

ENERGY MANAGEMENT ENHANCEMENT

February 2006

NEBRASKA

Name: _____

STIR Ratings (Less Than 60, 30 & 15)

Payment = \$0.90 / Acre / Year for STIR rating less than 15; \$0.70 / Acre / Year for STIR rating less than 30; \$0.50 / Acre / Year for STIR rating less than 60.



Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) is a calculation based on the location of cropland and the Crop Management System that the producer employs on that land. It is an index used to evaluate the kind, severity and number of ground disturbing tillage passes on soil quality. Higher numbers indicate greater disturbance; lower numbers indicate less disturbance.

The components of STIR are: operating speed of tillage equipment, tillage type, tillage depth, residue removal (baling or grazing), and the percent of surface area disturbed. Weights are assigned to each component to calculate a rating. This rating is useful in making residue management decisions. It is one of three outputs from the Revised Universal Soil Loss Equation Version 2.0. (RUSLE2). The other outputs are a soil loss estimate and a soil organic matter trend estimate from the Soil Conditioning Index.

Required Elements:

- Maintain crop rotation and tillage documented on CSP Worksheet 3A or 3B (Crop rotation and tillage inventory) on the cropland acres listed.

