Integrated Pest Management Plan Criteria
Practice/Activity Code (114) (No.)

1. **Definition:**

An Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan is a conservation activity plan documenting decisions by producer/growers who agree to implement an ecosystem-based strategy that is a sustainable approach to manage pests using a combination of conservation practices and IPM techniques that are characterized as chemical applications, biological control, and habitat manipulation, modification of cultural practices and use of resistant varieties. Methods of chemical applications are selected in a manner that minimizes risks to human health, beneficial and non-target organisms, and the environment. The "Integrated Pest Management activity plan" will:

- Meets NRCS quality criteria for soil erosion, water quality, air quality, and plant quality;
- Comply with federal, state, tribal, and local laws, regulations and permit requirements;
- Addresses operator's objectives.

Producers choose to implement an Integrated Pest Management Plan for reasons that include, but are not limited to:

- Managing pests effectively and economically;
- Minimizing the risk associated with pest suppression;
- Producing quality commodities;

2. **The NRCS Basic Conservation Plan.**

The basic conservation plan for the operation will be developed by NRCS and will form the basis for the conservation plan specifications developed by the Technical Service Provider (TSP). <u>This will require the producer to share the basic conservation plan with the chosen TSP</u>.

The conservation plan provided to the producer and TSP will contain the following:

a. Record of planning decisions (practices) and alternative conservation systems if applicable.
b. Soils map and soils descriptions for the planned land use(s).
c. Conservation Plan Map.
d. The results of all resource assessments, to include the WinPST risk assessment for the current pesticides (if applicable) and a list of the resource concerns that do not currently meet planning criteria.
e. Conservation Practice "Plans and Specifications" (Implementation Requirements) for all non-engineering planned practices, except 595 Integrated Pest Management.

3. **IPM Plan Criteria**

The 595 Integrated Pest Management Plan (Implementation Requirements) shall be prepared using the approved EXCEL spreadsheet "Pest Management and the 595 Jobsheet 2.1.xls" found in the National Handbook of Conservation Practices website http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/wps/portal/nrcs/detailfull/national/landuse/crops/npm/?&cid=nrcs143_026849 and See Agronomy Technical Note #5: Pest Management in the Conservation Planning Process @ http://directives.sc.egov.usda.gov/ See Technical Notes > Title 190 Ecological Sciences > Agronomy > Technical Note #5

The plans and specifications for the 595 Integrated Pest Management Plan shall be compatible with:

a. The minimum specifications for the respective state conservation practice standard 595.
b. Be compatible with other conservation practices planned
c. Be compatible with the National Organic Program criteria, where appropriate
d. Be compatible with the client objectives

4. Deliverables for the Client – a hardcopy of the plan that includes:

- Cover Page with the following:
  a. Name and address of Producer and TSP,
  b. Date of Plan,
  c. Signature blocks for the TSP and producer, and
  d. Signature and date block for the NRCS Field Office concurrence.
- One copy of the 595 Plans and Specifications (Implementation Requirements) with operation and maintenance requirements.
- Any supporting maps needed to assist the implementation of the 595 Integrated Pest Management Plan.

5. Deliverables for NRCS Field Office:

- Complete Hardcopy and electronic copy of the cover page and client's 595 Integrated Pest Management plans and specifications (Implementation Requirements) with operation and maintenance requirements and supporting documents.