

**June 15, 2004**

**WEST VIRGINIA BULLETIN NO: WV300-4-11**

**SUBJECT: FY2004 AMA Program**

**Purpose: To provide FY2004 AMA program details, including practice descriptions, ranking criteria, cost list and other information**

**Expiration Date: September 30, 2004**

**NRCS, West Virginia has received \$759,100 Financial Assistance funding for Agricultural Management Assistance (AMA) contracts in FY 2004. The funds will be used statewide and administered by Jim Piper, ASTC-Operations Management, with assistance from Butch Woodson, Resource Conservationist. AMA has a continuous sign-up, with the first ranking period ending on July 9, 2004.**

**Attached are the AMA approved practices, ranking sheets, and cost list. Herb Andrick will provide you with an electronic copy of the practice cost list for use in Customer Tool Kit. Additional policy is located in the AMA Manual.**

- (1) For fiscal year 2004, the State Conservationists decision is to use the AMA to address 4 resource concerns identified in prior years and 4 new resource concerns. The four concerns funded in prior years include: (1) Sustainable Organic/Truck Crop Farming, (2) Existing Woodland Harvest Trails and Landing Reclamation, (3) Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment, and (4) Forest Site Preparation to Promote Natural Regeneration. (Major changes in the Organic/Truck crop practice have been made to include irrigation water supply, irrigation systems, and fencing for deer control.) New AMA practices include: (1) Forest Stand Improvement, (2) Agrichemical Handling Facilities, (3) Critical Area Planting, and (4) Manure (Poultry Litter) Transfer. You will need to refer to the attached AMA practice descriptions for specific information regarding the use of each AMA practice.**
- (2) The Manure Transfer practice is in the final stages of development and review with the WVDA, WVCA, and WVU Extension. The practice description and details will be sent as soon as details are finalized. This practice will operate similar to the Poultry Litter Transfer program that WVDA conducted two years ago. Landowners and farmers interested in this practice may sign an AMA application now, and be ranked when the details are finalized.**

**(3) The funds will be initially allocated as follows:**

<u>Resource Issues</u>	<u>Proposed Funding</u>
Sustainable Organic / Truck Crop Farming	\$ 235,000
Existing Woodland Harvest Road, Trail and Landing Reclamation	20,000
Windbreaks/Shelterbelts Establishment	5,000
Forest Site Preparation to Promote Natural Regeneration	10,000
Forest Stand Improvement (on less than 10 acres)	5,000
Agri-Chemical Handling Facility	185,000
Critical Area Planting	30,000
Manure (PoultryLitter) Transfer	200,000
Reserve for Modification of Existing Contracts	69,100
<b>TOTAL:</b>	<b><u>\$759,100</u></b>

- (4) Applications received will be date-stamped and entered into ProTracts by July 30, 2004. FSA will be provided with a copy to make person determinations.**
- (5) AMA applications will be ranked using the ranking criteria for each practice that they wish to apply for. A person may apply for more than one practice with an AMA application. If the applicant is selected for more than one practice, the practices will be combined in one contract.**
- (6) AMA does not require an applicant to meet a Resource Management System (RMS) planning level. However, NRCS will offer applicants an RMS plan. If an applicant is not ready to commit to an RMS plan, NRCS will provide progressive planning assistance, with documented alternatives to reach a RMS level on the field(s) for which practice(s) are planned. The practice(s) that the applicant is applying for need to be consistent with the alternatives provided.**
- (7) Please take note that AMA does not offer any cost sharing on grazing land resource issues this year. AMA practices are required to be cost shared at 75%, versus the 50% rate for most EQIP practices. An effort is being made to avoid a situation which would encourage EQIP participants to cancel their EQIP contracts in order to sign an AMA contract.**
- (8) Applicants must sign both the CCC-1200 and CCC-1200 appendix. The applicant will be provided a copy of the appendix to read and sign at the time they sign the initial application.**

