



Plant Enhancement Activity – PLT08 – Habitat development for beneficial insects for pest management

State Criteria

Identify pest species and associated beneficial insects targeted for control. Match plant selection(s) to attract identified beneficial insects (refer to ATTRA, “Appropriate Technology Transfer for Rural Areas,” or University of Nebraska information on beneficial insects).

Implementation of this enhancement requires the use of the desired plant species from the “wildlife friendly” plant list (List A) on the Conservation Measurement Tool (CMT) with an emphasis on broadleaf plant species. Substitute species may be approved by NRCS provided they are native and adapted to site conditions. New herbaceous seedings must incorporate broadleaf plants at 50% of the seeding rate or more (based on seeds per square foot). Total seeding rates (grasses plus forbs) should be a minimum of 10 PLS/ft² and should not exceed 30 PLS/ft² unless required on small areas to control soil erosion resulting from concentrated flow.

Existing habitat areas must contain broadleaf plants at 50% or more by canopy cover. It may be necessary to upgrade or enhance existing habitat areas by suppression of established plants using prescribed burning, tillage, or herbicide application followed by interseeding of the necessary broadleaf plant species. The minimum seeding rate of 10 PLS/ft² should be used for inter-seeded forbs.

Vegetation will not be disturbed between April 15 and October 15 unless approved by NRCS as part of a management plan intended to maintain and enhance plant diversity and vigor.

DOCUMENTATION REQUIREMENTS

Complete the table below to document approved operation/maintenance and management activities:

To be completed by NRCS and Producer during planning			To be completed by Producer during certification		
1	2	3	4	5	6
Tract(s)	Field(s)	Acres Planned	Acres Treated	Management Activity Implemented Only up to 1/3 of habitat can be treated)	Date Completed
<i>EX. 101</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>6.0</i>	<i>2.0</i>	<i>Sprayed smooth brome with glyphosate and interseeded diverse grass/forb mixture.</i>	<i>March 2013</i>

EX= EXAMPLE, COLUMNS 1-3 NRCS COMPLETES, COLUMNS 4-6 PRODUCER COMPLETES

I certify that the beneficial insect habitat area meets these specifications including the following documentation as applicable:

1. Completed [NE-CPA-8 Grass Seeding Job Sheet](#) and associated seed tags, and bills as required.
2. Map with beneficial insect habitat area clearly identified (highlighted, outlined, etc.).
3. Documentation of completed management activity, as required – (COMPLETE TABLE ABOVE)

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____