



Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Program Training 7/10/2024

Alliance Training Overview

- Program Highlights
- Scope of Work
- Application Checklist
- Producer Guide
- Practices Eligible for the Alliance Program
- Practice Worksheets
- Portal Overview
- BWSR Website

Find these resources at the
BWSR page
[https://bwsr.state.mn.us/
alliance-climate-smart-
agriculture-pilot](https://bwsr.state.mn.us/alliance-climate-smart-agriculture-pilot)

Program Highlights

- District agreements end 9/1/26
- 1-year contracts with the ability to “renew”, sign up again
- If practices are allowed to be implemented regardless of prior implementation, producers can sign up for them in more than one Alliance year application
- Recent Change – Producers will need to enter their Farm and Tract numbers in the application submission. If they don’t have FSA records, case by case basis
- Please complete eligibility reviews as producers apply. Utilize the consent form to obtain records from FSA or have producer obtain the records and bring to you ASAP
- Recent Change – RUSLE will be required on all cropland land uses enrolled into the program

Scope of Work

- Outreach
- Support Application & Enrollment Process
- Provide Technical Assistance
- Reporting (COMET planner and farm assistance, RUSLE, etc)
- Administration of the grant agreement

Application Checklist

Details for the Application Period

- Producer info needed
- W9 upload
- Farm and tract numbers
- Practice(s) and extent (acres or animal units)
- Evaluation tools questions
- Terms and conditions

Obtain the Producer Farm Data Report, Subsidiary Report, and FSA print maps to verify eligibility. Utilize the consent form or have producer obtain and bring to you.



Application Checklist

Producer Farm Data Report

Producer Farm Data Report										Date: 9/15/09 10:16 AM
Crop Year: 2010										Page: 1
Producer Name and Address					Recording County Office Name					
KRISTIN MANN 303 5TH AVE NEW CITY MS 38603-3035					Coahoma, Mississippi					
Telephone: None										
Number of Farms	Number of Tracts	Farmland		Cropland	DCP Cropland	CRP Cropland	Eff DCP Cropland	NAP		
2	3	127.0		54.4	54.4	0.0	54.4	0.00		
State & County	Farm	Tract	Relationship to Farm Tract	Producer	Farmland	Cropland	DCP Cropland	CRP Cropland	Eff DCP Cropland	NAP
Delaware, IN	10	143	Other Tenant	KRISTIN MANN	107.0	35.6	35.6	0.0	35.6	0.00
			Owner	SEAN SIMONS						
Coahoma, MS	4706	8906	Other Tenant	KRISTIN MANN	15.0	14.6	14.6	0.0	14.6	0.00
			Owner	CLARENCE COOPER						
		8907	Other Tenant	KRISTIN MANN	5.0	4.2	4.2	0.0	4.2	0.00
			Owner	LARRY GOODEY						