- (9) Applicants will be ranked separately by the Field Office for each resource issue being addressed. The AMA rankings will be entered into ProTracts by July 30, 2004. Applications for contract development will be selected by the State Office, based on the rankings entered into ProTracts. District Conservationists and ASTC-FOs will be notified of the approved AMA applicants by August 4, 2004.
- (10) District Conservationists will send the appropriate program letters to applicants in their field office service areas. Deferral letters should be sent to applicants by October 15, 2004. Letters will be made available in ProTracts.
- (11) Since the Irrigation Practices for organic/truck crop farms are new for West Virginia, and most WV NRCS employees are not trained in irrigation systems, it is strongly recommended that the irrigation practices not be planned for installation in 2004, but rather in 2005 or later. If you need help with arriving at a cost estimate to put in the AMA contract, contact one of your area engineers or Barbara Broxterman at (304) 284-7562.
- (12) The NRCS practice standard for fence (Code 382) includes fence for deer control, and refers you to the FOTG Agronomy Reference File, which includes a publication on High Tensile Wire Fencing. Cost sharing is limited to 2500 feet of deer control fence in any contract. This should be enough to fence approximately 5 acres.
- (13) The WV Division of Forestry is providing technical assistance for the AMA forestry-related practices. DCs will complete section 1 of form [WV-300-3 "Farm Bill Referral"](#), and attach the following information for each forestry practice:
- a topographic map of the practice location,
  - an ArcView plan map, and
  - a soils map with applicable soils interpretations.
- The Farm Bill Referral and attached materials for each forestry site will be placed in a folder. WVDOF is to schedule an initial site visit with NRCS and is to be provided the folder of information at that time, to assist them in providing technical assistance.
- (14) Conservation plans will be developed in Toolkit and the contracts uploaded into ProTracts. The minimum length of an AMA contract has been reduced from 5 to 3 years. A contract may be 3-10 years, with a 2 year O&M period the last 2 years of the contract.

- (15) FY 2004 AMA participants must also provide Direct Deposit information on an [SF-1199A](#), if this information is not already on file with FSA. This is required before the contract can be signed by the NRCS CCC representative and recorded. If the person does not have a bank account, a waiver can be requested. Please contact Beth Bishop, Accounting Technician, at 304-284-7559 for more information.
- (16) AMA participants must provide their Farm Number and Tract Number information for any other farming interests they may have in WV or other states. A copy of this information will be placed in the contract folder. Negative responses will be documented. This will be used by NRCS to meet the requirement to control the maximum contract payment limitation, per AMA Manual, Part 521.46(c). Administrative procedures to accomplish this will be established at the national level.
- (17) Procedures for contract folder development and contract signatures will remain the same as in previous years for AMA. At least two contract folders will be developed (one for each applicant, one for official NRCS file at the FO), and sent to Butch Woodson at the State Office for the CCC representatives signature. DC's will assure that the necessary signatures are obtained on the CCC-1200 and Appendix. Butch will review, sign and return the contract folders to the Field Office. To even out the workload, DC's are encouraged to send contracts for signature as they are developed. PLEASE, do not wait to send large batches of contracts at one time!
- (18) A schedule of the 2004 AMA action dates are as follows:
- a) June 14 – Concentrated sign-up starts.
  - b) June 22 – Teleconference training session will be held.
  - c) July 9 - End of first ranking period. All applications to be entered into ProTracts.
  - d) July 30 – All AMA rankings and cost estimates to be entered into ProTracts, by resource concern.
  - e) August 4 - The State Office will notify District Conservationist's, ASTC-FO's and WV Division of Forestry (where applicable) of the applicants approved for contract development.
  - f) August 6 – Forestry referral folders to be prepared for WVDof.
  - g) August 4-31 – Contracts to be completed and sent to the state office for approval. Butch Woodson, CCC representative for AMA, will record approved contracts in ProTracts and return the contract folders to DCs.
  - h) October 15 – Letters of Deferral to be sent to unsuccessful applicants.

**Please share this information with your Conservation District and Local Working Group members.**

**You are encouraged to provide feedback on appropriations of resource issues and recommended changes for the AMA program next year to Jim Piper, ASTC-O.**

**If you have program administrative questions, please call Butch Woodson at 284-7583, or Jim Piper at 284-7543. For program technical questions, contact the appropriate technical specialist.**

**/s/**

**LILLIAN V. WOODS  
State Conservationist**

**Attachments**

**DIST:       A  
              F  
              Truman Wolfe, WVCA, Executive Director, Charleston, WV  
              Joe Gumm, WVACD, President, Elkins, WV  
              John Rader, FSA, SED, Morgantown, WV  
              Dave Lilly, WVDOF, Assist. Admin. Forester, Charleston, WV  
              NRCS Principal Staff, Morgantown, WV  
              Butch Woodson, Resource Conservationist, Morgantown, WV  
              Herb Andrick, Resource Conservationist, Morgantown, WV  
              Isaac Wolford, State Agronomist, Morgantown, WV  
              Peg Reese, Resource Conservationist, Morgantown, WV  
              Barbara McWhorter, State Forester, Morgantown, WV  
              Barbara Broxterman, Ag Engineer, Morgantown, WV  
              Beth Bishop, Accounting Technician, Morgantown, WV**

**TITLE:** **2004 AMA Sustainable Organic and Truck Crop Farming**

**Purpose:** Provide financial and technical assistance to reduce risk with transition to organic farming; maintaining an organic farming system or reduce the producers dependency on purchased inputs for conventional farming systems.

