

2.1.12

CROP EXPENSE FUNDING

Lime, fertilizer and seed applications will only be eligible for Program funding if the application is directly linked to the control of an existing environmental risk. Crop expenses will not be eligible for Program funding when the sole objective of the application is to increase productivity. The following crop expense BMPs will only be planned and implemented in the following circumstances:

- A. Lime and fertilizer may be applied to implement a seeding BMP caused by a change in crop rotation. Lime applications are not to exceed 3 tons/acre except when a split application is recommended by the Planning Team (one time only).
- B. Lime may be applied to prescribed grazing systems when soil pH is below Cornell recommendation. Lime applications are not to exceed 3 tons/acre except when a split application is recommended by the Planning Team (one time only).
- C. Permanent sod may be established in a crop field or pasture exhibiting erosion.
- D. Cover crops are eligible for WAP BMP funding to support one or more of the following purposes:
 - Reduce erosion from wind and water
 - Maintain or increase soil health and organic matter content
 - Reduce water quality degradation by utilizing excessive soil nutrients
 - Suppress excessive weed pressures and break pest cycles
 - Improve soil moisture use efficiency
 - Minimize soil compactions

Cover crops will be eligible for payment at a rate not to exceed \$140 per acre. The per acre payment comprises the costs associated with the establishment and subsequent termination of the cover crop, which includes but is not limited to seed, fuel, labor, equipment use/rental, and herbicides. The rate will be evaluated on an annual basis.