

**FIELD BORDER
(CODE 386)**

DESCRIPTION

A border or strip of perennial vegetation established at the outside edge of a field where excessive sheet and rill erosion is occurring.

PURPOSE

To control erosion, replace cropped end rows, and provide turning or travel lanes for farm machinery at the edges of fields. The perennial vegetation will serve as a filter for runoff from crop fields, and protect and improve water quality.

CONDITION

Apply this practice on cropland at the edge of fields where needed to solve an erosion problem or to prevent sediment and other pollutants from reaching the waters of the state.

POLICIES

1. The cost-effectiveness must be shown to be \$40/ton of soil saved or less to be eligible for MACS funding. If the cost-effectiveness of the proposed BMP exceeds \$40/ton of soil saved, use the variable rate formula to determine the maximum amount of cost-share funds the applicant could receive from all funding sources.
2. Borders are to be a minimum of 25 feet wide along woods, and 10 feet wide along ditches, field roads, and fence lines. Borders are to be wide enough to turn equipment.
3. Consideration is to be given to the effects on the water budget, especially on volume and rates of runoff.
4. Cost-sharing *is authorized* for:
 - a. Grass and/or legume strips at the outside edge of a field along ditches, hedgerows, and field roads.
 - b. Lime, fertilizer, seed, and mulch as needed to establish the Field Border.
5. Cost-sharing *is not authorized* for cut-back borders which require the clearing of trees to establish the Field Border.
6. NRCS Standards and Specifications for Field Borders (Code 386) shall be followed when applying this practice.
7. This practice must be properly maintained for a minimum of ten (10) years. The applicant agrees to provide all equipment, labor and materials to meet this requirement.

COST-SHARE RATE

The State cost-share payment will not exceed 87.5% of the total eligible cost, not to exceed \$35,000 per project.

ATTACHMENTS

Applicant(s) with an outstanding Unsatisfactory On-Farm Status Review of BMP Maintenance and Use of previous project(s) may be ineligible for further MACS Cost-Share funding. When a previous project expires with outstanding unsatisfactory status, the applicant is ineligible for any future MACS funding.

The following items are needed:

1. A copy of a recorded deed(s) for the parcel(s) where the BMP is located. If the current, appropriate deed is already on file in the MACS Office, then record both the agreement number of the file where the deed is kept and the liber/folio numbers in the General Comments section of the application.
2. A copy of the Real Property Data Search page from the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation's website (www.dat.state.md.us) indicating the Maryland Property View Account ID Number and owner information.
3. An aerial photograph indicating the property lines as well as all existing and proposed BMPs. For sediment control practices, indicate the drainage area and the direction of flow.
4. A plan view sketch graphically demonstrating the layout and details of the proposed BMP.