**Background:** There are small (20ac. or less) farming operations in West Virginia that are converting or have converted their production of vegetables, berries, and fruits to organic or low input systems. These farmers fluctuate between organic and conventional farming due to delays of response to changes in soil and crop management, influences of prices, changes in production due to transition to organic, availability of time, response of crops and soils, lack of educational information, crop pests, and farm infrastructure to support low input systems. Lack of price supports and traditional farm programs increases their risk of failure.

**Proposal:** NRCS will provide financial assistance to existing commercial, organic and conventional truck crop farming fields. Assistance will be provided to improve soil health, implement use of organic soil amendments, develop sources of water for irrigation, develop irrigation systems, control soil erosion, manage surface water runoff, implement buffers, limit wildlife damage by constructing deer fence, construct composting facilities, prepare seed beds and implement weed control, using cover crops and mulching. See the attached list for a complete listing of eligible conservation practices. Maximum contract acreage is 20 acres.

**Technical Contact:** NRCS

**Organic Farming Program References:**

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop/StatePrograms/CostShareQ&A.html>

<http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop/CertifyingAgents/Accredited.html>

<b>Practice code</b>	<b>Practice Name</b>
317	Composting Facility
332	Contour Buffer Strips
340	Cover Crop
342	Critical Area Planting
362	Diversion
382	Fence (for Deer Control – 2500 ft maximum per contract) <u>1/</u>
386	Field Border
393A	Filter Strip
412	Grassed Waterway
430 DD	Irrigation Pipeline, high pressure <u>1/</u>
430 EE	Irrigation Pipeline, low pressure <u>1/</u>
441	Irrigation System, Microirrigation <u>1/</u>
442	Irrigation System, Sprinkler <u>1/</u>
449	Irrigation Water Management <u>1/</u>
484	Mulching
590	Nutrient Management (USDA Certified Organic / Transition Only <u>2/ 3/</u> )
512	Pasture and Hayland Planting
378	Pond
533	Pumping Plant for Water Control
344	Residue Management, Seasonal
390	Riparian Herbaceous Cover
574	Spring Development
585	Stripcropping, Contour
606	Subsurface Drain
607	Surface Drainage, Field Ditch
608	Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral
642	Well

<sup>1/</sup> **Irrigation water supply, irrigation systems, and fence for deer control are available only for truck crops (vegetables, fruit, berries) and nursery crops. Not for grain, hay, or pasture.**

<sup>2/</sup> **See List of Acceptable Supplemental Fertilization Materials**

<sup>3/</sup> **See List of USDA Accredited Certifying Agents at:**  
<http://www.ams.usda.gov/nop/CertifyingAgents/Accredited.html>

## **Acceptable Supplemental Fertilization Materials <sup>4/</sup>**

### **(Cost Share Approved for Organic Farming Operations Only)**

#### **Rock Minerals**

High Calcium Aglime  
Dolomitic Limestone  
Rock Phosphate  
Gypsum  
Sulfate of Potash-Magnesia  
Potassium Sulfate (Mined)  
Glauconite (Green Sand)  
Galcial Gravel Dust  
Lava Sand  
Granite Meal  
Azomite

#### **Supplemental Nutrients**

Fish Emulsion  
Blood Meal <sup>5/</sup>  
Feather Meal <sup>5/</sup>  
Bone Meal <sup>5/</sup>  
Alfalfa Meal  
Soybean Meal  
Poultry Litter <sup>5/</sup>  
Cattle Manure <sup>5/</sup>  
Dairy Manure <sup>5/</sup>  
Pelleted Chicken Manure  
Foliar Spray

**4/ Amounts based upon soil test recommendations and an organic transition plan prepared by a USDA Accredited Certifying Agent.**

**5/ Subject to Bio-Security requirements of WVDA.**

## AMA Ranking Criteria Sustainable Organic and Truck Crop Farming

Name:	County:																																																												
Address:	FSN:																																																												
	Tract#:																																																												
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## CATEGORIES OF CROP PRODUCTION FOR AMA

