



Helping People Help the Land

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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TECHNICAL GUIDE
NOTICE #245 (electronic)

Purpose: To transmit information regarding the electronic NRCS Field Office Technical Guide (eFOTG).

Effective Date: This notice is effective upon receipt.

Notice of Changes

SECTION I General References

Maps

The **Plant Hardiness Zone Map** for Michigan has been updated.

Technical questions should be addressed to John Leif, Plan Material Center Manager, at (517) 640-6300.

Michigan Technical Notes

Agronomy Technical Note #61 “A Procedure Using the Wind Erosion Prediction System (WEPS) Model to Predict Soil and Phosphorus Losses with Cover Crops” explains how to use the WEPS model, soil test data, crop rotations with cover crops and changes in tillage to assess the impact these practices have on total phosphorus (P) loss from all four edges of the field. The amount of P loss assumes there are surface drains catching saltation and surface creep from all four sides of the wind erosion prediction area. Use the WEPS detailed report to calculate the percentage of soil loss on each side of the field to calculate the P loss to any surface drain on the field edge that is catching soil. Soil Conservation District staff may find this procedure useful for grant proposals involving water quality and promoting cover crops.

Technical questions should be addressed to Jerry Grigar, State Agronomist, at (517) 324-5250

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DIST: All Holders of the Field Office Technical Guide

SECTION II

Forestry Information

The **Silviculture Standards for Forest Stand Improvement** folder and document have been archived. The document is largely redundant with conservation practice standard Forest Stand Improvement (666).

Technical questions should be addressed to Andy Henriksen, State Forester, at (517) 324-5234.

SECTION IV Practice Standards and Specifications

Conservation Practices

The job sheet for the conservation practice standard **Irrigation Water Management (449)**, has been updated. The updated version corrects an error in the units in one of the tables and the sheet was converted to a fillable form.

Address technical questions to Steve Davis, State Conservation Engineer, at (517) 324-5232.

Questions regarding eFOTG content management should be directed to Ruth Shaffer, Water Quality Specialist, at (517) 324-5239.



JAMES G. SCOTT
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