

# RESIDUE AND TILLAGE MANAGEMENT: NO-TILL



**Residue & Tillage Management- No-Till (USDA NRCS CPS 329)** is a 3-year practice that limits soil disturbance to manage the amount, orientation, and distribution of crop and plant residue on the soil surface year-around.

Part of California Farm Bureau's Healthy Soils Block Grant Program, learn more online at: [cbbf.com/HSP](https://cbbf.com/HSP)

## This practice aims to:

- Increase soil organic matter (SOM).
- Improve soil tilth.
- Conserves water use.
- Reduce soil erosion.
- Enhance carbon sequestration.
- Increase plant-available moisture.
- Reduce energy use.

## Criteria:

- This practice cannot overlap with filter strip, windbreak/shelterbelt establishment, hedgerow planting, and conservation cover practices.
- Do not burn residue.
- Uniformly distribute residues across the field. Removing residue in the seeding or transplanting area for planting is allowed.
- This practice involves only in-row soil disturbance during strip tillage, planting, and seed row/furrow closure.
- There's no full width soil disturbance from post-harvest or crop termination to the next crop's harvest or termination, regardless of tillage depth.
- The Soil Tillage Intensity Rating (STIR) will account for all operations between the harvest or termination of one crop and the next, including follow periods, with a maximum STIR value of 20.

## Implementation Guidelines:

### Convert Tillage to No-Till in Orchard:

- No tillage.
- All planting methods are no-till drill or broadcast if applicable.
- Residues are kept on soil surface and not burned or removed.
- A farming log recording all field activities.

## Appendix A: Standard Payment

No-till or strip till: \$32.96 per acre.

## Verification Requirements:

### Convert Tillage to No-Till in Orchard:

- 3-4 geotagged photos showing field operations, field floor and overview of the whole field at end of project year.
- A farming log.
- Verification at the end of the project year.