<u>Vegetable Crops</u>	<u>Lg/Sm Fruit/Nuts</u>	<u>Berry/Bramble/Vines</u>	<u>Organic Grain</u>	<u>Organic Hay/ Silage Haylage</u>	<u>Herbs/Flowers/ Nursery Crops</u>
* Corn, Sweet	Strawberry	Blackberry	* Wheat	Alfalfa	
* Lettuce	Apples	Raspberry	* Oats	Alfalfa grass	
* Carrots	Pears	Blueberry	* Rye	Tall grass/legume	
* Mushrooms	Peaches	Grape	* Barley		
* Tomatoes	Cherry		* Buckwheat		
* Beans, Bush			* Spelt		
* Beans, Pole			* Soybeans		
* Green Peas			* Millet		
* Brassicas			* Oil Seed		
cabbage			sunflower/flax		
broccoli			* Sorghum		
kale			* Peas, dry		
* Chenopods			* Beans, dry		
beets			* Triticale		
chard			* Corn		
spinach					
* Alliums					
onions					
garlic					
shallots					
* Asparagus					
* Curcubits					
cucumbers					
melons					
squash					
pumpkin					
* Peppers					
* Potatoes					

## **2004 AMA FORESTRY PRACTICE LIST**

### **Existing Woodland Harvest Road, Trail and Landing Reclamation**

Critical Area Planting (acre) Code 342  
Structure for Water Control (no.) Code 587  
Use Exclusion (acre) 472

### **Forest Stand Improvement**

Forest Stand Improvement (acre) Code 666  
Use Exclusion (acre) Code 472

### **Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment**

Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment (feet) Code 380  
Use Exclusion (acre) Code 472

### **Forest Site Preparation to Promote Natural Regeneration**

Forest Site Preparation (acre) Code 490  
Use Exclusion (acre) Code 472

**TITLE: 2004 AMA –  
Existing Woodland Harvest Road, Trail and Landing Reclamation**

**PURPOSE:** Provide financial and technical assistance to vegetatively treat gully erosion on existing woodland harvest roads, trails and landings. Surface water control deemed necessary under Critical Area Planting - Code 342 will be in compliance with current best management practices. Mulch is to be applied only to minimize erosion and aid in the establishment of vegetation. Gravel is not to be used as mulch. This practice does not apply to roads subject to daily or frequent use, such as, roads used for utility maintenance or right-of-ways. Commercial recreational areas are not eligible for cost-share assistance. The landowner must have control of access to the road and be willing to limit access to ensure maintenance of vegetative cover. The planning and construction of new woodland access roads is not included in this practice. This practice will only apply to existing roads in wooded areas. Livestock must be excluded from the woodland area. The road, trail, or landing cannot have been used for a timber harvest in the past 12 months.  
Work deemed necessary by the WVDOP for Logging and Sediment Control Act compliance is not eligible for cost-share assistance.

**BACKGROUND:** In some instances existing woodland access roads that were not properly planned, constructed and/or maintained result in erosion and sedimentation. Critical area treatment of eroding areas can minimize erosion and soil loss from such sites.

**PRACTICE LIST:** Critical Area Planting (acre) Code 342  
(Includes seed bed preparation, lime, fertilizer, seed, and mulch to minimize erosion and aid in the establishment of vegetation - no gravel)  
Structure for Water Control (no.) Code 587  
(Includes culverts, water bars, broad-based drainage dips as needed to control water)  
Use Exclusion (acre) Code 472  
(Fence/Gate - Least Cost Alternative)

**PROPOSAL:** Statewide  
Landowner will experience improved access to woodland acreage which in turn may result in increased forest management activities. Both the actual landowner and downstream landowners will experience improved water quality as erosion is controlled.  
WVDOP provides technical assistance for plan development, practice application, and inspection in consultation NRCS.

**TECHNICAL CONTACT:** WVDOP

**AMA RANKING CRITERIA –  
Existing Woodland Harvest Road, Trail, and Landing Reclamation**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

FSN \_\_\_\_\_ Tract \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Landowner is willing and able to limit access in order to maintain vegetative cover</b>		
Yes		PROCEED
No		NOT ELIGIBLE
<b>Past use for timber harvests</b>		
The proposed practice areas have not been used for timber harvest in the last 12 months		PROCEED
The proposed practice area has been used for a timber harvest in the last 12 months		NOT ELIGIBLE
<b>Livestock exclusion</b>		
Livestock presently excluded from the woodland area being accessed		PROCEED
Landowner will exclude livestock from the woodland area being accessed as part of this practice		PROCEED
Livestock will not be excluded from the woodland area being accessed		NOT ELIGIBLE
<b>Property ownership at the time of road construction</b>		
Property was <u>not</u> owned by the applicant at the time of road construction		10
Property was owned by the applicant at the time of road construction		0
<b>Landowner currently has a forest management plan</b>		
Yes		10
No		5
<b>Size of area to be reclaimed (multiply average road width x length of the area to be treated)</b>		
> 5 acres		10
1 - 5 acres		5
< 1 acre		2