Application Checklist

Subsidiary Report

Farmer, John

PO Box 1
Monticello, AR 71611

Phone Number: none

SCIMS Information

Business Type Information

2019 Individual
2018 Individual

Citizenship Country - UNITED STATES
Resident Alien Flag - N/A

SCIMS Links

Drew - Arkansas

Summary Eligibility Information

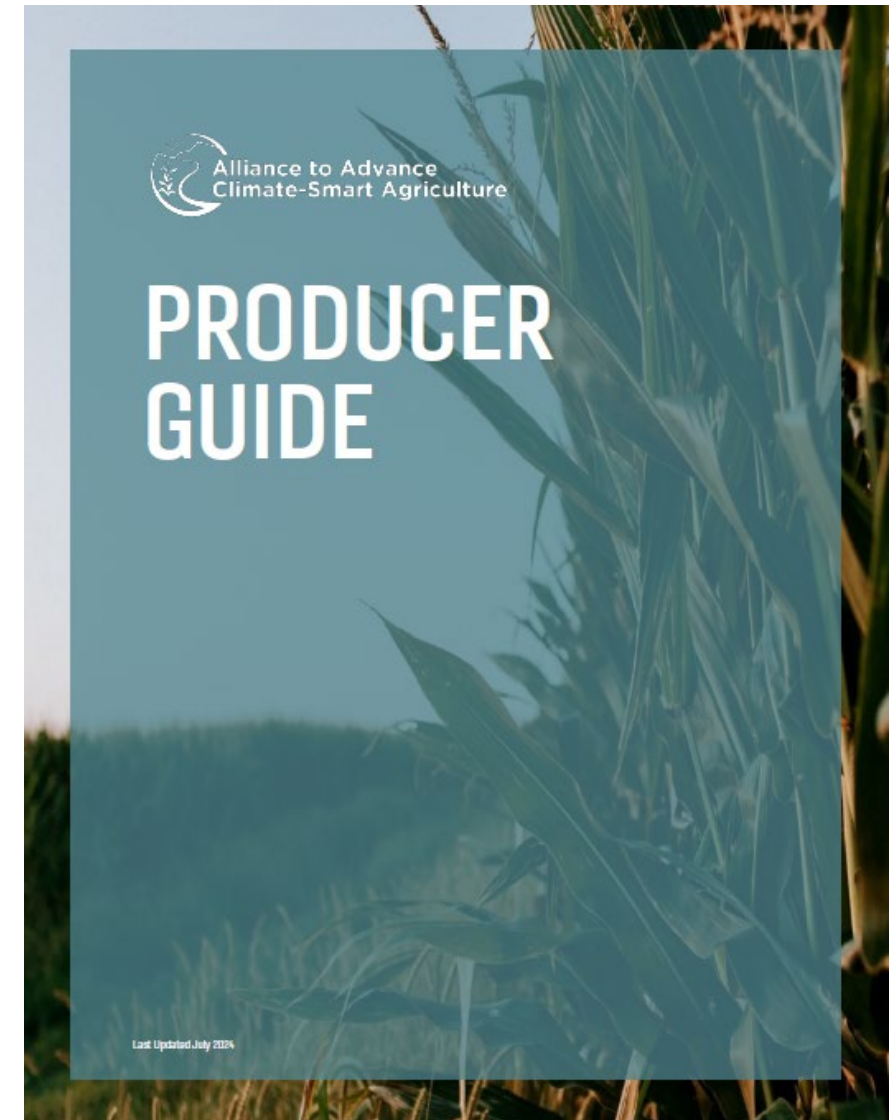
Recording County: Drew - Arkansas
Office Phone: (870)367-8400 x2

419 W GAINES ST
MONTICELLO, AR 71655-4723

	2019	2018
AD-1026	Not Filed	Not Filed
First Time Producer Filing AD-1026	No	No
Date First Time Filing AD-1026		
Affiliate Violation for RMA	No	
Actively Engaged Determination	Not Filed	Not Filed
Actively Engaged - 2002 Farm Bill	Not Filed	Not Filed
AGI - 75% Rule	No	No
AGI - 2014 and 2018 Farm Bills	Not Filed	Not Filed
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Commodity		
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Direct \$750,000		
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Direct \$1 Million		
AGI - 2008 Farm Bill - Conservation	Not Filed	Not Filed
AGI - 2002 Farm Bill	Not Filed	Not Filed
Beginning Farmer or Rancher	No	No
Cash Rent Tenant Determination	Awaiting Determination	Awaiting Determination
Cropland Factor	0.0000	0.0000
Conservation Compliance-Farm/Tract	In Compliance	In Compliance
Highly Erodible Land Conservation	Compliant	Compliant
Planted Converted Wetland	Compliant	Compliant
Converted Wetland	Compliant	Compliant
Controlled Substance	No Violation	No Violation
Delinquent Debt	No	No
Federal Crop Insurance	Requirements Not Met	Requirements Not Met
Foreign Person	Not Applicable	Not Applicable
Fraud - including FCIC Fraud		
Gross Revenue for Disaster		
Gross Revenue for NAP		
Limited Resource Farmer or Rancher	No	No
NAP Non-Compliance	Compliant	Compliant
Permitted Entity - 2002 Farm Bill	Yes	Yes
Person Eligibility - 2002 Farm Bill	Not Filed	Not Filed
SDA - Racial, Ethnic or Gender	No	No
SDA - Racial or Ethnic but NOT Gender	No	No

Producer Guide

- Overview of Program
- Required Documents
- 52 Info
- DEI Info
- Data Reporting
- Process, Steps, and Timing
- Payments
- Climate-Smart Practices



Practices Eligible for the Alliance Program

- List of Practices
- Nuances and Eligibility of Practices
- Simultaneous enrollment of the same practice on the same acres is not allowed for any NRCS, state cost-share, or CSC program.

Alliance to Advance Climate-Smart Agriculture practice enrollment guide Version 1.0, 27 March 2024

Practices eligible for enrollment in the Alliance pilot must 1) result in GHG mitigation and 2) require producers to carry out activities ([i.e.](#) incur costs) for practice establishment or enhancement during the period of enrollment in the Alliance pilot.

As per previous communication, the following applies to only the acres/AUs to be enrolled in the Alliance pilot. Simultaneous enrollment of the same practice on the same acres is not allowed for any NRCS, state cost-share, or CSC program.

Conservation Crop Rotation (328) has a practice lifespan of one year according to NRCS. The practice requires a minimum of two different crops to be grown in rotation which will typically span more than one year. Also, there are standard crop rotations, for example corn and soybeans, that are widely adopted, and it is not the purpose of the pilot to incentivize standard crop rotations. To meet the previously stated intent, producers are eligible to enroll this practice in the Alliance pilot, for new implementation or enhancement of the existing crop rotation through the addition of a different conservation crop with planting of the selected crop during the Alliance contract year.

Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329) has a practice lifespan of one year according to NRCS. However, continuing implementation of no-till does not require a change of action on the part of the producer, and does not impose any additional costs. It seems unlikely that producers can enhance implementation of 329 to increase GHG mitigation. For producers who have already adopted no-till and want to enroll in the Alliance pilot, we require adding a practice, such as 340 or 590 to accrue additional GHG benefits.

Cover Crop (340) has a practice life of one year according to NRCS. Because 340 must be renewed annually, it is eligible for enrollment in the Alliance pilot regardless of previous adoption.

Residue and Tillage Management, Reduced Till (345) has a practice lifespan of one year according to NRCS. However, continued implementation of reduced-till does not require a change of action on the part of the producer, and does not impose any additional costs. It seems unlikely that producers can enhance 345 to increase GHG mitigation, although they could enroll for switching to 329. For producers who have already adopted reduced-till and want to enroll in the Alliance pilot, we require adding a practice, such as 340 or 590 to accrue additional GHG benefits.

Practice Worksheets

Combination of the NRCS Standard and the Implementation Requirement sheet

Encompasses the practice standard with “additional criteria” for soil health/organic matter for some practices

Complete the practice worksheet after enrollment, prior to implementation

Producer signs after implemented



MN
Ver. 1.0 – 05/28/2024

ALLIANCE PRACTICE WORKSHEET MINNESOTA

RESIDUE AND TILLAGE MANAGEMENT, NO TILL/STRIP TILL (329)

The conditions and specifications below are adapted from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Producers who are installing these practices under the Alliance will use the conditions and implementation guides below but are exempt from NRCS verification and certification. Completing the Purposes and Practice Specifications on this document is sufficient to self-verify practice installation and completion.

FARM INFO

Name	
County	
Alliance Contract Number	
Field Number(s)	
Tract Number(s)	
Practice Area	

PRACTICE: RESIDUE AND TILLAGE MANAGEMENT – NO TILL/STRIP TILL (329)

DEFINITION: Limiting soil disturbance to manage the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and plant residue on the soil surface year around.

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES: This practice applies to all cropland.

See <https://efofo.sc.gov.usda.gov/api/CPSF/ve/32978> to access the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard.

NOTE: *Residue and Tillage Management, No Till (329) has a practice lifespan of one year according to NRCS. However, continuing implementation of no-till does not require a change of action by the producer or impose additional costs. For producers who have already adopted no-till and want to enroll in the Alliance pilot, they have the option of adding a practice, such as 340 or 590, to accrue additional GHG benefits. Producers should apply under that practice.*

AT A MINIMUM, PRODUCERS WILL PROVIDE A RECORD OF THE FOLLOWING:

The specifications shall identify, as appropriate, the—

- Field number and acres.
- Purpose for applying the practice
- Planned crops.
- Amount of residue produced by each crop.
- All field operations or activities that affect the:

Practice Worksheets (continued)

Practices with Additional Criteria Added:

- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Residue and Tillage Management, No-Till/Strip Till (329)
- Cover Crops (340)
- Residue and Tillage Management, Conservation Till (345)

This will require the reporting the Soil Conditioning Index (SCI) and it must be a positive number. The SCI is determined using RUSLE2.

The STIR and SCI values are only needed for the year of implementation and not the full rotation.

We can utilize the Midwest Cover Crop seeding dates.

