

Minnesota Exhibit 1

Minnesota Approved Cover Types & Practices for Idled Base Acres	Seeding Deadline
Annual, biennial or perennial grasses and legumes, including sweet sorghums, sorghum grass crosses and sudans.	6-1 South* 6-15 North*
Volunteer stands, other than noxious weeds. (Natural cover allowed by COC only where timely seeding is delayed due to reasons beyond the producer's control. Such cover must be chemically controlled by 7-1 and again by 9-1. A minimum of 40% residue must remain on the field at all times.)	
Prior year small grain, corn, sudangrass or sorghum sudangrass acreage provided both of the following requirements are met: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Straw, stalks or sudangrass residue was left on the field. • Acreage is not tilled unless one of the following applies: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Acreage is seeded to an approved cover within 10 days, but in no case later than September 1. ○ A minimum of 30 percent of the soil surface is covered with crop residue and maximum surface roughness is maintained on fields with slopes less than 3 percent. ○ A minimum of 40 percent of the soil surface is covered with crop residue and maximum surface roughness is maintained on fields with slopes of 3 percent or more. 	
Clean tillage may be used on fields with less than 3 percent slope provided the land is protected from wind and water erosion during the fall and winter by one or more of these practices: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A continuous seeding of small grain completed by September 1. • Winter wheat or winter rye seeded by September 15 for subsequent year harvest. • Flax strips or 2 to 4 rows wide no more than 35 feet apart planted by July 15. Alternate practice must be used if seeding not completed by July 15. • Small grain strips 12 feet wide not more than 25 feet apart planted by August 1. 	
Perennial covers approved for cost share assistance.	
Wildlife food plots meeting the requirements and approved in writing by COC.	
On fields with less than 3 percent slope, field windbreaks of trees, shrubs or other established tree belts are acceptable wind protection for field widths of up to 10 times the height of the trees on west and north sides of the field.	
Crop residue from use of "no-till" or "minimum till" practices provided tillage system consists of no-till or till-plant and THROUGHOUT the year a minimum of 30 percent of the soil surface is covered with crop residue on fields with slopes less than 3 percent or 40 percent of the soil surface is covered with crop residue on fields with slopes of 3 or more percent.	
Approved cover for Idled Base acres within a designated Highly Erodible Field (HEL) must also meet the requirements of the conservation compliance plan for that field.	

Maintenance of cover:

- Cover must be maintained to control wind and water erosion throughout the year. **Cover on land that changes to a nonagricultural use must be maintained through August 15.** Land preparation for fall planting may begin after August 15.
- Acreage seeded to cover crops on page 1 may be prepared in the fall of the current year for spring planting provided:
 - A minimum of 30 percent of the soil surface is covered with crop residue and maximum surface roughness is maintained on fields with slopes of less than 3 percent.
 - A minimum of 40 percent of the soil surface is covered with crop residue and maximum surface roughness is maintained on fields with slopes of 3 or more percent.

Percent surface cover is measured with the line transect method. A line (rope, tape, etc.) 50 or 100 feet long with 50 or 100 evenly spaced markings is laid on the soil surface after tillage. Percent residue is determined by counting the marks with the residue beneath them. A minimum of 100 marks should be observed at five locations within the field to determine a representative average of residue.

Seeding Deadlines:

- Except where noted, seeding deadlines may be extended up to 15 days on an individual request basis if seeding is delayed due to reasons beyond the producer's control.
 - September 1 deadline may be extended 10 days.
 - Small grain seeded after September 1 must be winter wheat or winter rye.
 - July 15 deadline on flax strips may not be extended.
 - September 15 deadline for seeding winter wheat or winter rye may not be extended.

* North includes all land north of Interstate I-94.

* South includes all land south of Interstate I-94.