

# USDA FIELD BORDER

*Conservation Practice Jobsheet*

386

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

July 2009

Landowner \_\_\_\_\_



## WHAT IS FIELD BORDER

Field borders are strips of permanent vegetation established at the edge or around the perimeter of a field. Vegetation in field borders consists of adapted species of grasses or a mixture of grasses, legumes, and forbs.

## PURPOSE

This practice may be applied to accomplish one or more of the following:

- Reduce erosion from water
- Soil and water quality protection
- Provide wildlife food and cover
- Manage harmful insect populations
- Serve as turn rows for farm machinery

## CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES

Field Borders are located at the edge of cropland fields and can be connected to other buffer practices within the field. Field borders may also apply to recreation land or other land uses where agronomic crops are grown.

## RESOURCE MANAGEMENT SYSTEM

Field borders are normally established along with other conservation practices as part of a resource management system. Other conservation practices may include nutrient and pest management, residue management, wildlife habitat improvement, irrigation water management, contour buffer strips, mulching, grass waterways, filter strips, diversions and grade stabilization structures.

## PRACTICE SPECIFICATIONS

Practice specifications are provided to assure that this practice meets the resource needs and the producer's objectives. Specifications for the establishment of this practice shall be prepared for each field or treatment unit according to the criteria and considerations described in the practice standard.

## FIELD BORDER – SPECIFICATIONS SHEET

Landowner/Cooperator \_\_\_\_\_

Field Office \_\_\_\_\_

Plan Number \_\_\_\_\_ Location \_\_\_\_\_

Field Area (ac) \_\_\_\_\_ Treatment Area (ac) \_\_\_\_\_ Precipitation (inches) \_\_\_\_\_

Purpose/Objective of the Practice (Check all that apply)	
<input type="checkbox"/>	Reduce erosion from water
<input type="checkbox"/>	Soil and water quality protection
<input type="checkbox"/>	Provide wildlife food and cover
<input type="checkbox"/>	Manage harmful insect populations
<input type="checkbox"/>	Serve as turn rows for farm machinery
<input type="checkbox"/>	Other _____

Site Conditions				
Plant Materials – Cultivar and Species (see note below)	Full Seeding Rate (lb/ac PLS)	Planned % of Seeding Mix	Planned Acres	Treatment Area Total lbs. of PLS Needed
<b>Totals</b>				

Note – Planner may attach copy of “Louisiana Seed Mixture Worksheet” if used to figure seed mixture.

Field Border Site Preparation and Establishment	
Site Preparation Activities:	
Planting/Seeding Method:	
Nutrient and Pest Management Planned:	

**Soil Amendments and Fertilization**

Soil Test Taken		Soil pH from Soil Test	
Other Important Factors (i.e., salinity, iron, etc.)			

