

USDA **GRAZING LAND MECHANICAL TREATMENT**

Conservation Practice Jobsheet

548

Natural Resources Conservation Service (NRCS)

January 2012

Landowner _____



WHAT IS GRAZING LAND MECHANICAL TREATMENT?

Grazing land mechanical treatment is the process of modifying the physical soil and/or plant conditions with mechanical tools. Examples of tools may include disking, chiseling, ripping, subsoiling, and aeration.

PURPOSE

- Fracture compacted soil layers and improve soil permeability
- Reduction in water runoff and increased infiltration
- Break up root-bound conditions and thatch to increase plant vigor
- Renovation and stimulation of plant community for greater productivity and yield

WHERE THE PRACTICE APPLIES

Grazing land mechanical treatment is applicable to pastureland, hayland, rangeland, grazed forest, and native pastures where one or more of the above purposes have been identified as a resource concern.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

For the long-term operation and maintenance of grazing land mechanical treatment, the implementation of a good prescribed grazing plan is essential. The practice may need to be repeated if the desired effects of this practice are lost over time.

GRAZING LAND MECHANICAL TREATMENT – JOBSHEET

Landowner/Cooperator _____

Field Office _____

Plan Number _____ Location _____

Purpose/Objective of the Practice (Check all that apply)

	Fractures compacted soil layers and improve soil permeability
	Reduce water runoff and increase infiltration
	Break up root-bound conditions and thatch to increase plant vigor
	Renovate and stimulate plant community for greater productivity and yield
	Other: _____

Site Information

Field Number (s) _____ Acres _____ Date _____

Soils _____

Signs of Compaction _____

Planned Treatment Type or Method

	Chiseling (Compaction and/or Restrictive Layers Concern)
	Chiseling (Vegetative Composition Concern)
	Subsoiling
	Ripping
	Disking
	Aeration

Specific Equipment Planned for the Type or Method Elected:

Design/Planned Information

Aeration

Average Dept of Treatment _____

Estimated Percent Disturbance _____

Disking

Number of Operations _____

Depth _____

% of Vegetation Destroyed _____

Chiseling/Subsoiling (Vegetative Composition Concern) Depth _____

Spacing _____

% of Vegetation Destroyed _____

Chiseling/Subsoiling (Compaction and/or Restrictive Layers Concern)

Depth _____

Spacing _____

Deep Ripping

Depth _____

Spacing _____

Livestock Deferment

From _____

To _____

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

