



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:** _____