TOTAL

**TITLE: 2004 AMA - Forest Stand Improvement**

**PURPOSE:** Provide financial and technical assistance to landowners who **own less than 10 acres of woodland** and wish to improve the overall quality of their wooded acreage. Cost-shared timber stand improvement activities are intended for stands that cannot be treated with a commercially salable improvement cut. This practice has a limit of 9.9 acres. Livestock must be excluded from the practice area.

**BACKGROUND:** Landowners may wish to thin existing woodlots to improve the overall quality of the stand to enhance the production of timber and provide the opportunity for additional farm income. The thinning may also make it possible to produce agro-forestry products.

**PRACTICE LIST:** Forest Stand Improvement (acre) Code 666  
Use Exclusion (acre) Code 472  
(Fence - Least Cost Alternative)

**PROPOSAL:** Statewide  
Forest can be managed to provide the landowner with income from their woodland acreage.

**TECHNICAL CONTACT:** WVDOF - provides technical assistance for plan development, practice application, and inspection.

## AMA RANKING CRITERIA - Forest Stand Improvement

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

FSN \_\_\_\_\_ Tract \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Woodland acres owned</b>	
≥ 10	NOT ELIGIBLE
< 10	PROCEED
<b>Site Index</b>	
80+	10
70 - 80	8
60 - 70	5
< 60	0
<b>Livestock exclusion</b>	
Livestock presently excluded from the site	5
Livestock will have to be excluded from the site as part of this practice	0
<b>TOTAL</b>	

**TITLE:** 2004 AMA - Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment

**PURPOSE:** Provide financial and technical assistance to producers to establish windbreaks to improve aesthetics of, minimize odors from, and/or provide shade for poultry operations and/or provide shelter, shade for, and/or improve aesthetics of livestock feeding areas. Please note that landowners wishing to install windbreaks in conjunction with their poultry operation must have written permission from their integrator. Livestock must be excluded from the practice area during establishment.

**BACKGROUND:** Poultry operations are sometimes perceived by adjacent landusers as having an odor. A windbreak planting of trees can reduce odors from and /or provide shade for the operation, and improve the aesthetic appeal of the site.

In other instances landowners have moved their livestock feeding areas to upland sites to improve water quality. Livestock may not perform as well in these upland sites due to inclement weather conditions. An outdoor living barn is a specialized windbreak, typically composed of trees and shrubs, and strategically located in grassland/pasture areas to protect livestock during severe weather conditions. In addition, windbreaks can provide shade for livestock.

**PRACTICE LIST:** Windbreak / Shelterbelt Establishment (feet) Code 380  
(Includes site preparation, plant materials, tree /shrub planting, and tree shelters, if applicable)  
Use Exclusion (acre) Code 472  
(Fence - Least Cost Alternative)

**PROPOSAL:** Statewide (with increased interest expected in the Potomac and Greenbrier Valley areas)  
Adjacent landusers to poultry operations will enjoy improved air quality and aesthetics. Livestock in upland feeding areas will experience improved performance and water quality will improve as feeding areas are moved to upland areas.  
NRCS provides technical assistance for plan development, practice application, and inspection in consultation with WVDOF.

**TECHNICAL CONTACT:** WVDOF

**AMA RANKING CRITERIA - Windbreaks / Shelterbelts - Poultry Operations**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

FSN \_\_\_\_\_ Tract \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Ventilation system</b>	
Tunnel ventilated houses	50
All other	0
<b>Number of poultry houses per farm site</b>	
4+house	10
2-3 houses	5
1 house	2
<b>Distance to a residential home <u>not</u> on the property</b>	
< 300 feet	5
300 - 600 feet	3
> 600 feet	0
<b>Distance to a residential home <u>not</u> on the property that is NE, E, or N of the poultry house(s)</b>	
< 300 feet	10
300 - 600 feet	5
> 600 feet	0
<b>Number of residential homes within 1000 feet of the poultry house(s)</b>	
>10 residential homes	5
3 - 10 residential homes	3
1 - 2 residential homes	1
0 residential homes	0
<b>Poultry house orientation (conventionally ventilated houses only)</b>	
North - South orientation	10
East - West orientation	0

