

# FIELD BORDER

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 386



### FIELD BORDER

A strip of perennial grass or shrubs established at or around the edge of a field.

### PRACTICE INFORMATION

The field containing the border is usually but not necessarily cropland. The border is generally converted from cropland but may have been covered by trees or other vegetation. Field borders are functional and aesthetically pleasing. Field borders provide both on-site and off-site benefits to soil, water, air, plants and animals. Multiple objectives including erosion protection, wildlife cover, forage, or pollution control, should be considered when selecting the plant species for the border area of a field.

The major purposes of a field border include the following:

1. Provide erosion protection by stabilizing the field edge(s).
2. Provide a buffering effect around the perimeter or at least one side of the field for improved water quality and other environmental benefits.
3. Reduce competition from trees that may be bordering the field.
4. Provide wildlife food and cover.
5. Provide a protected turnrow or travel lane.
6. Improve landscape aesthetics.