



Plant Enhancement Activity – PLT20 –High residue cover crop or mixtures of high residue cover crops for weed suppression and soil health

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)

For this enhancement cover crops must be grown during all the non-crop production periods in an annual crop rotation including any fallow periods in the crop rotation.

Acceptable cover crops for this enhancement include:

Barley; Buckwheat; Cowpea; White clover; Pearl millet; Mustard; Radish; Red clover; Cereal rye; Annual or Italian ryegrass; Any Sorghum; Sudangrass or Sudan/Sorghum hybrids; Triticale; Turnip; and Wheat.

Cover Crop Requirements

- Cover crops cannot be harvested or grazed
- Cover crops must follow planting dates, seeding rates, method of planting and other requirements in Conservation Practice Standard [340, Cover Crop](#). Specifications will be provided on the [Cover Crop Worksheet \(NE-CPA-7\)](#).
- Cover crops which winter kill must be planted at least 8 weeks prior to the average date of the first killing frost.
- Cover crop mixes must include a warm season or cool season grass and have a carbon nitrogen ratio greater than 30 prior to termination (late vegetative, early reproductive stage).
- Cover crops which follow fall harvested crops must include a winter annual small grain such as rye, wheat or triticale.

