

TITLE: 2005 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