

**FPP02 - On-Farm Pilot Project**



**Enhancement Description**

On-Farm Pilots showcase conservation activities that have proven environmental benefits, but have not been widely adopted in the local farm community. Participants select and agree to install, monitor and promote conservation activities (practices, components or management techniques) that have been identified by the NRCS State Conservationist as addressing specific resource needs.

**Land Use Applicability**

Each approved pilot project will have a land use designated, e.g. Cropland, Pastureland, Rangeland and/or Forest land.

**Benefits**

Conservation activities can show promise in research but until they are proven in actual field use farmers may be reluctant to adopt them. Pilot projects will provide a mechanism to prove that a new conservation activity is viable in the project area. Publicizing the implementation of the conservation activity can help other farmers learn about new conservation techniques by observing their peers.

**Conditions Where Enhancement Applies**

This enhancement applies to all crop, pasture, range or forest land use acres.

**Criteria**

- Producers will select from a pre-approved list of pilot projects (if available).
- Pilots include practices, components, or management techniques that have shown environmental benefits but have not been adopted by farmers in the project area.
- The pilots must be implemented and monitored according to protocols developed specifically for the project.
- Protocols include:
  - Specifics of the practice, component or management technique being piloted
  - Acreage required to adequately conduct the pilot
  - How many years the pilot is to be conducted
  - What the participant is required to provide (materials, labor, maintenance etc.)
  - Type(s) of publicized events that will be used (field days, signage, winter meetings, etc.) to meet the minimum number of three (3) events. This activity will be scheduled once per year that an educational event takes place.



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- Data on the costs and performance must be collected for the demonstration project as specified for each individual pilot project. The data collection needs are available in a separate document.

### **Adoption Requirements**

This enhancement is considered adopted when the pre-approved pilot project has been implemented and monitored according protocols developed specifically for the project and events to publicize the project have been held.

### **Documentation Requirements**

- Documentation of the events held to publicize the project.
- Data collected for the project will include as directed by the individual states:
  - Practice cost, field operations conducted, etc.
  - Frequency of collection
  - Data collection forms

## **FPP02 – On Farm Pilot Project**

On-Farm Pilots showcase conservation activities that have proven environmental benefits, but have not been widely adopted in the local farm community.

Installing and adopting the following Conservation Stewardship Program enhancement is eligible to be showcased through the FPP02 enhancement:

WQL07 – Split Nitrogen Applications, 50% after Crop Emergence or Pasture Green Up

The intent of conducting the On Farm Pilot Project is to install and adopt the conservation activity identified above and to showcase the results to surrounding agricultural producers to stimulate interest in the adoption of the conservation activity and to promote producer enrollment into the Conservation Stewardship Program.

### **Criteria:**

The criteria and documentation requirements identified on the WQL07 Job Sheet shall be followed.

At least 3 field day events must be conducted to publicize and promote the installed and adopted conservation activity.

The participant must apply Split Nitrogen Applications on at least 50% of the applicable acres of cropland or pastureland.

CMT Scheduling Note: WQL07 will not be scheduled in CMT along with FPP02 due to enhancement duplication and payment duplication with FPP02. Refer to the Enhancement Compatibility matrix so that enhancements considered duplicative with WQL07 are not scheduled on the same acres as FPP02.