



## **FRD01 – On Farm Research and Demonstration and FPP02 – On-Farm Pilot Project**

### **Nebraska Criteria/Requirements for Pilots, on Farm Research and Demonstration**

- Focus must be in the topic areas listed below.
- Operator must have concurrence of University of Nebraska extension specialist or educator prior to initiated demonstration or on farm research.
- Operators are responsible for any fees and negotiating terms with University of Nebraska Extension.
- Access to the research/demonstration or pilot project site must be provided for follow-up educational program or tours.
- Adequate strips, plots or areas within fields must be established for pilots, demonstrations, or on farm research as defined by the University of Nebraska Extension. The methodology for making a valid comparison will need to be carefully defined which will typically include use of a control (comparison of alternative practice with conventional practice), multiple replications or comparisons, and other considerations.
- An agreement or letter of concurrence must be provided prior to initiating a CSP contract for University of Nebraska Extension projects prior to establishing the pilot, demo or research project that includes the area (acres), purpose, protocol etc.
- Provide annual report according to University of Nebraska Extension requirements to verify that the project is established and being carried out adequately in order to certify this each fiscal year.
- For University of Nebraska Extension projects the producer will be responsible for out of pocket costs or identifying a funding partner. On-farm research programs may require the operator to pay a fee.
- The pilot/research/demonstration can not be used to promote a commercial product or process. It must focus on demonstrating the strength and weaknesses of a management practice or technology in the three areas listed below: (check those that apply)

**Pollinators (University of Nebraska Extension)**

- Investigate the impacts of various agricultural production systems on the life cycles of pollinators.
  - Examples: impact of various pollinating cover crops on pollinator populations and life cycles; impact of use pollinating plants used on field borders on pollinator populations and life cycles i.e. different sizes, widths, locations, species.

**Energy (University of Nebraska Extension)**

- Evaluate energy usage for traditional farming practices vs. conservation systems.
  - Examples: conversion to a grazing dairy vs. a confined dairy; change, conversion from conventional nitrogen application to a system that includes annual legumes to reduce nitrogen energy needs; conversion from a conventional tillage system to a no-till system.

**Water Quality (University of Nebraska Extension)**

- Evaluate various cover crops for nutrient uptake and recycling nutrients.
  - Examples: establish plots or strips of various types of cover crops or cover crop mixtures and determine their impact on nutrient uptake and recycling.



**Documentation Requirements for pilot, research and demo project (prior to initiating CSP contract)**

1. Copy of project proposal as agreed to with University of Nebraska Extension
2. Agreement or documentation of concurrence with University of Nebraska Extension
3. A map showing fields where the enhancement will be applied

**In addition, complete the Table below:**

Tract	Field(s)	Acres Planned	Indicate Whether Project is Pilot, Research, or Demonstration	Indicate Whether Focus Area is Pollinator (UNL), Energy, Water Quality	Specific Topic Area	Acres Applied (completed by operator)
<i>EX. 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>20</i>	<i>Research</i>	<i>Water Quality</i>	<i>Cover Crop Nutrient Uptake/Tie Up</i>	<i>20 acres</i>

**I certify that the following information meets specifications and has been provided to NRCS:**

1. Complete the table above and provide a map with delineation of the area where the enhancement was applied including partial fields.
2. Photographs of a representative number of fields showing demonstration or research.
3. Annual report based on University of Nebraska Extension Service that documents accomplishments (required each year before certified).

**Certified by:** \_\_\_\_\_ **Date:** \_\_\_\_\_