United States Department of Agriculture

NRCS Natural Resources Conservation Service

HABITAT MANAGEMENT (CSP Enhancements) WEST VIRGINIA 2006

CSP Enhancement Activity Task Sheet

CLIENT: _____

WORKSHEET 7 – A 100 foot minimum strip left unharvested in hayfields to provide habitat for pollinators

Payment = $100/acre/year to leave strips in hayfields (minimum 100 ft wide) uncut between May 1 to October 1 to provide habitat for native pollinators. This enhancement may be rotated from field to field each year. Payment is for acres left uncut per year.

☐ **THIS ENHANCEMENT IS REQUIRED FOR THE CURRENT CSP CONTRACT**

The purpose of this practice is to increase plant diversity and provide wildlife habitat for those species of wildlife that benefit from early successional vegetation and the insects that these communities attract. Many wildlife species that depend on these types of plant communities are declining nationwide. Grassland management practices are usually directed toward the maximum production of forage and hay for livestock. However, these practices can be performed with a timing and intensity that are wildlife friendly and productive agriculturally. The timing and intensity of harvesting grass is probably the most critical of all the factors that can affect the value of grasslands for both wildlife and livestock.

Habitat structure and diversity may be improved by leaving strips of unharvested grassland throughout the field.

Refer to the West Virginia Conservation Practice *Early Successional Habitat Development/Management (647) - Cool Season Grassland Management for Wildlife* for more information regarding the management and maintenance of this practice.

Certification for Management of Unharvested Strips of Grassland for Pollinator Habitat

Farm# _____ **Tract #** _____

Field	Strip Width Left Unharvested	Acres Left Unharvested

I certify that I have left strip(s) of unharvested grassland a minimum of 100 ft wide in hayfields for pollinator habitat as listed above and as outlined in the job sheet(s) I was provided.

Client's Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Additional Notes: