

Additional Criteria to Protect Water Resources

If the area is irrigated, the Irrigation Water Management standard shall be employed.

The number, sequence and timing of tillage operations shall be managed in conjunction with other sediment control tactics and practices, in order to minimize sediment losses to nearby surface water bodies.

CONSIDERATIONS

If commodity-specific IPM is not available, the following IPM principles should be considered:

- Prevention, such as using pest-free seeds and transplants, treated seed, cleaning tillage and harvesting equipment between fields, irrigation scheduling to avoid situations conducive to disease development, etc.
- Avoidance, such as using pest resistant varieties, crop rotation, trap crops, etc.
- Monitoring, such as pest scouting, soil testing, weather forecasting, disease risk models, degree day models, etc., to help target suppression strategies and avoid routine preventative pest control.
- Suppression, such as cultural, biological and chemical controls, that can reduce a pest population or its impacts. Chemical controls should be used judiciously in order to minimize environmental risk, human exposure, and pest resistance.

Adequate plant nutrients and soil moisture, including favorable pH and soil conditions, should be implemented to reduce plant stress, improve plant vigor and increase the plant's overall ability to tolerate and resist pests.

On irrigated land, irrigation water management should be designed to

minimize pest management environmental risk.

PLANS AND SPECIFICATIONS

The pest management component of a conservation plan shall be prepared in accordance with the criteria of this standard and shall describe the requirements for applying the practice to achieve its intended purpose(s).

As a minimum, the pest management component of a conservation plan shall include:

- Plan map and soil map of managed site, if applicable (use RMS plan maps if available).
- Location of sensitive resources and setbacks, if applicable (use RMS plan maps if available).
- Environmental risk analysis, with approved tools and/or procedures, for probable pest management recommendations by crop (if applicable) and pest.
- Interpretation of the environmental risk analysis and identification of appropriate mitigation techniques.
- Operation and maintenance requirements.

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE

The pest management component of a conservation plan shall include appropriate operation and maintenance items for the client. These may include:

- Review and update the plan periodically in order to incorporate new IPM technology, respond to cropping system and pest complex changes, and avoid the development of pest resistance.
- Maintain mitigation techniques identified in the plan in order to ensure continued effectiveness.

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