



FY23 Agricultural Enhancement Program Bale Grazing Application



Applicant Information
Name:
Mailing Address:
Telephone:
Email Address:
Application Date:
What is your preferred method to receive written notification? Email/Letter
Do you own or lease the land associated with this application? Own/Lease
Do you have a financial interest in a farming entity with a WVCA employee working within Monongahela Conservation District? Yes/No
Are you a spouse or dependent family member of a WVCA employee? Yes/No
Do you have a financial interest in a farming entity with a Monongahela Conservation District Supervisor? Yes/No
Are you a spouse or dependent family member of a Monongahela Conservation District Supervisor? Yes/No

Farm Information
MONONGAHELA CONSERVATION DISTRICT
County Where Farm is Located:
Farm Name (Optional):
Farm #:
Tract #:
Field # or #'s:
Is the land associated with this application part of a farming operation? Yes/No
If yes, does the operation have the potential for producing \$1,000 in value from its products per year? Yes/No
What was the name and/or topic of the last conservation related educational event you attended? Name/topic of event:
Was the event attended prior to July 1, 2021? Yes/No
Are the fields associated with this application part of another cost-share program for bale grazing? Yes/No

Best Management Practice			
BMP	Limits	Cost-Share Rate	Materials Requested
Bale Grazing	Hay/Pasture Min. pH of <u>5.6</u> required. <i>(Temporary Fence, Posts, Chargers, and Hay Rings)</i>	50% <i>(cost of supplies)</i> up to \$750.00	<input type="checkbox"/> Hay Rings <input type="checkbox"/> Temporary Fencing Supplies

Program Eligibility

Definition:

Bale Grazing is a method of winter feeding in which you set up winter feed (*typically round bales*) out ahead of winter feeding when the soil is dry or frozen. During the winter-feeding season livestock will be controlled to have access only to the portion of feed they will require on a bi-weekly or more frequent basis.

Purpose:

Bale Grazing provides an alternative to traditional winter-feeding practices. Bale Grazing helps reduce soil erosion and compaction on a feeding area and field entrances. Bale Grazing also puts nutrients back in the field both from the hay left behind and livestock manure/urine deposition.

Policies for Program:

- Applicant must be a District Cooperator. *(a form is available upon request)*
- Cost share is available to landowner and/or farm operator *(lessee)*.

- Applicant is ineligible for a practice reimbursement if he/she starts project before District approval.
- No duplication of federal or state cost-share shall be allowed.
- Property must be used as a farming operation to be eligible for the program: having the potential for producing at least \$1000 of farm products annually.
- Cooperators are limited to 2 approved applications and \$7,000.00 of assistance per fiscal year (*July 2022-June 2023*).
- Application approvals will be made based upon availability of funds and a ranking process.

Policies for Practice:

- Soil fertility on planned bale grazing fields must be below High or Optimum nutrient levels on the most current soil test.
- Soil pH must be 5.6 or greater.
- Fields under contract must not create an additional resource concern by winter feeding.
 - Bale grazing proximity to water source (*stream, pond, swamp*) must be at least 35 feet. Livestock must be excluded from those areas.
 - For the practice of bale grazing, slope of the planned field will not exceed 25%.
 - Soil series with a subclass of *w (wetness)* should be avoided.

Practice Specifications:

- State Conservation Committee approved standards and specifications will be followed.
- Livestock access to hay bales will be controlled using temporary electric fence and hay rings.
- Approved materials that qualify for reimbursement are Temporary Fence Wire, Temporary Posts, Fence Chargers, and Hay Rings.
- The *Bale Grazing* area must be **set-up** and **functioning** by **December 2, 2022**

Reimbursement Process:

- The payment will be approved as: 1. Receipts are received; 2. Verification form is signed; 3. District approves the payment.
- All receipts and forms are due to the Monongahela Conservation District Office by **December 2, 2022** otherwise payments may be delayed or even denied.
- Requests for deadline extension when requested may be approved on a case-by-case basis. Deadline cannot extend beyond the end of the winter-feeding season.

Application deadline is **September 27, 2022 and must include the following:**

- Cooperator Agreement (*if applicable*)
- Signed Practice Application Form
- IRS W-9 form
- Farm map with individual fields and areas identified where the practice is proposed.
- A current (*sampled in the past 3 years*) soil test result from an accredited laboratory for each field. Results are due no later than 2 weeks after application deadline.
- Lease agreement, Producer Application Form, or USDA-FSA Annual Farm Report (*if applicable*).
- Application deadline may be extended upon Monongahela Conservation District approval.

By signing this I have read, understand, and agree to the terms and conditions stated in this document.

Applicants Signature: _____ **Date:** _____

Monongahela Conservation District
201 Scott Avenue
Morgantown, WV 26508

OFFICE USE ONLY:	
Date Received:	
Time Received:	

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Date Received:	
Time Received:	