

**UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE
NATURAL RESOURCES CONSERVATION SERVICE
_____ , OKLAHOMA**

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
TERRACE**

Sponsor/Land user: _____ Date: _____

Address: _____

Legal description of practice location: SEC _____ T _____ R _____

A properly operated and maintained terrace system is an asset to your farm. This system was designed and installed to reduce soil erosion and/or for water conservation. The estimated life span of this installation is at least 10 years. The life of this system can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good operation and maintenance program.

This practice will require you to perform periodic maintenance and may also require operational items to maintain satisfactory performance. Here are some recommendations to help you develop a good operation and maintenance program.

GENERAL GUIDELINES

- Perform periodic inspections, especially immediately following runoff events, and repair damaged areas as necessary.
- Promptly repair or replace damaged components as necessary.
- Maintain terrace ridge height, channel profile, terrace cross-sections and outlet elevations. The constructed ridge height and terrace cross-section of the terrace can be maintained by periodically “plowing up” each terrace.
- Perform tillage operations as close to the contour of the terrace channel as is practical. Tillage operations which cross over the terrace ridge may reduce the height of the terrace, thereby decreasing its effectiveness at controlling erosion.
- Remove sediment that has accumulated in the terrace to maintain capacity, a positive channel grade, and to maintain capacity where soil infiltration serves as the outlet.
- Remove all blockages in gradient terraces that prevent or reduce flow.
- Keep all terrace outlets free flowing. When underground outlets are used, each inlet for underground outlets must be kept clean and sediment buildup redistributed so that the inlet is