TOTAL

**AMA RANKING CRITERIA - Windbreaks / Shelterbelts - Livestock**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

FSN \_\_\_\_\_ Tract \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Feeding Location</b>	
Feeding location relocated to upland site for water quality reasons	10
Feeding location on upland site	5
Feeding location on lowland site	0
<b>Trees at feeding site</b>	
No trees exist in the field of feeding location	10
Scattered trees exist in the field of feeding location	5
<b>Number of head fed at feeding site</b>	
100+	10
50 -99	8
15 - 49	6
< 15	4

TOTAL

**TITLE:** 2004 AMA - Forest Site Preparation to Promote Natural Regeneration

**PURPOSE:** Provide financial and technical assistance to landowners who **own less than 10 acres of woodland** to control species such as tree-of-heaven, striped maple, and ferns that can occupy sites and severely limit the development of advance regeneration. Livestock must be excluded from the practice area.

**BACKGROUND:** Species such as tree-of-heaven, striped maple, kudzu, and fern can sometimes occupy woodland sites to the extent that advanced hardwood regeneration cannot develop. In these situations it is necessary to control these unwanted species to allow the desired species to germinate and thrive.

**PRACTICE LIST:** Forest Site Preparation (acre) Code 490  
Use Exclusion (acre) Code 472  
(Fence - Least Cost Alternative)

**PROPOSAL:** Statewide  
WVDOF provides technical assistance for plan development , practice application, and inspection.

**TECHNICAL CONTACT:** WVDOF

**AMA RANKING CRITERIA - Forest Site Preparation for Natural Regeneration**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

FSN \_\_\_\_\_ Tract \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Woodland acres owned</b>	
≥ 10	NOT ELIGIBLE
< 10	PROCEED
<b>Size of area to be treated</b>	
5 - 10 acres	10
< 5 acres	5
<b>Site index</b>	
80+	15
70 - 80	10
< 70	5
<b>Livestock exclusion</b>	
Livestock presently excluded from this site	5
Livestock will have to be excluded from this site as part of this practice	0

**TOTAL**

**Title:** 2004 AMA - Agrichemical Handling Facility

**Purpose:** To provide financial and technical assistance to reduce the risk of surface and/or subsurface water contamination due to agricultural chemicals ,such as pesticides or fertilizers, that are used in spraying operations in orchards, vineyards, cropland, or other agricultural land.

**Background:** There are several situations in the West Virginia where landowners need to use significant amounts of agricultural chemicals to produce quality crops. In many cases, there are not any facilities available for the safe handling and mixing of these chemicals. Equipment rinsing and the safe disposal of the rinse water is also an issue of concern. There is a potential risk for contamination of surface and/or groundwater.

**Proposal:** NRCS will provide financial and technical assistance in the planning, design, and construction of Agrichemical Handling Facilities to provide a planned and safe area for the handling and mixing of agrichemicals, as well as safe disposal of equipment rinse water.

**Practice:** WV NRCS Practice Code 702i

**AMA RANKING CRITERIA – Agrichemical Handling Facility**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

FSN \_\_\_\_\_ Tract \_\_\_\_\_

An Agrichemical Handling Facility will be constructed according to NRCS standards and specifications in order to prevent surface and groundwater contamination as well as reduce the potential for airborne pollutants.

Distance of existing mixing area to surface water:	Points
<100 feet = 25 points 100-200 feet = 15 points >200 = 5 points	
Distance of existing mixing area to well:	Points
< 100 feet = 30 points 100-200 feet = 15 points >200 = 10 points	
Distance of existing mixing area to nearest residence:	Points
< 500 feet = 20 points 500 – 1500 feet = 10 points > 1500 feet = 5 points	
Leaching potential of predominant soil type:	Points
High = 25 points Medium = 15 points Low = 5 points	
<b>Total Points (Maximum 100) =</b>	

**Title:** 2004 AMA - Critical Area Plantings

**Purpose:** To provide financial and technical assistance to reduce erosion and improve water quality by stabilizing critically eroding areas such as existing or abandoned farm roads, or other eroding agricultural areas. Woodland roads will be addressed under the AMA practice for “Existing Woodland Harvest Road, Trail and Landing Reclamation”. Surface water control needed for a critical area seeding will be addressed by the NRCS practice code 587 “Structure for Water Control”. Gravel is not to be used as mulch. This practice does not apply to roads used for utility maintenance or right of ways, oil and gas well roads which are active or still under the responsibility of the oil or gas producer, or public road right of ways. The landowner must have control of access to the area, and be willing to limit access to ensure establishment maintenance of vegetative cover. Livestock will be excluded from the seeding area (if applicable) to protect the seeding. This practice is not to be used on land slips or land slides. If the eroding area is already included in another USDA cost sharing contract, the area is not eligible for AMA.

