

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service
P.O. Box 1458 Bismarck, ND 58502-1458

May 13, 2008

TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE ND-118

This notice announces the following additions/revisions to the Field Office Technical Guide (FOTG).

Section I

- Herbaceous Vegetative Establishment Guide has been revised as follows:
 - Late fall seeding dates have been updated to reflect soil temperatures.
 - Salinity tolerance column on Table 3 has been corrected and updated.
- Note:* The Herbaceous Vegetative Establishment Guide has also been posted to Section IV – Conservation Practice Standards – Pasture and Hay Planting (512) subfolder.
- Version 1.6 of the Soil Field Guide for Identifying Ecological Sites has been posted to Section I – Reference Subjects – Hay, Pasture, Rangeland subfolder. The guide is posted in both a full page and booklet style versions, and includes a document with instructions for printing in booklet style. Version 1.6 has replaced version 1.5 in Section II – Ecological Site Descriptions – Soil Field Guide for Identifying Ecological Sites subfolder.
- Windloss Worksheets for Cavalier, Foster, Grand Forks, Griggs, Pierce, Steele, Towner, Traill, Walsh, and Wells counties have been updated and reposted to Section I – Erosion Prediction – Wind Erosion - located in their respective county folders in the Critical Period Wind Erosion subfolder.
- Zoning Regulations Affecting Conservation Practices - Golden Valley County have been posted to Section I – Laws – County Laws subfolder.
- The *Emerald Ash Borer Fact Sheet (Forestry)* has been added to Section I - Reference Subjects – Windbreaks and Woodlands subfolder. It gives a brief description of the impact of the Emerald Ash Borer in ND, as well as prevention and management options.
- WHIP Cost List 2008 cost list was posted to Section I – Cost Data subfolder.

Section IV

Revisions, updates, and additions to the documents listed below have been posted in Section IV – Conservation Practices and are located in their respective conservation practice folder:

- The following additions/updates have been made and posted to conservation practice Cover Crop (340):
 - The Standard has been revised.

- Cover Crop Design, Installation, Check-out, and Documentation (DICD) with information and guidance on cover crop practice application is new. The DICD also contains a reference section with links to several current cover crop manuals, guides, and bulletins.
- A Cover Crop - Common Species and Properties Table of major cover crop species with 17 different characteristics listed to assist in the selection of cover crops for the client's identified purpose or resource concern.
- ND-CPA-305 Cover Crop Documentation Worksheet includes a cover crop mix calculator. This form has also been posted to Section IV – Forms subfolder.
- ND-CPA-300E is available for producer and NRCS documentation for agronomy practices. This form has also been posted to Section IV – Forms subfolder.
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512) Design and Installation Guide (DIG) has been revised to add guidance regarding interseeding of legumes/forbs into tame grass pasture/hayland.
- Prescribed Grazing (528) Design and Installation Guide, Appendix C, Table 1 – Estimated Initial Stocking Rate by MLRA has been updated to reflect estimated stocking rates based on ½ of the RV production for the referenced plant community.
- The following National Conservation Practice Standards have been adopted or revised by North Dakota and posted to Section IV – Conservation Practices – and located in their respective conservation practice folder:
 - Agrichemical Handling Facility (309)
 - Channel Bank Vegetation (322)
 - Contour Farming (330)
 - Stream Habitat Improvement and Management (395)
 - Fishpond Management (399)
 - Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (447)
- Conservation Practice Wildlife Watering Facility (648) is obsolete and has been removed from FOTG. Conservation Practice Watering Facility (614) will include criteria for wildlife. In the interim, contact the State Resource Conservationist for case-by-case guidance.
- The National Irrigation Water Management (449) Statement of Work (SOW) has been adopted by North Dakota and posted to Section IV – Conservation Practices – Irrigation Water Management subfolder.
- The *Emerald Ash Borer Fact Sheet (Forestry)* has been posted in the following subfolders in Section IV – Conservation Practices: Forest Stand Improvement (666), Riparian Forest Buffer (391), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645), Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380), Windbreak/Shelterbelt Renovation (650). It is also located in Section IV – Fact Sheets subfolder.

Revisions, updates, and additions to the forms listed below have been posted in Section IV – Forms subfolder and are also located in the appropriate conservation practice subfolders:

- GRASS form bundle has been reformatted so the forms within the bundle may also be used as “stand-alone” forms. The individual forms have been removed from FOTG – Section IV – Forms subfolder and from the ftp site.

- GRASS bundle stocking rate table on the ND-CPA-19 tab has been updated. An option button has been added in order to un-link the Summary of Soil Data tab to reduce the file size and allow the form to be emailed.
- The drop-down list for seeding dates on the ND-CPA-9 has been revised to reflect soils temperatures for late fall (dormant) seedings and a blank has been added for pen-and-ink changes.
- ND-CPA-305 Cover Crop Documentation Worksheet includes a cover crop mix calculator.
- ND-CPA-300E is available for producer and NRCS documentation for agronomy practices.
- The wording on ND-CPA-414A Estimated Utilization – Key Area – Key Species and ND-CPA-415 Estimated Utilization - Landscape Appearance (Rangeland) has been updated to reflect plant height.

Please direct Cover Crop questions to Ted Alme, State Agronomist, at (701) 530-2079 or ted.alme@nd.usda.gov. Please direct Herbaceous Vegetative Establishment Guide, Pasture and Hay Plantings, Prescribed Grazing, GRASS bundle, ND-CPA-9, ND-CPA 414A, and ND-CPA 415 forms questions to Jeff Printz, State Rangeland Management Specialist, at (701) 530-2080 or jeff.printz@nd.usda.gov. Please direct questions on the Emerald Ash Borer Fact Sheet to Craig Stange, NRCS State forester at (701) 530-2082 or craig.stange@nd.usda.gov.

/s/

TODD SCHWAGLER
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Distribution: FOTG