FINAL DRAFT EQIP 595 PRACTICE GUIDELINES: Reduced-risk options to current methyl bromide use in fumigated fruits and vegetables

EQIP 2009 Cost list item: 595—Reduced Risk Alternative Fumigant to Methyl Bromide (maximum 15 acres per operation for FY 2009). *For FY 2009, this will be a single-year practice, and should only be included as a contract item once with a single payment.*

Name/EQIP Contract #:_____

General Description/Purpose of practice: Use of the fumigant methyl bromide has been shown to cause atmospheric ozone depletion, and it is also a biocide that has significant negative impacts on beneficial soil organisms that enhance soil quality. Alternative fumigants have been developed to mitigate the offsite impacts of methyl bromide to air and soil resources.

Applicant initials

Conditions for Practice Eligibility: To be eligible for this practice, producer must have utilized methyl bromide on fruit/vegetable cropping systems during the previous crop growing season.

Practice procedures and criteria:

- Practice will be implemented as part of a pest management plan that meets NRCS 595 Pest Management standard (recommend use of 595 Pest Management Job Sheet)
- Only approved chemical alternatives to methyl bromide can be used. Currently registered soil fumigant chemicals are listed on the EPA Soil Fumigant page: **http://www.epa.gov/pesticides/reregistration/soil_fumigants/.** Producers are strongly encouraged, as part of the pest management planning process, to consult qualified professionals to assist in selection of an appropriate alternative fumigant.
- Selected chemical alternatives must be used in accordance with label directions, restrictions, and precautions.
- Producers should be aware of pending EPA regulations on the requirement for inhalation risk mitigation measures where soil fumigants are utilized. More information on the approved final rule is available at: http://www.epa.gov/oppsrrd1/reregistration/soil_fumigants/
- Application rates for alternatives will be based on product recommendation for crop
- Selected alternatives, application rates, method of application, area treated, crop to be produced, and dates applied must be documented on the attached recordkeeping form or other similar document.
- This management system will be implemented and cost-shared on an ANNUAL basis, and is capped at 15 acres per operation for FY 2009.

595 EQIP RECORDKEEPING DOCUMENTATION
Alternative options to methyl bromide

Producer/Farm Name:_____

EQIP Contract No.:_____

Tract(s):_____

Field(s):_____

RECORDKEEPING FOR METHYL BROMIDE ALTERNATIVES

Chemical Alternative selected	*Area treated*	*Crop to be grown*	*Application rate*	*Date applied*

I certify that I have not used methyl bromide on areas specified for chemical alternative management in my EQIP contract, or on areas shown as receiving chemical treatment in the table above.

_____

Producer Signature **DATE**

I have determined that this practice has been implemented to meet NRCS 595 standards and specifications, and meets requirements set forth in these practice guidelines.

_____

Designated Conservationist **DATE**