

## Frequently Asked Questions:

# 2025 LDC Cotton Value Chain Intervention Program – powered by Truterra

### PROGRAM OVERVIEW

#### **What is the 2025 LDC cotton value chain intervention program – powered by Truterra?**

The 2025 LDC cotton value chain intervention (VCI) program aims to connect eligible farmers who contract cotton bales with LDC. The program enables and incentivizes these farmers to adopt regenerative farming practices in their fields.

#### **What are the benefits for eligible farmers who participate in the program?**

Eligible farmers:

- May earn a per-acre incentive for new practice adoption in crop year 2025  
*Farmer incentives will be paid and communicated exclusively by LDC*
- Will receive a sustainability report
- Will be compiling a data set that could help them participate in future eco-market opportunities

#### **How many acres can a farmer enroll in this program?**

There is no enrollment cap per farmer. The total enrollment target for this program is 25,000 acres, which are available on a first-come, first-serve basis.

#### **What is the timeline for this program?**

The below dates are subject to change:

- This program is open for enrollment from December 4, 2024 – March 31, 2025 or until program enrollment cap has been met (whichever comes first).
- Verification (photo upload) deadline\*: there are two trigger dates for post-verification payments:
  - Farmers who complete verification by 4/15/2025 will be paid by 6/15/2025
    - All cover crop photos should be provided by 4/15/2025
  - Farmers who complete verification by 6/15/2025 will be paid by 8/15/2025
    - All tillage photos must be provided by 6/15/2025
- Farmer attestation deadline: TBD; process facilitated by LDC
- Data collection deadline: December 1, 2025
- Data validation deadline: December 31, 2025

- **Farmer payment:** paid directly by LDC. 50% of payment will be sent post-verification; 50% of payment will be sent post-attestation.
  - **Note:** farmers implementing the nitrogen reduction practice change will receive their full payment post-attestation.

\*Nitrogen management practice changes will be verified through data collection only and will receive one full payment after attestation is complete.

### **How long is the commitment?**

Farmers will contract for one year, meaning that they are committing their field to participate exclusively in this sustainability program for the 2025 crop year. This program has a 5-year reporting tail, which requires farmers to also report their management data annually for crop years 2026-2030.

### **Who will farmers report the data to during the 5-year reporting tail?**

As of now, farmers will report their data on an annual basis to Truterra until their contract requirements have been met. This process is subject to change.

### **Is a farmer who participates in this program eligible for other Truterra programs?**

Fields may be enrolled in this program plus a USDA-supported Truterra® program, or another publicly funded program. To enroll in another program, the field must also meet the eligibility requirements for that program. The same field may not be enrolled in another commercial sustainability program for crop year 2025.

### **Are farmers contracting with Truterra or LDC for this program?**

The farmers will be contracted directly with LDC. Truterra is facilitating enrollment and data collection in this program but will not take ownership of any carbon assets developed.

## **ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

### **How did farmers pre-qualify for this program?**

Farmers pre-qualified to participate in this program because of their direct supplier relationship with LDC for cotton.

### **What crops are eligible for the program?**

Cotton in crop year 2025. Only corn, soybeans, peanuts, cotton, and winter wheat are allowed in rotation. Cotton must be present at least once from 2019-2024.

### **What practice change is required to be eligible for payment?**

Farmers must adopt an eligible practice for the 2025 crop year. One of the following practices must be new to this field boundary in crop year 2025:

- Conversion to strip/no-till **OR**
- Cover crop adoption **OR**
- 10% total nitrogen application reduction compared to last cotton crop

**Can farmers get paid for adopting more than one of the eligible practices in CY2025?**

No, farmers will only be paid for one practice change. Farmers who adopted more than one practice will indicate via the practice verification process which practice they want to be paid for.

- **Example:** a farmer adopts cover crops in fall 2024 and converts to strip-till in spring of 2025. The farmer will need to indicate which practice they'd like to be paid for; they will not be paid for both practices.

**What are eligible nitrogen reduction practices for this program?**

Farmers must reduce their total average per acre nitrogen application by at least 10% as compared to the previous cotton crop on the enrolled field.

Example:

Cotton crop year	Total nitrogen applied	Eligible?
2025	90 lbs/acre	Yes, this field shows a 10% reduction in 2025 compared to the 2023 cotton crop.
2023	100 lbs/acre	

**How is strip/no-till defined for this program?**

Farmers implementing strip/no-till must follow NRCS conservation practice standard 329 for their state. Refer to the NRCS website for more information (<https://bit.ly/3BD0MP7>).

**Are there any restrictions on cover crop termination or harvest?**

Farmers implementing cover crops must follow NRCS conservation practice standard 340 for their state. Termination and/or harvest will be dictated by the published standard. Refer to the NRCS practices matrix for more information (<https://bit.ly/3Ni3vjr>).

**How much data is required?**

Eligible farmers must provide the following data for crop years 2019-2024:

Winter Crop (cover crop)	Tillage	Summer Crop (cash crop)	Fertilizer Applications
Crop type	Type (depth) of each pass	Crop type	Product & type
Planting date	Date of each pass	Planting date	Application date(s)
Harvest/termination date		Harvest/termination date	Rate (field average)
Yield (field average) if harvested		Yield (field average)	Total N, P, K applied
Termination method		Residue removal	Additives used

**Crop year 2025 requires the data points above, plus:**

Planted acres	Harvested acres	Difference between planted vs harvested acreage	Reason for acreage difference
Yield estimate if crop had not been irrigated	Tillage practices description	Irrigation usage data	Tile drainage information

Conservation practices	Post-harvest grain management	Lime fertilizer data	Nutrient management practices
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Additional data points collected may include conservation practices, pest management strategies, irrigation information, drainage information, and grazing headcount/duration.

**What does intervention verification entail?**

Intervention verification will be a two-part process. Farmers will submit photos of the no-till, strip-till, or cover crop practice in each enrolled field to their Greenpoint Ag representative. Truterra will work with Greenpoint Ag to facilitate a photo upload. Cover crop practice adoption will also require that the farmer reports species or type and planting date and rate information. More information on the photo upload process will be communicated at a later date. For nitrogen reduction practices a photo is not required and the practice will be verified via data collection.

**What does a farmer attestation entail?**

The attestation involves signing a document stating that the farmer has implemented the practice change and that they are not participating in any other commercial sustainability program for the 2025 crop year. Attestation is also a confirmation from the farmer that the information and data submitted is accurate & true.