



Water Quality Enhancement Activity – WQL17 – Use of non-chemical methods to kill cover crops

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)

Cover Crop Requirements

- Cover crops cannot be mechanically harvested. Cover crops may be grazed if grazing is allowed by the associated cover crop enhancement.
- 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 crops which over winter must have at least 4 weeks of spring growth before termination.
- Winter annual cover crops planted following a low residue crop must have a minimum of 6-8” of growth before they are terminated.
- Cover crops which follow fall harvested crops must include a winter annual small grain such as rye, wheat or triticale.

Documentation Requirements (SEE NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET)

Complete the Table below:

To be completed by NRCS and Producer during planning					To be completed by Producer during certification	
1	2	3	4	5	6	7
Tract	Field(s)	Existing Rotation	Planned Rotation	Acres Planned	Cover Crop Used	Acres Applied
Ex. T1001	1	C-B	C-B-cc	80	wheat or rye	80

EX= EXAMPLE, COLUMNS 1-5 NRCS COMPLETES, COLUMNS 6-7 PRODUCER COMPLETES

C=Corn; B=soybeans/edible beans; W=Wheat; M=Milo; A=Alfalfa; O=Oats; cc=cover crop;
 Others=_____

In addition:

Complete, sign, and attach [Cover Crop worksheet NE-CPA-7](#) showing the cover crops grown, seeding date, seeding rate, fertilizer applied, and the method and date of termination.

I certify that the enhancement criteria have been met and the required documentation provided to NRCS.

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____