

**U.S. DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
NEW YORK CONSERVATION PRACTICE GUIDELINE**

PEST MANAGEMENT

(ACRES)

595

REFERENCES

National Handbook of Conservation Practices-595, Pest Management

Commonly Associated Practices or Processes

The following conservation practices are commonly used in conjunction with this practice to address natural resource concerns and opportunities in New York. This does not imply that any or all of the listed practices must be included or that others may not be included in a conservation management system (CMS). Consult Section III of the Field Office Technical Guide for assistance in developing CMS.

To determine whether a National or New York Conservation Standard applies to this and any other associated practices, check the following website: www.ny.nrcs.usda.gov. Click on the Technical Resources button, and look in the left-hand column for "eFOTG" on the next screen. Next, click on the "eFOTG" link, and look for the Conservation Standards in Section IV.

Table A: Commonly Associated Practice Standards or Processes

Number	Name	Job/Engineering Sheets
702	Agrichemical Mixing Center	
314	Brush Management	
327	Conservation Cover	
328	Conservation Crop Rotation	
332	Contour Buffer Strips	
330	Contour Farming	
340	Cover Crop	
386	Field Border	
393a/s	Filter Strip	
511	Forage Harvest Management	
449	Irrigation Water Management	
590	Nutrient Management	
512	Pasture and Hayland Planting	
528A	Prescribed Grazing	
748	Record Keeping	
329A/B/C	Residue Management	
390	Riparian Forest Buffer	
391	Riparian Herbaceous Cover	
585	Strip Cropping	
612	Tree and Shrub Establishment	

Conservation practice guidelines are reviewed periodically, and updated if needed. To obtain the most current version of this practice guideline, contact the Natural Resource Conservation Service.

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731	Water Testing	
380	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment	

OTHER REFERENCES

Pest Mitigation Effectiveness Guide, Section I, USDA-NRCS Field Office Technical Guide. Syracuse, NY 2003.

Cornell Guide for Integrated Field Crop Management, Pest Management Guidelines
<http://www.fieldcrops.org/>

New York State IPM Program, at Cornell University <http://www.nysipm.cornell.edu/>

Soil Survey <http://soildatamart.nrcs.usda.gov>

NRCS-WIN-PST <http://www.wcc.nrcs.usda.gov/pestmgt>

NRCS National Planning Procedures Handbook
http://policy.nrcs.usda.gov/scripts/lpsiis.dll/H/H_180_600.htm

NRCS National Agronomy Manual http://policy.nrcs.usda.gov/scripts/lpsiis.dll/M/M_190_NAM.htm

National Environmental Compliance Handbook
http://policy.nrcs.usda.gov/scripts/lpsiis.dll/H/H_190_610_Content.htm

New York DEC Pesticide Program <http://www.dec.state.ny.us/website/dshm/pesticide/pesticide.htm>

CULTURAL RESOURCES

Cultural resource reviews will be conducted for all ground disturbing practices, components, or other activities, as per the State Level Agreement between NRCS and the New York State Historic Preservation Officer.

PERMITS AND NOTIFICATIONS

All permits, easements, and rights-of-way are the responsibility of the landowner. **Dig Safely NY** (formerly the Underground Facilities Protection Organization, or UFPO) and non-member local utilities will be contacted according to the time required before construction to mark all applicable facilities in the construction area. This is the responsibility of the excavator.

Identification and the location of all other underground or overhead facilities is the responsibility of the landowner.

INVENTORY AND EVALUATION

1. Identify and document type and extent of production system(s) on which Pest Management will be planned and applied. For updated pest management guidelines for specific crops consult Cornell Guide for Integrated Field Crop Management, Pest Management Guidelines at: <http://www.fieldcrops.org/> .
2. Identify conservation planning units. Determine and label land use on a conservation plan map on all planning units where Pest Management will be planned and applied.
3. Document whether a current conservation plan has been developed and is being followed on the identified planning units. Evaluate existing plan and revise as needed. The plan evaluation needs to ensure that soil, water, air, plant, and animal resources are treated to the appropriate quality criteria. The existing conservation plan with the addition of Pest Management needs to

meet the requirements of a Resource Management System. Follow this Practice Guideline to incorporate Pest Management into an existing plan.

4. If no existing conservation plans exist for the identified land units, or if existing plans are outdated, a Resource Management System Plan will need to be developed incorporating other conservation practices with Pest Management. Refer to Table A and other outlined references for related conservation practices and planning procedures for development of the RMS conservation plan. Consult additional Practice Guidelines as needed.
5. Document all economically significant pests that potentially could affect planning unit(s).
6. Document existing fungicides, insecticides, and herbicides used to control pests. Include application timing, rates, and methods.
7. Document any existing cultural, biological, or mechanical methods used to control pest.
8. Inventory soils for each planning unit.
9. Identify type of application equipment. Determine and document calibration history.
10. Evaluate pesticide/soil interactions using the NRCS-WIN-PST program. Document final hazard rating for each soil type in combination with each EPA registered product used on the planning units.
11. Identify all resource concerns within and adjacent to areas targeted for pesticide applications. Resource concerns identified should include those prone to adverse impacts from excessive leaching, runoff, and airborne drift of applied pesticides. Describe the nature of the resource concerns and document locations on the plan maps.
12. Identify and evaluate areas where pesticides are mixed and/or stored. Label all facilities/areas on a plan map. Identify any resource concerns associated with these facilities. If pesticides are not mixed and/or stored on the farm, document how pesticides are delivered to and applied on the farm.
13. Summarize the entire inventory and evaluation process in a Benchmark Plan Narrative.

