

# FORAGE AND BIOMASS PLANTING

## PRACTICE INTRODUCTION

USDA, Natural Resources Conservation Service - practice code 512



### FORAGE AND BIOMASS PLANTING

Establish native or introduced forage species.

#### PRACTICE INFORMATION

This practice may be applied on cropland, hayland, pastureland, or other agriculture lands where forage production is planned.

This practice is used for on or more of the following purposes:

1. Provide forage for livestock and/or wildlife.
2. Improve or maintain livestock nutrition and/or health.
3. Provide additional forage to fill gaps in a year long forage management program.
4. Provide emergency forage.
5. Reduce soil erosion, improve aesthetics, provide wildlife food and cover, improve water quality, and other environmental benefits.

Plant species recommendations for this practice are based on the following considerations:

1. Climatic conditions such as annual rainfall, growing season days, humidity, and temperature extremes.
2. Site conditions including soil series, soil condition, flooding hazards, drainage, salinity, inherent fertility, slope, toxic elements, and other attributes associated with the specific site.
3. Plant resistance to pests common to the site.
4. Period of growth (cool vs. warm season)
5. others

Recommended species, seeding dates, seeding rates, seedbed preparation requirements, planting methods, and other technical requirements are provided in the local NRCS Field Office Technical Guide.