



Agricultural Best Management Practices and Dust Complaint Response

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ARS 49-504. Limitations: Nothing in this article shall be construed so as to:

4. Prevent the normal farm cultural practices which cause dust



- Category I: Tillage, Harvest or Ground Operation
- Category II: Non-cropland and Commercial Farm Roads
- Category III: Cropland
- Category IV: Signification Agricultural Earth Moving Activities

Ag BMP General Permit for Maricopa Cropland



20__ Agricultural Best Management Practices General Permit Record Crop Operations – Serious PM10 Non-attainment Area

Name of Commercial Farm: _____
Name of Commercial Farmer: _____
Address of Commercial Farm: _____

Phone: _____
Email: _____

Complete Form annually by March 31st and retain on farm. Provide Form within two business days of notice to the Arizona Department of Environmental Quality only when requested.

Select Best Management Practices (BMP) as indicated by Category. Refer to the *Guide to Agricultural PM10 Best Management Practices* for BMP information and definitions.

CATEGORY I: Tillage, Harvest or Ground Operation

Select at least two of the following:

- Chemical Irrigation
- Combining Tractor Operations
- Equipment Modification
- Green Chop
- Integrated Pest Management
- Limited Harvest Activity
- Limited Tillage Activity
- Multi-year Crop
- Cessation of Night Tillage
- Planting Based on Soil Moisture
- Precision Farming
- Reduced Harvest Activity
- Reduced Tillage Activity
- Tillage Based on Soil Moisture
- Timing of Tillage Operation
- Transgenic Crops
- Transplanting
- Shuttle System/Larger Carrier
- Conservation Tillage

CATEGORY II: Non-cropland and Commercial Farm Roads

Select at least two of the following:

- Access Restriction
- Aggregate Cover
- Wind Barrier
- Critical Area Planting
- Organic Material Cover
- Reduce Vehicle Speed
- Synthetic Particulate Suppressant
- Track-out Control System
- Watering

CATEGORY III: Cropland

Select at least two of the following:

- Wind Barrier
- Cover Crop
- Cross-wind Ridges
- Chips/mulches
- Multi-year Crop
- Permanent Cover
- Stabilization of Soil Prior to Plant Emergence
- Residue Management
- Sequential Cropping
- Surface Roughening

CATEGORY IV: Significant Agricultural Earth Moving Activities

(Required only when moving a significant amount of ground. See *Guide to Agricultural PM10 Best Management Practices* for more information.)

Select at least two of the following:

- Apply Water Prior to Significant Agricultural Earth Moving Activities and/or Time to Coincide with Precipitation
- Apply Water during Significant Agricultural Earth Moving Activities
- Limit Significant Agricultural Earth Moving Activities on a Day Identified by the County Dust Control Forecast to be high risk for dust generation
- Conduct Significant Earth Moving Activities in a Manner to Reduce a Minimum of One Ground Operation by Using Equipment that is the Most Efficient Means of Moving the Soil

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Observed Dust

Acceptable dust conditions. The PM is visible but not obstructing roads or crossing neighboring properties.



Observed Dust

Acceptable dust conditions. Modified equipment generates dust but allows for less passes. This allows for a shorter period of time that dust is generated.



Dust Conditions



- Not necessarily a violation



Fallow Fields

“Fallow Field” means an area of land that is routinely cultivated, planted and harvested and is unplanted for one or more growing seasons or planting cycles, but is intended to be placed back in agricultural production.

– R18-2-610.01



Fallow Field Complaint Case Study



Fallow Field Complaint Case Study



Fallow Field Complaint Case Study

Before



After



San Simon Case Study

San Simon project. About 1300 acres of converted desert tilled to a depth of four feet. This caused wind-blown dust to obstruct vision on the I-10 forcing ADOT to reroute traffic. ADEQ undertook a project to stabilize the soil.



San Simon Case Study

Please contact us if you observe dust to prevent a potentially dangerous situation.



- Be mindful that farming practices are dusty but can be managed.
- In conclusion, if you are unsure about an agricultural activity, contact us and we will check it out.

Contact:

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