



Continuous CRP Practice Information

CP5A Field Windbreak Establishment

4/21/2014

The purpose of this practice is to establish windbreaks to improve the environmental benefits on a farm or ranch to, first, reduce cropland erosion below soil loss tolerance and, second, enhance wildlife habitat.

Field windbreaks must be located, positioned, and documented to provide wind erosion control benefits. For a field to be eligible, the calculated wind erosion for the area impacted must be below the soil loss tolerance (T) after field windbreak installation. Wind erosion information is located in Section I of the FOTG. Soil loss calculations for before and after field windbreak installation will be documented in the case file.

Practice Guidance:

The maximum allowable practice width will consist of 1 to 3 rows of trees and/or shrubs spaced according to guidance in the Windbreak/Shelterbelt Standard, Code 380. The spacing between rows (row-to-row width) depends on the total number of rows, the species of trees or shrubs to be planted, and the type of weed control to be used. Row spacing may vary and row spacing guidance and spacing maximums are listed in the standard. Multiple field windbreaks in the same field will be spaced according to the contributing erosion factors using the most up-to-date erosion calculation technology.

At the participant's option, an additional area up to one rod in width is eligible for enrollment adjacent to the outside row of any windbreak. This area will provide access to maintain the windbreak and allow the tree canopy to develop over the life of the contract.



Example of a Field Windbreak

■ CCRP Practice Contract information

- Contract length 10-15 years
- \$100 / acre Signing Incentive payment (SIP)
- 20% CRP Rental Rate Incentive
- Practice Incentive Payment (PIP) equal to 40 percent of the eligible installation costs
- NRCS Practice Number 380

■ Minimum Row-to-Row Spacing

- 10 ft spacing between shrubs less than 10 feet in height
- 12 ft spacing between shrubs and small trees from 10 to 25 feet in height
- 12 ft spacing between small trees less than 25 ft in height
- 16 ft spacing between small and tall trees greater than 25 ft in height
- 20 ft spacing Between any wide crowned species and conifers
- 20 ft between faster growing species and conifers

■ Spacing Within Rows (Plant-to-Plant Spacing within a row)

- 3 to 6 ft between shrubs less than 10 feet in height
- 5 to 16 feet between Shrubs and trees from 10 to 25 feet in height
- 8 to 16 ft between trees greater than 25 feet in height

Additional Information:

[NRCS CCRP CP5A Eligibility Document](#)

[NRCS Practice Code 380 Standard](#)

[NRCS CCRP CP5A Job Sheet](#)