

Conservation Practice Standard Overview

Multistory Cropping (379)

Multistory cropping is managing existing or planted stands of trees or shrubs with an understory of woody and/or non-woody plants grown for a variety of products.

Practice Information

Multistory cropping requires the development and implementation of a forest management plan that incorporates the growth, management and harvest of non-timber forest products (e.g., foliage, mushrooms, berries, roots, nuts, etc.) while maintaining the option to manage the timber crop as a long-term economic investment. This practice does not apply to land that is grazed.

Conservation benefits may include but are not limited to:

- improved soil quality from increased organic matter
- improved water quality from increased utilization and cycling of nutrients
- improved air quality from increased carbon storage in plant biomass and soil



Common Associated Practices

Multistory Cropping (379) is commonly applied with practices such as Forest Stand Improvement (666), Tree/Shrub Establishment (612), Tree/Shrub Pruning (660), Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490), and Access Control (472)

For further information, contact your local NRCS field office.