

United States Department of Agriculture



Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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April 27, 2007

TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE

SUBJECT: Ohio Agronomy Technical Note OH-3

**Purpose.** To release Ohio Agronomy Technical Note OH-3 "*Converting Sod to Grain Crops.*"

**Effective Date.** Effective upon receipt.

**Filing Instructions.** The electronic version of the Ohio Agronomy Technical Note OH-3 "*Converting Sod to Grain Crops*" is accessible at [http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ohio\\_eFOTG.html](http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ohio_eFOTG.html), under Section I, C. Reference Lists, 1. Agronomy, Agronomy Technical Notes.

**Background:** With high corn prices, some producers are considering converting idle land, hayland, pastureland, or land enrolled in CRP into cropland. There is much to consider when making this decision.

Ohio Agronomy Technical Note OH-3 explains the benefits of grass cover, such as the reduction of soil erosion and the improvements in soil, water, and air quality. It also recommends specific conservation practices that help minimize the environmental impact for producers who decide to convert grassland to cropland. It was developed by Mark Scarpitti, Ohio State Agronomist, and Bob Hendershot, Ohio State Grassland Conservationist.

**Circulation:** This Technical Note should be shared with producers who are considering converting grassland to cropland. It can be distributed to the media upon their request for information.

**Contact:** If you have any questions regarding Ohio Agronomy Technical Note OH-3, please contact State Agronomist Mark Scarpitti at (740) 653-1500 ext. 40 or e-mail [mark.scarpitti@oh.usda.gov](mailto:mark.scarpitti@oh.usda.gov).

**Distribution.** The availability of this directive, with enclosure, is limited to electronic format. It is accessible through the Ohio NRCS Electronic Directives System at [http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ohio\\_eFOTG.html](http://www.oh.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/ohio_eFOTG.html)

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "T. Cosby", with a long horizontal flourish extending to the right.

TERRY J. COSBY  
State Conservationist

Enclosure