



Soil Quality Enhancement Activity – SQL18 – Soil health crop rotation

State Criteria (same as NATIONAL CRITERIA)

Perennial Crop Requirements

- Perennial crops must be grown at least 2 consecutive years.
- Species selection options for adding a perennial grass, legume, legume-grass mixture, grass-forb mixture or legume-grass-forb mixture to the existing crop rotation are included in the [Pasture and Hay Planting Specifications \(512S\)](#). Specifications will be provided on the [NE-CPA-8 Grass Seeding Job Sheet](#).

Cover Crop Requirements

- 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 be a winter annual small grain such as rye, wheat or triticale, or a winter annual small grain with a legume.

Documentation Requirements (SEE NATIONAL ENHANCEMENT ACTIVITY JOBSHEET)

In addition, 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)	Acres Planned	Existing Rotation	Planned Rotation (if Cover Crop used List Type)	Applied Rotation	Acres Applied
<i>EX. 1</i>	<i>1</i>	<i>100 Ac.</i>	<i>c-b-w</i>	<i>c-cc -b-w-cc-2-yrs alfalfa</i>	<i>c-cc-b-w-cc-2-yrs alfalfa</i>	<i>100 ac</i>

EX= EXAMPLE, COLUMNS 1-5 NRCS COMPLETES, COLUMNS 6-7 PRODUCER COMPLETES
 c=corn; b=soybeans/edible beans; w=wheat; m=milo; o=oats; cc = cover crop; Others=_____



United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

NE-SQL18 2015 Ranking Period 1

1. Completed [NE-CPA-8 Grass Seeding Job Sheet](#) and associated seed tags, and bills as required.
2. If the perennial crop will be grazed, complete, sign and attach Prescribed Grazing Job Sheet – NE-ECS-528 which can be found in the [Nebraska Prescribed Grazing Design Tool](#).
3. If the perennial crop will be harvested for hay or biomass, complete a Forage Harvest Management Plan and Documentation Record ([NE-CPA-80](#)) or equivalent. Refer to the “Criteria to Improve Wildlife Habitat Values” in the [Forage Harvest Management - Specifications](#) to address elements of the plan needed to benefit wildlife.
4. For cover crops added to rotation complete, sign, and attach [Cover Crop worksheet NE-CPA-7](#).
5. If the cover crops will be grazed, complete, sign and attach Prescribed Grazing Job Sheet – NE-ECS-528 Cover Crops located in the [Nebraska Prescribed Grazing Design Tool](#) showing the cover crops grown, estimated production, animal type, number and weight, and planned and actual grazing dates.

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

Certified by: _____ **Date:** _____