

**NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE  
CONSERVATION PRACTICE STANDARD**

**INTERIM**

**INTEGRATED CROP MANAGEMENT**

(Acre)

**Code 751**

**DEFINITION**

The combined management of nutrients and pests on cropland, hayland and pastureland.

**PURPOSE**

- To reduce potential water pollution by applying proper amounts of nutrients for optimum crop production.
- To rely on less synthetic chemical pest controls.
- To increase crop quality and eliminate excessive nutrient and pesticide use.
- To reduce pest insect populations by using biological controls.
- To reduce pest densities to tolerable levels while maintaining a quality environment.

**CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES**

On all land where plant nutrients and pest controls are applied for crop or forage production.

**CRITERIA**

Criteria are met when all components of the Standards for Nutrient Management and Pest Management are implemented.

**CONSIDERATIONS**

All considerations listed under the FOTG Standards for Nutrient Management and Pest Management should be evaluated.

**PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS**

- Specify the management objectives of the Integrated Crop Management Plan,
- Specify the ICM components utilized and for what pest and nutrient management purpose.
- Specify fields on which the practice will occur.
- Specify sources, amounts, timing, schedules, and methods of control.
- A basic economic analysis should be completed at least once in 5 years or if under EQIP prior to the last payment.

The attached Checklist For Nutrient and Pest Management Plans should be completed as a minimum. Field records should include soil fertility, pest scouting, plant tissue analysis, and summary of annual adoption of ICM components applied.

## **OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE**

The purpose of operation, maintenance, and management is to insure that the practice functions as intended over time. A plan of operation and maintenance of ICM components at a minimum shall include all soil sampling, pest and weed scouting, records, and field record keeping on practice adoption as per the attached checklist. If the practice is installed under EQIP, an economic analysis will be done prior to the third year of payment. This analysis should include basic production cost vs. income on fields covered under this practice. Timing of practice installation should avoid impacts to non-target species. All persons applying restricted use agricultural chemicals must be certified by and operating according to the guidelines of the State of New Jersey Pesticide Applicator Training Program.

## **REFERENCES**

See references listed under Nutrient Management (590) and Pesticide Management (595).  
Field Crop IPM Manual. Dept. of Entomology. Penn State Univ., Univ. Park. PA.

## CHECKLIST FOR NUTRIENT AND PEST MANAGEMENT PLANS

All plans should have the following:

- Aerial site photographs and a soil map.
- Current and/or planned plant production sequence of crop rotation
- Yield goals and a description of how they were determined.
- Location of sensitive areas or resources.
- Guidance for implementation, operation, maintenance, and record keeping
- Soils leaching potential rating.

Nutrient Management Plans should also include:

- Soil test results and recommended nutrient application rates
- Plant tissue test results if used for nutrient recommendations
- A nutrient budget for N P K for the crops grown
- Quantification of all important nutrient sources.
- Planned rates, methods, and timing of nutrient application
- Documentation of actual rates, methods, & timing of applications
- P – Index

Pest Management Plans should also include:

- Planned and/or actual scouting reports
- Planned/documentated use of pesticide or biological pest control.
- Host crops (trap crops) if planned
- Other \_\_\_\_\_

**Integrated Crop Management Plans should include all of the above.**