DESIGN

PEST MANAGEMENT PLANS MUST BE DEVELOPED BY CERTIFIED CROP ADVISORS, QUALIFIED CORNELL COOPERATIVE EXTENSION SPECIALISTS, OR NRCS PLANNERS SPECIFICALLY CERTIFIED IN PEST MANAGEMENT.

1. Prior to the start of each crop year or treatment period, develop/update a written scouting plan based on Integrated Pest Management (IPM) protocol that outlines the pest(s) to be scouted, and the timing and frequency of scouting activities. Identify and document the general economic thresholds for each pest. Consult NY IPM Program for recommended scouting schedules and procedures for major crops at: <http://nysipm.cornell.edu/>.
2. Develop and utilize a record keeping system that will adequately document implementation of the Pest Management Plan.
3. Schedule and document sprayer calibration.
4. Based on results of WIN-PST, high hazard reports in all watersheds, and medium hazard reports in public water supply watersheds and wellhead areas need to be mitigated with IPM elements or with selection of an alternative product with a lower hazard rating.
5. If IPM mitigation is selected, mitigation is achieved when 80% of the possible score is achieved on each crop's IPM score card. Determine an IPM score based on existing practices/elements

applied. Score cards can be viewed at the NY IPM website:
<http://ipm.cornell.edu/nysipm/elements/default.asp> .

6. If more points are required to meet a minimum IPM score, add any required practices with schedules to the plan to achieve the minimum point score.
7. If IPM elements have not been developed for a particular crop: consult the *Pesticide Mitigation Guide for Reducing Pesticide Impacts on Water Quality* found in the NY e-FOTG. Mitigation is achieved when practices from this guide are planned and applied to the RMS level for water quality.
8. Evaluate existing or planned mitigation practices to ensure that practices do not serve as alternate host sites for targeted pest(s).
9. Incorporate all required pesticide mitigation practices into an overall RMS plan.
10. Develop an Operation and Maintenance Plan that will ensure continued effectiveness of this practice. Include all associated mitigation practices and processes in the O and M Plan.
11. Complete NEPA documentation requirements on a CPA-52.
12. Implement all required mitigation practices.
13. Perform scouting activities for each pest according to the plan. Document scouting results within the record keeping system and note whether pest populations are above or below economic thresholds.
14. Document within the record keeping system all recommended long term and short term pest management actions based on scouting results.
15. Discuss all recommended pest management actions with the decision maker.
16. Compare resource concerns identified in the Inventory and Evaluation steps with label requirements of recommended pesticides. Plan proper setbacks, timing, rate of applications, and conservation practices to mitigate identified resource concerns.
17. All Federal, State and local laws and regulations for mixing, applying and storing pesticides must be adhered to. Review with the decision maker applicable Federal, State, and local laws that apply to use of the selected pesticides. All products must be mixed, applied, and stored according to label directions. Pay particular attention to application rates, required application/mixing setbacks, re-entry restrictions, harvest restrictions and disposal of pesticide containers. Review label requirements for recommended pesticides with the decision maker. Document that necessary reviews were conducted.
18. If pesticides are stored and/or mixed on farm, an emergency plan will be developed. Emergency plans shall outline response procedures in case of accidental spills, exposure, fire and natural disasters. Plans need to document types, quantities, and location of products stored.
19. Document all pest management implementation actions. Include management actions that do not result in application of pesticides. If pesticide is applied, record product applied, target pest(s), target crop, rate, method of application, date of application, weather conditions at time of application, target pest, and observed results of application.
20. Document implementation of all IPM elements and mitigation practices on the practice schedule. Compute and document final IPM score if required.
21. Review plan at end of the treatment period, evaluate the plan and revise plan as needed.

INSTALLATION

The construction layout and inspection will be in accordance with the practice(s) being installed and is the same as the individual practices as shown in this guide.

CHECK OUT

All properly planned, designed, and installed conservation practices require documentation in the appropriate case file. Documentation must be sufficient to show:

1. The design conforms to the applicable standard;
2. The prepared construction drawings, specifications, plan maps, and/or job sheets accurately reflect the design;
3. The installed practice meets the requirements of the construction drawings, specifications, and practice standard; and
4. The “As Built” condition of the practice. All drawings shall be identified “As Built” as drawn in red, and all changes shall be made in red. Practices not requiring construction drawings will have the “As Built” condition documented on plan maps, job sheets, and/or with narrative.

REPORTING

Enter all documentation on the Conservation Plan (Toolkit), contract document (Protracts) and Conservation Assistance Notes (NRCS-CPA-6/6A).

Report the practice and applicable components in the NRCS progress reporting system. Be certain to report benefits for all applicable resources and resource concerns as allowed in the NRCS progress reporting system.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

Facilities, structures, and practices must be operated and maintained to ensure proper function and longevity. Periodic follow-up with the landowner is essential to ensure that all operation and maintenance (O&M) requirements are understood and followed.