

**Conservation Security Program (CSP)
CROPLAND ASSESSMENT**

Name: _____ **Farm Unit(S):** _____

Worksheet Instructions

The minimum level of treatment required for cropland that is enrolled in CSP is a treatment which addresses soil quality and water quality criteria in the West Virginia Field Office Technical Guide. For cropland the appropriate criteria include:

- Soil erosion and soil quality criteria (soil quality)
- Nutrient management criteria (water quality)
- Pesticide management criteria (water quality)
- Sediment management criteria (water quality)
- Salinity management criteria (water quality)

The attached assessment questions will help determine if the farm operation, or part of the farm operation meets the West Virginia cropland quality criteria and is eligible for enrollment in the Conservation Security program. *(Separate assessments are provided for pasture land, other land and livestock waste)*

For each field that will be enrolled in CSP, the producer will need to be able to answer appropriately each question in this assessment. For Tier II and III enrollments, all fields must meet the criteria in this assessment. Check **yes** or **no** for each question:

GENERAL ELIGIBILITY QUESTIONS – ALL CRITERIA			
		Yes	No
1	Are <i>current soil tests</i> (no older than 5 years) available for each field that will be enrolled in CSP? Need a Soil Test if nutrients are applied.		
2	Are <i>nutrient application records</i> available for 2 of past 3 years that include nutrients applied, rates, forms, timing and method of application? <i>Records are needed for each field.</i>		
3	Are <i>pesticide application records</i> available for 2 of past 3 years that include pesticides applied, rates, formulations, timing and method of application? <i>Records are needed for each field.</i>		
If any of above questions are no, to any field, that field is not eligible for CSP enrollment. For Tier II and III enrollments answers must be yes to all fields in the operation.			

SOIL QUALITY CRITERIA ASSESSMENT			
		Yes	No
1	Do all fields that will be enrolled have a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI). A positive SCI will require significant amounts of conservation tillage/no-tillage and crop rotations that include high residue crops (corn, small grain, or hay) in the rotation. <i>(NRCS will calculate this index at the interview)</i>		
2	Is gully/concentrated flow erosion and ephemeral gully erosion controlled on all fields that will be enrolled.		
If any of above questions are no to any field, that field is not eligible for CSP enrollment. For Tier II and III enrollments answers must be yes to all fields in the operation.			

Certification Statement

The above cropland benchmark information is correct to the best of my knowledge. I understand that if requested, I can provide a minimum of two years of documentation to support the information provided above.

Name: _____ Date: _____

Certification of Review

I have reviewed this cropland benchmark assessment and the answers meet CSP enrollment criteria and are consistent with the farm records provided for review during the verification interview.

NRCS Representative: _____ Date: _____

WEST VIRGINIA FOTG QUALITY CRITERIA

WATER QUALITY - PESTICIDE CRITERIA

W.Q. Groundwater - Pesticides are applied, stored, handled, disposed of, and managed so that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.

W.Q. Surface Water - Pesticides are applied, stored, handled, disposed of, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected

WATER QUALITY - NUTRIENT CRITERIA

W.Q. Groundwater - Nutrients and organics are stored, handled, disposed of, and applied such that groundwater uses are not adversely affected.

W.Q. Surface Water - Nutrients and organics are stored, handled, disposed of, and managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected.

WATER QUALITY – SEDIMENT CRITERIA

W.Q. Surface Water - Movement of mineral and organic particles is managed such that surface water uses are not adversely affected.

West Virginia CSP Field Data Form – *CROP MANAGEMENT / TILLAGE DATA*

Name:	Tract or Farm # (s):			Tract or Field # (s):	
	Yr	Yr	Yr	Yr	Yr
Crop Mgt & Crop Rotation					
Enter Crop Grown:					
Enter Average Yield Each Crop:					
Enter Row Width in inches:					
Check Primary Tillage Used:					
Plow – Specify fall or spring					
Fall Chisel <i>Straight Points</i>					
Fall Chisel <i>Twisted Shovel</i>					
Fall Chisel <i>Sweeps</i>					
Fall Field Cultivate					
Fall Light Disc					
Fall Strip-Till or Ridge Till (specify)					
None (No-till)					
Other:					
Check All Spring Tillage Used:					
Field Cultivate – enter # passes					
Disking – enter # passes					
Harrow/Cultimulcher – enter # passes					
Planter Type Used:					
Conventional Till Planter					
No-Till Planter					
No-till drill – Single disc opener					
No-till drill – Double disc opener					
Other operations:					
Enter number cultivations done if any					
Check if Anhydrous Used					
Fall or Winter Cover Crop					
Enter month sown					
Species or Crop Seeded					
How seeded					
Rate per Acre					