



Helping People Help the Land

Natural Resources Conservation Service

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January 13, 2014

**TECHNICAL GUIDE
NOTICE #259 (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 IV. Practice Standards and Specifications

Conservation Practices

Michigan has adopted the national conservation practice standard for **Feed Management (592)**. This practice should be applied where livestock operations plan to change feed rations, feed stuffs, or feed additives. A Feed Management Plan is developed by a professional livestock nutritionist or similar professional animal scientist who may be from university extension, veterinarians, or feed and/or nutrient suppliers. Feed management (592) must be followed when the Conservation Activity Plan – Feed Management Plan (108) is contracted.

Technical questions should be addressed to Betsy Dierberger, Grassland/Forage Specialist, at (517) 324-5265.

The conservation practice standard **Nutrient Management (590)** has been modified to allow use of starter fertilizers in field corn, in accordance with Michigan State University Extension Bulletin E2904, “Nutrient Recommendations for Field Crops in Michigan”.

Technical questions should be addressed to Ruth Shaffer, Water Quality Specialist, at (517) 324-5239.

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DIST: All Holders of the Field Office Technical Guide

National Bulletin NB 450-14-2 provided the document, “NRCS Cropland Cover Crop Termination Guidelines, - Version 2, December 2013” and instructed states to attach the document to the **Cover Crops (340)** practice standard and delete the previous version. No changes were made to the conservation practice standard itself. The updated termination guidelines are specific for Western states that practice summer fallow for moisture conservation. No changes were made to Michigan cover crop termination guidelines.

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

Engineering Conservation Practice Standards

The following national conservation practice standards and supporting Statements of Work and O&M Plans have been adopted for use in Michigan:

Lighting System Improvement (670) - adopted the national practice standard

Building Envelope Improvement (672) - adopted the national practice standard

Agricultural Secondary Containment Facility (710) -The standard allows NRCS-Michigan to design and construct secondary containment for fueling facilities that are larger than 3,300 gallon fuel storage capacity.

The following engineering conservation practices were updated:

Fueling Facility Above-Ground Storage (713) – changes include

- Added language on use of modular block walls with flexible membrane liner for containment
- Setback distances from buildings with different UL tank types
- Well isolation distance changes due to state rule changes in September 2014
- Increased % passing #200 sieve to allow for MDOT Class II sand

Waste Separation Facility (632) - The changes are reflective of the national practice standard along with the name change from Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility to Waste Separation Facility.

- New criteria added on sand separation
- Safety language added
- Freeboard requirements for settling basins

Technical questions on these engineering practice standards should be addressed to Rick Woodford, 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.

/S/

JAMES G. SCOTT
State Resource Conservationist