

# VERIFICATION LEAFY GREENS



## HOW TO USE THIS DOCUMENT

This document is designed to help Climate-Smart Grown in SC participants ensure they are completing all requirements for verification and receipt of incentive payments. This document can be downloaded and printed or used as an electronic PDF to keep track of important information as you implement Climate-Smart practices on your farm. This document is NOT a production guide; please refer to the production guidelines provided on the commodity resource pages on the [project website](#).

Under each Climate-Smart practice you will find boxes outlined in **RED**. **EVERY item within a RED box must be completed** for the practice to be **verified**. Once **ALL** enrolled practices have been **implemented and verified**, payments can be made.

- Once ALL items outlined within the red boxes are complete under the enrolled practice, contact your extension associate(s)**
- Associates will work with you to collect other required information and schedule a site visit when appropriate**

[Blue links](#) in this document can be clicked to view additional information and resources.

## RESOURCES FOR SUCCESS

Climate-Smart Participant Checklist (list of program requirements for farmers): [https://www.climatesmartsc.org/\\_pdf/pdf\\_cs-participant-checklist\\_revised\\_12\\_5\\_23.pdf](https://www.climatesmartsc.org/_pdf/pdf_cs-participant-checklist_revised_12_5_23.pdf)

Climate-Smart Grown in SC Leafy Greens Resource Web Page:  
<https://www.climatesmartsc.org/resources/leafy-greens-resources/default.aspx>

Extension Associate and Program Personnel Contact Information:  
<https://www.climatesmartsc.org/contact-us/default.aspx>

## VERIFICATION LEAFY GREENS



## IMPORTANT INFORMATION

Before Climate-Smart Grown in SC farmers can receive incentive payments, Extension associates are required to verify reported Climate-Smart practices on enrolled acreage. Production guidelines for LEAFY GREENS are based upon existing NRCS Conservation Practice Standards (CPS). [NRCS CPS documents](#) and production guidelines are posted on the [commodity resource pages](#) on the [project website](#).

Please maintain all the information requested here, save relevant receipts, and document your implementation progress with photos when possible. Stay in touch with your Extension associates while enrolled in Climate-Smart Grown in SC. Refer to your participation agreement to confirm which specific practices you are enrolled for on your acreage. If you have any questions, [contact](#) your Climate-Smart Extension associate.

Extension associates will be visually verifying reported Climate-Smart practices via scheduled site visits.

## PLEASE REVIEW BEFORE PROCEEDING

- Enrolled producers must plant approved leafy greens (kale, collards, turnips, and/or mustards) **at least once a year on enrolled acreage for every year enrolled in the program.**
- Once you have implemented an incentivized practice, please [contact](#) an Extension associate at the university you are enrolled with for confirmation and to plan a site visit for verification if needed.
- Complete all enrollment requirements in the [Participant Checklist](#).

# VERIFICATION LEAFY GREENS



## VERIFICATION OF: **COVER CROPS** ([NRCS CPS 340](#))

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### **TO RECEIVE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR COVER CROPS:**

- Select and plant single-species or multi-species [cover crop](#) on the enrolled acres at appropriate timing ahead of cash crop planting
- Grow [cover crops](#) to full maturity to optimize biomass production
- Terminate using one of the [approved methods](#) outlined in the Climate-Smart Leafy Greens production guidelines
- Leave cover crop residue on the soil surface after [termination](#)
- Maintain records (photos, notes, etc.) and [contact](#) your Extension associate(s) to answer any questions

### **MAINTAIN THE FOLLOWING COVER CROP INFORMATION FOR ENROLLED ACREAGE:**

- ❖ **Take photos of seed packages and cover crops upon emergence and maturity**
- ❖ Acres Planted \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Date(s) Planted \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Cover Crop Variety/Varieties (include individual species in mixes)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Seeding rate(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Seed source(s)/vendor(s) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Method of Planting \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Emergence Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Cover crop establishment (% of land covered) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Cover crop management method(s) (mowing, grazing, etc.)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Termination Date \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Termination Method \_\_\_\_\_

# VERIFICATION LEAFY GREENS



## VERIFICATION OF: **RESIDUE & TILLAGE MANAGEMENT,** **REDUCED TILL** ([NRCS CPS 345](#))

NAME \_\_\_\_\_

### TO RECEIVE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR RESIDUE & TILLAGE MANAGEMENT AND/OR REDUCED TILL:

- Limit soil disturbance and make tillage passes ONLY in planting rows using [approved tillage methods](#)
- Have cover crops or visible [cover crop residue](#) on the surface of untilled ground
- Maintain records (photos, notes, etc.) and [contact](#) your Extension associate(s) to answer any questions

### MAINTAIN THE FOLLOWING TILLAGE DOCUMENTATION FOR THE ENROLLED ACREAGE:

- ❖ Cash Crop(s) planted \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Cash Crop: Date of planting \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Cash Crop: Method of planting (transplant or direct seeded)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Type of reduced-tillage practice used (i.e., strip-till, seed row/ridge-till, vertical/mulch-till, no-till)  
\_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Width of tillage pass (inches) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Depth of tillage (inches) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Date completed \_\_\_\_\_

# VERIFICATION LEAFY GREENS



## VERIFICATION OF: **MULCHING** ([NRCS CPS 484](#))

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

### **TO RECEIVE INCENTIVE PAYMENTS FOR MULCHING:**

- Apply mulch to cash crop on enrolled acreage using only approved [types of mulch](#) outlined in the Climate-Smart Leafy Greens production guidelines
- Apply mulch to **all** beds on enrolled acres (only acres where mulch is applied will be eligible for payment)
- Apply mulch on beds alongside either a living mulch or terminated cover crops in alleys
- Use approved depths, where applicable, and application methods
- Maintain records (photos, notes, etc.) and [contact](#) your Extension associate(s) to answer any questions

### **MAINTAIN THE FOLLOWING MULCHING DOCUMENTATION FOR THE ENROLLED ACREAGE:**

- ❖ Cash Crop(s) planted \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Cash Crop: Date of planting \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Cash Crop: Method of planting (transplant or direct seeded) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Type of Mulch Applied \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Date Mulch Applied \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Depth of Mulch (if applicable) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Source of Mulch (vendor) \_\_\_\_\_
- ❖ Mulch Application Method \_\_\_\_\_

**VERIFICATION**  
**LEAFY GREENS**



**ADDITIONAL NOTES**

**NAME** \_\_\_\_\_

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**STATEMENT ON CROP FAILURE**

Climate-Smart Grown in SC is committed to providing incentives to participating South Carolina farmers implementing outlined practices under this project. In the event of a natural disaster and/or crop failure, participant documentation (receipts, photos, etc.) will be used to verify implementation of incentivized practices. As long as Climate-Smart guidelines were followed, participants afforded crops every opportunity grow successfully (appropriate variety selection, planting date, plant spacing, pest management, fertility), and appropriate documentation is provided, then incentives can still be disbursed. Any crop failure will be considered individually, with incentive payment dependent upon that crop’s circumstance and related documentation. Please [contact](#) your Extension associate(s) with any questions.