	Low	Medium	High
Phosphorus			
Nitrogen			
Potassium			

**Site Conditions for Planning Field Border Establishment**

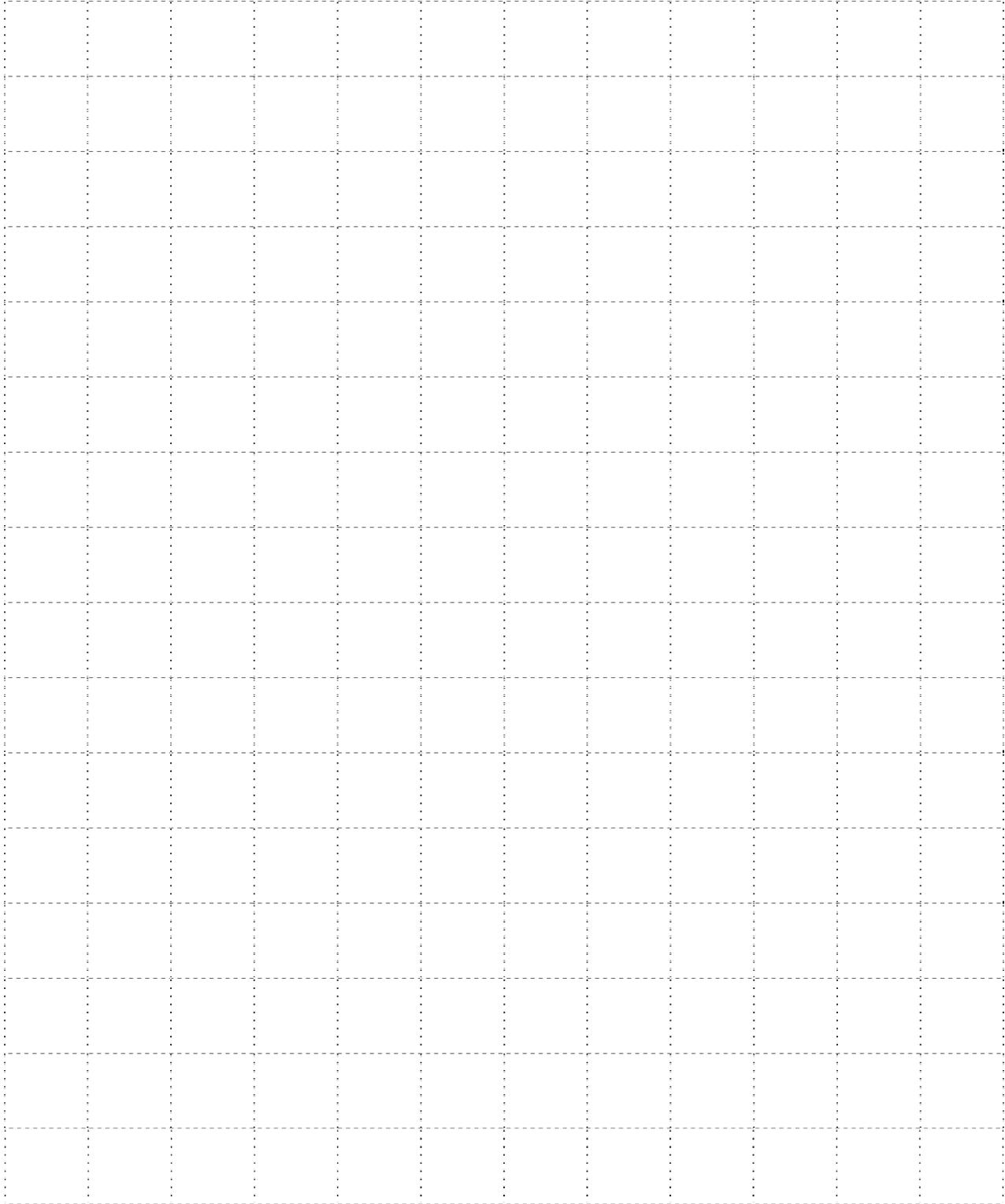
Dominant Soil Series	
Representative Slope %	
Border Area (acres)	
Border Strip Width (feet)	
Border Strip Length (feet)	
Fertility Requirements	

**Operation and Maintenance**

Item	Year 1 – Area Treated	Year 2 – Area Treated	Year 3 – Area Treated	Year 4 – Area Treated
Maintain appropriate vegetative density and height – mowing				
Fertilize – as needed to maintain stand density and health				
Weed Control – chemical, mechanical				
Renovation – sediment removal, reseed, re-establish				

If applicable, provide a site view of the practice design and application in area below or as an attached diagram. Location of other relevant information and complimentary practices may be included.

Scale 1"= \_\_\_\_\_ ft. (NA indicates sketch not to scale: grid size=1/2" by 1/2")



### Additional Specifications and Notes

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### Practice Design Certification (To be completed after jobsheet is complete and before practice installation)

By signing below, I certify that:

- the site specific requirements for the installation, operation, and maintenance of the practice on the client's treatment unit, as recorded in this jobsheet, have been prepared in accordance with the 386 Field Border Standard and the guidance in the 386 Field Border Practice Specification.

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

### Practice Installation Certification (To be completed after practice installation and check out)

By signing below, I certify that:

- The practice has been installed according to the site specific installation requirements

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Date \_\_\_\_\_

**This practice requires a current Louisiana One Call Dottie Confirmation Number.**

**Call before you dig**, wait 48 hours for the site to be marked, observe the marks and dig with care. The service is free. It's the law! Civil Penalties range up to \$25,000 for violations of the "Dig" law.



### **Failure to notify Louisiana One Call before installing this practice may delay or terminate NRCS assistance.**

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**NRCS, LA  
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