is establish that provides additional high residue and/or perennial crops that reduce erosion, improve soil quality, and break pest cycles.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Area planted

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 100

**Scenario Cost:** \$1,492.00

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$14.92

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<i>Labor</i>						
Supervisor or Manager	234	Labor involving supervision or management activities. Includes crew supervisors, foremen and farm/ranch managers time required for adopting new technology, etc.	Hour	\$37.30	40	\$1,492.00

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**Scenario: #2 - Irrigated to Dryland Rotation**

**Scenario Description:**

In this region this practice may be part of a conservation management system to primarily convert from an irrigated cropping system to dryland farming. In addition to improving water use efficiency the rotation may 1) Reduce sheet and rill erosion 2) Reduce soil erosion from wind 3) Maintain or improve soil organic matter 4) Manage the balance of plant nutrients 5) Manage plant pests (weeds, insects, and diseases). 6) Provide food for domestic livestock and 7) Provide food and cover for wildlife. This practice payment is provided to acquire the technical knowledge and skills necessary to effectively implement a conservation crop rotation on a typical 200 cropland farm. There is foregone income involved with this conversion from irrigated to dryland farming due to lower yields and net return. Cost represents typical situations for conventional (non-organic) producers converting from irrigated cropping to dryland farming.

**Before Situation:**

This rotation consisted of growing row crop grains that received a significant (more than half) of the required water via irrigation. The water demands are impacting the area's water availability. Erosion, soil condition, and future water availability are the major concerns.

**After Situation:**

The dryland rotation, using the same crops or a rotation that grows crops over different periods, will be part of a management system capable of utilizing available rainfall and soil moisture more efficiently and controlling wind and water erosion. Corn yields will be expected to be reduced from 150 to 80 bu/acre.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Area planted

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 200

**Scenario Cost:** \$19,335.63

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$96.68

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<b>Foregone Income</b>						
FI, Soybeans Irrigated	1962	Irrigated Soybeans is Primary Crop	Acre	\$252.27	33	\$8,324.91
FI, Soybeans Dryland	1961	Dryland Soybeans is Primary Crop	Acre	\$204.25	-33	(\$6,740.25)
FI, Corn Irrigated	1960	Irrigated Corn is Primary Crop	Acre	\$504.42	33	\$16,645.86
FI, Sorghum Dryland	1971	Dryland Sorghum is Primary Crop	Acre	\$105.79	-33	(\$3,491.07)
FI, Cotton Irrigated	1968	Irrigated Cotton is Primary Crop	Acre	\$252.90	34	\$8,598.60
FI, Cotton Dryland	1967	Dryland Cotton is Primary Crop	Acre	\$150.63	-34	(\$5,121.42)
<b>Labor</b>						
Supervisor or Manager	234	Labor involving supervision or management activities. Includes crew supervisors, foremen and farm/ranch managers time required for adopting new technology, etc.	Hour	\$37.30	30	\$1,119.00

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**Scenario: #4 - Specialty Crops**

**Scenario Description:**

In this region a rotation of specialty crops (fruits and vegetable) are produced as part of a conservation management system to: 1) Reduce sheet and rill erosion 2) Reduce soil erosion from wind 3) Maintain or improve soil organic matter 4) Manage the balance of plant nutrients 5) Improve water use efficiency, and 6) Manage plant pests (weeds, insects, and diseases). This practice payment is provided to acquire the technical knowledge and skills necessary to effectively implement a conservation crop rotation on a typical 50 acre specialty crop farm. No foregone income. Cost represents typical situations for conventional (non-organic) producers.

**Before Situation:**

This rotation consisted of growing specialty crops. Fields range from nearly flat to B and C slopes. Erosion, soil quality, and pest management are the primary concerns.

**After Situation:**

The rotation established adds higher residue crop(s) to the rotation that reduce erosion, improve soil quality, and break pest cycles.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Area planted

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 50

**Scenario Cost:** \$1,865.00

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$37.30

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<i>Labor</i>						
Supervisor or Manager	234	Labor involving supervision or management activities. Includes crew supervisors, foremen and farm/ranch managers time required for adopting new technology, etc.	Hour	\$37.30	50	\$1,865.00

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**Scenario: #5 - Organic Specialty Crops**

**Scenario Description:**

In this region a rotation of specialty crops (fruits and vegetable) are produced as part of a conservation management system to: 1) Reduce sheet and rill erosion 2) Reduce soil erosion from wind 3) Maintain or improve soil organic matter 4) Manage the balance of plant nutrient 5) Improve water use efficiency, and 6) Manage plant pests (weeds, insects, and diseases). This practice payment is provided to acquire the technical knowledge and skills necessary to effectively implement a conservation crop rotation on a typical 50 acre specialty crop farm. No foregone income. Cost represents typical situations for conventional (non-organic) producers. .

**Before Situation:**

This rotation consisted of growing specialty crops. Fields range from nearly flat to B and C slopes. Erosion, soil quality, and pest management are the primary concerns.

**After Situation:**

The rotation established adds higher residue crop(s) to the rotation that reduce erosion, improve soil quality, and break pest cycles.

**Scenario Feature Measure:** Area planted

**Scenario Unit:** Acre

**Scenario Typical Size:** 4

**Scenario Cost:** \$2,984.00

**Scenario Cost/Unit:** \$746.00

**Cost Details (by category):**

Component Name	ID	Component Description	Unit	Price (\$/unit)	Quantity	Cost
<i>Labor</i>						
Supervisor or Manager	234	Labor involving supervision or management activities. Includes crew supervisors, foremen and farm/ranch managers time required for adopting new technology, etc.	Hour	\$37.30	80	\$2,984.00