

AG. WATER QUALITY ACT



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TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE

FUNDING ASSISTANCE

IMPORTANT CONSIDERATIONS

CONTOUR FARMING

CROPS BMP #4

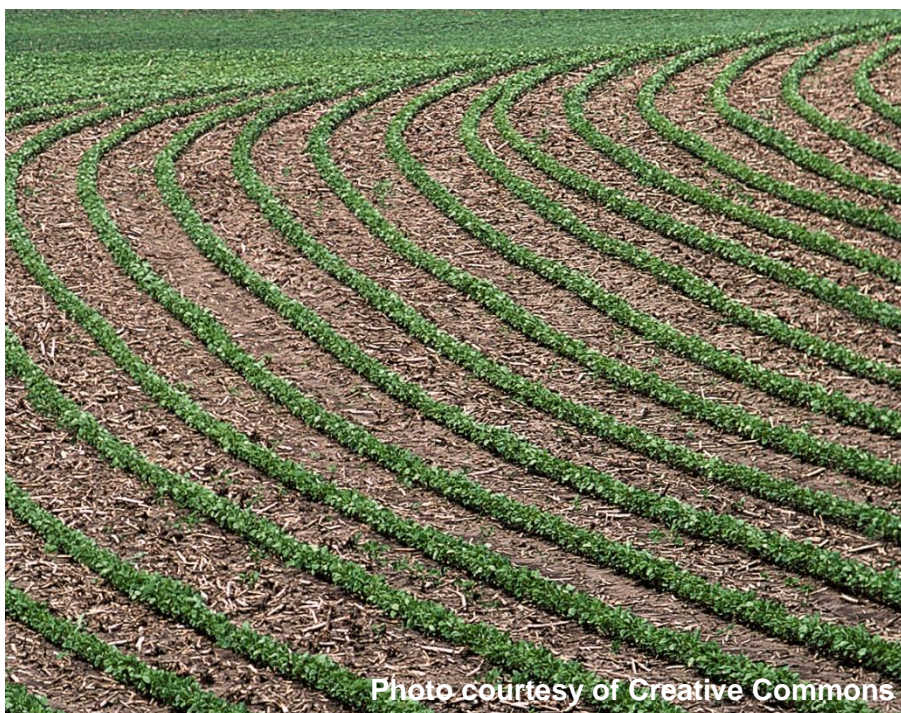


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Description:

Farming in such a way that all operations, such as plowing, land preparation, planting, cultivating, and harvesting are across the slope, rather than up and down the slope.

AWQA Minimum Requirements:

Perform all cropping operations across the most critical slope.

Recommendations:

Consider the size and operation of farm implements when planning the contour layout.

Consider the installation of a diversion or terrace system to intercept excess surface runoff and deliver the excess runoff to a stable outlet.

Consider terracing in extreme cropping situations.

Technical References

University Publications

- [University of Kentucky College of Agriculture Extension publications](#)

USDA/NRCS Publications

- [Practice Code 330 Contour Farming](#)
- [USDA/NRCS Field Office Technical Guide](#)

Funding Assistance Options

State Cost Share

- See your local Conservation District to [apply](#).

Kentucky Ag. Development Fund (KADB/KAFC)

- Select from available program options [here](#).

NRCS Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

- Select from available program options [here](#).

Important Considerations

Water Quality Benefit (☹-☹☹☹☹): ☹☹☹☹☹
(KEY: ☹=good, ☹☹☹☹☹=best: see [STEPL Model](#))

Wildlife Benefits

- Contact the Kentucky Department of Fish and Wildlife's [Habitat Improvement Program](#) on how to improve wildlife habitat with select BMPs (1-800-858-1549).