



December 9th, 2014

TECHNICAL GUIDE NOTICE NUMBER 202

Purpose. To release new technical guidance for planning organic systems, implementing cover crops in organic systems, and a revised version of the NRCS Cover Crop Termination Guidelines.

Effective Date. This notice is effective upon receipt.

Explanation of Changes. Three new guidance documents for organic farming systems were developed in partnership with the National Center for Appropriate Technology and other partners through funding provided by SARE Sustainable Agriculture Research and Education.

1. Resources for Conservation Planning on Organic and Transitioning-to-Organic Operations in Pennsylvania;
2. Conservation Buffers in Organic Systems – Pennsylvania Implementation Guide; and
3. Cover Crop (340) in Organic Systems – Pennsylvania Implementation Guide.

If you have any questions regarding these new guidance documents, contact Gwendolyn Crews, Resource Conservationist for organic systems.

Also, version 3 of the NRCS Cover Crop Termination Guidelines – September 2014, was developed to address additional concerns by the Risk Management Agency regarding specific management of cover crops and to clarify the definitions used in the guidelines.

If you have any questions regarding NRCS Cover Crop Termination Guidelines, contact Mark Goodson, State Agronomist.

Remove and archive, as appropriate, NRCS Cover Crop Termination Guidelines, December 2013.

Access Instructions:

The entire Pennsylvania Field Office Technical Guide can be accessed at the following website: <http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/> A new folder titled Organic Planning has been created in Section III.

You may also access Section III Table of Contents directly at the following web address: <http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/toc.aspx?CatID=12477>



United States Department of Agriculture

You may also access Section IV Table of Contents directly at the following web address:
<http://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/toc.aspx?CatID=12487>

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Denise Coleman".

Denise Coleman
State Conservationist

CC: Charlie White, Northeast SARE, Pennsylvania
Leslie Zuck, Executive Director of Pennsylvania Certified Organic
Mark Smallwood, Executive Director, Rodale Institute

