USDA NRCS
United States Department of Agriculture
Natural Resources Conservation Service

# TN 332- Contour Buffer Strip Implementation Requirements

**Producer:** _____ **Project or Contract:** _____

**Location:** _____ **County:** _____

**Farm Name:** _____ **Tract Number:** _____

**Practice Location Map**

*(showing detailed aerial view of where practice is to be installed on farm/site, showing all major components, stationing, relative location to any landmarks, and survey benchmarks)*

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Utility Safety / One-Call System Information

On the map, delineate the contour baseline(2) and stable outlets for concentrated flow.

**Description of work:**

NRCS Review Only

| | | | |
|---|---|---|---|
| **Designed By:** | | **Date:** | |
| **Checked By:** | | **Date:** | |
| **Approved By:** | | **Date:** | |

## TN 332 – Contour Buffer Strip
## Implementation Requirements

**The Practice Purpose(s):**

____ Reduce sheet and rill erosion.

____ Reduce transport of sediment and other waterborne contaminants downslope.

____ Increase water infiltration.

**Field Number/Location:** _____ **Acres Installed:** _____ **Seeding Date:** _____

**Average Width (ft):** _____ **Minimum Width (ft):** _____ **Buffer Strip Length (ft):** _____

**Number of Strips (ft):** _____ **Spacing between Strips (ft):** _____

**% Slope:** _____ **Minimum Row Grade:** _____ **Maximum Row Grade:** _____

**Site Preparation:** _____

**Planting Method:** _____

**Planting Description (*e.g.* pure grass seed mix exactly on contour, *etc.*):**

**SEEDING RATES AND SPECIES**

| Plant species | Lbs/acre of seed (PLS) | Total lbs of seed for planned acreage |
|---|---|---|
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| | | |
| TOTALS => | 0.00 | 0.00 |

**FERTILIZERS AND AMENDMENTS**

| Fertilizer Element | Fertilizer Form | Fertilizer Amount (lbs/acre) |
|---|---|---|
| N | | as N |
| P | | as $P_2O_5$ |
| K | | as $K_2O$ |
| S | | as S |
| Lime | | |
| Gypsum | | |

**Operation and Maintenance: (check all that apply)**

__ Conduct all farming operations parallel to the strip boundaries except on headlands or end rows with gradients less than the criteria set forth in this standard.

__ Time mowing of buffer strips to maintain appropriate vegetative density and height for optimum trapping of sediment from the upslope cropped strip during the critical erosion period(s).

__ Fertilize buffer strips as needed to maintain stand density.

__ Mow sod turn strips and waterways at least once a year.

__ Spot seed or totally renovate buffer strip systems damaged by herbicide application after residual action of the herbicide is complete.

__ Redistribute sediment that accumulates along the upslope edge of the buffer strip/crop strip interface as needed. This sediment shall be spread evenly upslope over the cultivated strip when needed to maintain uniform sheet flow along the buffer/cropped strip boundary.

__ If sediment accumulates just below the upslope edge of the buffer strip to a depth of 6 inches or more, or stem density falls below specified amounts in the buffer strip, relocate the buffer/cropped strip interface location.

__ Cultivated strips and buffer strips shall be rotated so that a mature stand of protective cover is achieved in a newly established buffer strip immediately below or above the old buffer strip before removing the old buffer to plant an erosion-prone crop. Alternate repositioning of buffer strips to maintain their relative position on the hill slope.

__ Renovate vegetated headlands or end row area as needed to keep ground cover above 65 percent.