**Background:** Erosion from roads has been identified by Local Working Groups (LWG's) as a significant source of sediment in West Virginia. Much of this road erosion is related to public road right of ways, and is not eligible for USDA cost sharing. However, some of this sediment originates on existing or abandoned farm access roads, and may be addressed by USDA programs. In addition, there are also other critically eroding areas that could be addressed with a Critical Area Planting.

**Practice List:** Critical Area Planting, Code 342  
Structure for Water Control, Code 587  
Use Exclusion, Code 472

**Technical Contact:** NRCS

**AMA RANKING CRITERIA – Critical Area Planting**

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

County \_\_\_\_\_

FSN \_\_\_\_\_ Tract \_\_\_\_\_

<b>Landowner is willing and able to limit access by vehicles and/or livestock to the area being planted, in order to establish and maintain the vegetation?</b>	
Yes – Proceed No – Not eligible	
<b>Property ownership at time of road construction or other soil disturbance causing the erosion:</b>	<b>Points</b>
Property was not owned by applicant at time of cause of erosion = 10 points  Property was owned by applicant at time of cause of erosion = 0 points	
<b>Land Treatment of field with erosion problem:</b>	<b>Points</b>
Remainder of field meets a Resource Management System (RMS) = 10 points  Remainder of field does not meet an RMS = 0 points	
<b>Estimated tons of erosion (ephemeral or gully) / year at the site:</b>	<b>Points</b>
>50 tons / year = 10 points 25 – 49 tons / year = 6 points 10 – 24 tons / year = 4 points <10 tons / year = 2 points	
<b>1. Off-site sediment damage (to land/water not owned by applicant)</b>	<b>Points</b>
perennial stream = 10 points lake or pond = 8 points road ditch = 6 points public land = 4 points other private land = 2 points none = 0 points	
<b>Total Points (40 max.)</b>	

## 2004 AMA Cost List

Practice Code	Service Life	Practice Name	Component	Unit Type	Unit Cost	Cost Type	Cost Share Rate
317	15	COMPOSTING FACILITY	Composting Facility	No.	\$ -	AM	75
332	10	CONTOUR BUFFER STRIP	Contour Buffer Strip	Ft.	\$ -	AM	75
340	1	COVER CROP	Cover Crop	Ac.	\$ 20.00	AM	75
342	10	CRITICAL AREA PLANTING	Critical Area Planting	Ac.	\$ -	AM	75
344	1	RESIDUE MANAGEMENT, SEASONAL	Residue Management, Seasonal	Ac.	\$ 12.00	FR	
362	10	DIVERSION	Diversion	Ft.	\$ 3.07	AM	75
378	20	POND	Pond for Irrigation	No.	\$ -	AM	75
380	15	WINDBREAK/SHELTERBELT ESTABLISHMENT	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment, with shelters	Ft.	\$ 2.00	AM	75
380	15	WINDBREAK/SHELTERBELT ESTABLISHMENT	Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment, without shelters	Ft.	\$ 1.30	AM	75
382	20	FENCE	Fence (deer control, organic/truck crops only)	Ft.	\$ 2.10	AA	75
382	20	FENCE	Electric Fence Charger (deer control, organic/truck crops only)	No.	\$400.00	AM	75
386	10	FIELD BORDER	Field Border	Ac.	\$ 71.00	AM	75
390	10	RIPARIAN HERBACEOUS COVER	Riparian Herbaceous Cover	Ac.	\$ -	AM	75
393	10	FILTER STRIP	Filter Strip	Ac.	\$ -	AM	75
412	10	GRASSED WATERWAY	Grassed Waterway	Ac.	\$1,200.00	AM	75
441	10	IRRIGATION SYSTEM, MICROIRRIGATION	Microirrigation (drip/micro system) for various crops. Includes submains, manifolds, laterals (drip tape if kept in place (not removed), fittings, pressure gages, pressure regulators, installation and pressure check				
441	10	IRRIGATION SYSTEM, MICROIRRIGATION	Blueberry, raspberry, dew berry's, vineyard or container nursery	Ac.	\$ 2,340.00	AM	75
441	10	IRRIGATION SYSTEM, MICROIRRIGATION	Orchard, field nursery operations	Ac.	\$ 1,950.00	AM	75
441	10	IRRIGATION SYSTEM, MICROIRRIGATION	Vegetables, tomatoes, specialty crops	Ac.	\$ 845.00	AM	75
442	15	IRRIGATION SYSTEM, SPRINKLER	Solid set sprinkler for berries or field nursery. Includes sprinkler, lateral lines, pressure gages, clean outs, pressure regulators, installation and pressure check	Ac.	\$ 2,500.00	AM	75
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	Irrigation Pipeline (low or high pressure). The main pipe from the pumping plant (water source) to the submain or irrigation system (micro or sprinkler)). Includes pipe, stand pipe, thrust blocks, air release, flush and/or cleanout valves, excavation, backfill and pressure check.				
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	ABS, PVC <2"	Ft.	\$ 2.10	AM	75