Practice Worksheets (continued)

Practice Name

Enter name, county, contract number, field and tract number, and acres

Standard definition

Conditions where practice applies

Link to standard

Note – this is where the “practices eligible” nuances are listed

Minimum documentation that will be needed

ALLIANCE PRACTICE WORKSHEET
MINNESOTA

CONSERVATION CROP ROTATION (328)

The conditions and specifications below are adapted from the Natural Resources Conservation Service. Producers who are installing these practices under the Alliance will use the conditions and implementation guides below but are exempt from NRCS verification and certification. Completing the Purposes and Practice Specifications on this document is sufficient to self-verify practice installation and completion.

FARM INFO

Name	
County	
Alliance Contract Number	
Field Number(s)	
Tract Number(s)	
Practice Area	

PRACTICE: CONSERVATION CROP ROTATION (328)

DEFINITION: A planned sequence of crops grown on the same ground over a period of time (i.e. the rotation cycle).

CONDITIONS WHERE PRACTICE APPLIES: This practice applies to all cropland where at least one annually-planted crop is included in the crop rotation.

See <https://efotg.sc.egov.usda.gov/#/state/MN/documents/section=4&folder=-43> to access the NRCS Conservation Practice Standard.

NOTE: Producers are eligible to enroll this practice in the Alliance pilot for new implementation or enhancement of the existing crop rotation through the addition of a different conservation crop with planting of the selected high residue crop during the Alliance contract year. High residue crops listed in Table 2 (listed below) are considered conservation crops for this practice.

AT A MINIMUM, PRODUCERS WILL PROVIDE A RECORD OF THE FOLLOWING:

- Field number and acres
- The sequence of crops to be grown,
- The crop types to be grown,
- Tillage type and times,
- The length of time each crop/crop type will be grown in the rotation, and
- Total length of rotation
- Soil conditioning Index (SCI) value of implementation year

Practice Worksheets (continued)

Sections for planned management

Operation and maintenance

PLANNED MANAGEMENT – CROP ROTATION

Field	Acres	Planned Crop	Substitute Crop	Additional Criteria

PLANNED MANAGEMENT – FIELD OPERATIONS

Field	Acres	Type of Tillage	Time of Tillage (month/year)	Crop

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

- Rotations shall provide for acceptable substitute crops in case of crop failure or shift in planting intentions for weather related or economic reasons. Acceptable substitutes are crops having similar properties that will accomplish the purpose of the original crop.
- Evaluate the rotation and the crop sequence to determine if the planned system is meeting the planned purposes.

Practice Worksheets (continued)

Producer self-certification, sign after implementation

PRODUCER SELF-CERTIFICATION

By signing below, I certify that I have reviewed all required documentation and have implemented the practice and met all criteria and requirements as defined in the Natural Resources Conservation Service **Cover Crop (340)** standard and specifications for the identified acres or animal units.

Further, I agree that:

- I am not currently receiving a payment for this conservation practice on these fields and acres from another USDA Conservation Program, another USDA Partnership for Climate-Smart Commodities grant partner, or a state cost-share program.
- I will retain all practice documentation to support this certification for up to 12 months following practice adoption and will provide this documentation to the Alliance if selected for a spot check. *(Up to 10% of enrolled Alliance participants will be randomly selected for spot checks).*

Participant Name: _____

Participant Signature: _____

Date: _____

Portal Overview

Online portal for producer application



[ABOUT THE ALLIANCE](#)

[ABOUT THE PARTNERS](#)

[ALLIANCE DASHBOARD](#)

- 1 PRIMARY APPLICANT INFORMATION
- 2 [FARM INFORMATION](#)
- 3 [EVALUATION TOOLS](#)
- 4 [TERMS AND CONDITIONS](#)
- 5 [APPLICATION SUPPORT](#)
- 6 [REVIEW APPLICATION](#)

PRIMARY APPLICANT

- [← Back To Instructions](#)
- [✔ Application Checklist](#)
- [✉ Contact The Alliance](#)

Primary Applicant Name

Payments must be issued to an individual. If you are applying on behalf of an entity, please enter the authorized representative name here.

First

Last

Primary Applicant Email

This must be a unique email address.

Primary Applicant Phone

We may contact you regarding your application. This will not be shared.

BWSR Website

Find program information at the BWSR Site:

- Program Overview
- Link to Alliance Site
- Map of Participating Counties
- FAQ
- Training Videos
- Background Documents
- Outreach Materials
- Practice Worksheets
- CPA-52's and Guidance

<https://bwsr.state.mn.us/alliance-climate-smart-agriculture-pilot>

This will be your one stop shop for Alliance documents and links. The VT Alliance site will also include links to the Producer Guide and Application Checklist

Questions