The Water Quality Information Center at the National Agricultural Library has developed a four-volume bibliography in support of the U.S. Department of Agriculture’s Conservation Effects Assessment Project (CEAP). CEAP is studying the environmental effects of conservation practices implemented through various U.S. Department of Agriculture conservation programs.

The bibliographies offer more than 2,700 citations with abstracts (when available). Entries include URLs when the documents are freely available online.

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**Environmental Effects of U.S. Department of Agriculture Conservation Programs**

A guide to the literature useful for assessing on-the-ground results of conservation programs from various environmental perspectives.

Provides an overview of various environmental outcomes resulting from landowner participation in USDA conservation programs.

Covers such programs as:

- The Conservation Reserve Program
- Environmental Quality Incentives Program
- Wetlands Reserve Program
- Wildlife Habitat Incentives Program

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**Implementing Agricultural Conservation Practices: Barriers and Incentives**

Lists the recent literature examining agricultural producers’ views of conservation programs and practices.

Examines the psychological and socioeconomic factors that influence agricultural producers’ behavior with regard to environmental issues.

Contributes to an understanding of the barriers to, and incentives for, conservation practices.

Helps foster development of conservation programs and practices that fit the needs of agricultural producers.

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**Data and Modeling for Environmental Credit Trading**

Helps people with an interest in environmental credit trading and agriculture become informed about the current state of data acquisition and the use of simulation models in this emerging field.

Presents recent literature on this new approach to environmental protection that uses market-based mechanisms to efficiently allocate emission or pollutant reductions among sources with different marginal control costs.

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**Agricultural Conservation Practices and Related Issues: Reviews of the State of the Art and Research Needs**

Helps those working in the area of agriculture and the environment to identify information resources they can use to design and implement productive agricultural systems that foster environmental protection and improvement.

Covers a range of conservation practices and environmental issues associated with agricultural landscapes.

Focuses on literature reviews, summary articles, white papers, and books—documents where information has already been combined and synthesized from many sources—rather than listing the many individual studies done on conservation practices.

Gives an overview of the current understanding of conservation practices, including the research needed to improve practices.

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**Sample Citation**

Consider offsite wind erosion benefits in the decision to implement soil conservation practices: An example using the Conservation Reserve Program.

Piper, S.

Applied Agricultural Research 5 (3): 153-158. maps. (Summer 1990)

NAL Call #:   S539.5.A77; ISSN: 0179-0374 [AAREEZ]

Descriptors:   wind erosion/ decision making/ soil conservation/ cost benefit analysis/ public expenditure/ social benefits/ program effectiveness/ United States/ offsite benefits/ onsite benefits

Abstract: Wind erosion in the western United States results in substantial offsite and onsite damages. These damages can be reduced by implementing soil conservation measures to decrease the level of wind erosion on agricultural land. Soil conservation decisions by farmers are based primarily on the amount of onsite benefits possible from erosion control. However, both onsite and offsite benefits must be considered in order to attain a socially desirable level of soil conservation. Estimates of the offsite and onsite benefits from the Conservation Reserve Program indicate that excluding offsite benefits from the soil conservation decision results in a substantially lower than socially desirable level of soil conservation.

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