Practice Code	Service Life	Practice Name	Component	Unit Type	Unit Cost	Cost Type	Cost Share Rate
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	ABS, PVC 2" - 4"	Ft.	\$ 3.25	AM	75
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	ABS, PVC >4" - 6"	Ft.	\$ 5.45	AM	75
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	ABS, PVC >6"	Ft.	\$ 6.70	AM	75
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	Polyethylene (PE) pipe <=1"	Ft.	\$ 1.40	AM	75
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	Polyethylene (PE) pipe >1"	Ft.	\$ 2.20	AM	75
430	25	Irrigation Water Conveyance – Underground, Plastic Pipeline	Other approved pipe	Ft.	\$ 2.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Irrigation Water Management				
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Field/nursery Crops	Ac.	\$ 50.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	<b>For new systems</b>				
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Soil Moisture Monitoring Device	No.	\$ 120.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	<b>For existing systems</b>				
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Screen Filter	No.	\$ 500.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Sand Filter	No.	\$ 1,500.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Soil Moisture Monitoring Device	No.	\$ 120.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Flow Meter	No.	\$ 1,000.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Backflow Prevention/Check valves	No.	\$ 400.00	AM	75
449	1	IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT	Pressure Gage (oil filled)	No.	\$ 150.00	AM	75
472	10	USE EXCLUSION	Electric Fence Charger	No.	\$ 400.00	AM	75
472	10	USE EXCLUSION	Fence for small or mixed livestock	Ft.	\$ 2.10	AA	75
472	10	USE EXCLUSION	Fence for large livestock	Ft.	\$ 1.45	AA	75
472	10	USE EXCLUSION	Road Gate	Ft.	\$ 6.00	AA	75
484	1	MULCHING	Mulching	Ac.	\$ -	AM	75
490	1	FOREST SITE PREPARATION	Forest Site Prep.(natural regen. chemical)	Ac.	\$ 72.00	AA	75
490	1	FOREST SITE PREPARATION	Forest Site Prep.(natural regen. hand)	Ac.	\$ 96.00	AA	75
512	10	PASTURE AND HAY PLANTING	Pasture and Hayland Planting	Ac.	\$ 300.00	AM	75

Practice Code	Service Life	Practice Name	Component	Unit Type	Unit Cost	Cost Type	Cost Share Rate
533		PUMPING PLANT FOR WATER CONTROL	Pumping Plant for Water Control is used with practice codes 441, 442, or 702. This includes the pump and motor, pressure release valve, check valve, pump discharge pipe, chemical/fertigation port, pressure gage, filter (sand, screen, discs), and/or flow meter .	No.	\$ 4,000.00	AM	75
574	10	SPRING DEVELOPMENT	Spring Development for Irrigation	No.	\$ -	AM	75
585	5	STRIPCROPPING	Stripcropping	Ac.	\$ 10.00	FR	
587	20	STRUCTURE FOR WATER CONTROL	Culvert, Waterbar, Drainage Dip	No.	\$ -	AM	75
590	1	NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT	Nutrient Management (organic farming only)	Ac.	\$ 75.00	FR	
606	20	SUBSURFACE DRAIN	Subsurface Drain	Ft.	\$ -	AM	75
607	15	SURFACE DRAINAGE, FIELD DITCH	Surface Drainage, Field ditch	Ft.	\$ -	AM	75
608	15	SURFACE DRAINAGE, MAIN OR LATERAL	Surface Drainage, Main or Lateral	Ft.	\$ -	AM	75
634	1	MANURE TRANSFER	15+ Tons/Truck Transport	Mi.	\$ 2.50	FR	
634	1	MANURE TRANSFER	10-14.9 Tons/Truck Transport	Mi.	\$ 1.70	FR	
642	20	Well	Well for Irrigation	No.	\$ -	AM	75
702	20	AGRICHEMICAL HANDLING FACILITY	Chemical Mixing, Tank Loading and Washing Area	No.	\$25,000.00	AM	75