

Crop Rotation			
	- Column	+ Column	
Qualitative Benefits of the Practice	Cost of Implementation and Potential Income Loss	Potential Income Gain and Reduced/Avoided Costs	Your Judgment: Value Per Acre of This Practice on Your Land
<p>Lowers risk of disease, insect, and weed problems</p> <p>Improves soil structure and fertility</p> <p>Increases species diversity</p> <p>Spreads out workload</p> <p>Spreads out financial risk</p> <p>Reduces purchased synthetic fertilizer inputs</p> <p>The numbers in this table are broad estimates, and you should adjust them for your farm's conditions.</p>	<p>Cost of dealing with the complexity of a long crop rotation system: \$59/acre <i>(See Complexity Cost text box in this section)</i></p>	<p>\$6/acre/year average greater net return for 3-year rotation than for 2-year rotation (1)</p> <p>Plow-down value of alfalfa in providing nitrogen to the next cash crop: \$96/acre of alfalfa that will be followed by corn <i>(See Alfalfa Nitrogen Credit text box in Perennial Forage section)</i></p> <p>Plow-down value of alfalfa in providing nitrogen to the second-year cash crop: \$30/acre of corn or small grain in second year following alfalfa <i>(See Alfalfa Nitrogen Credit text box in Perennial Forage section)</i></p> <p>\$8.60/acre/year gain in fertilizer value of soil by saving 4.1 tons/acre/year from soil erosion; cumulative over years <i>(See Value of Saving Soil text box in this section)</i></p> <p>Benefit to society: approximately \$20/acre/year gain in water quality value of soil by saving 4.1 tons/acre/year of soil from erosion <i>(See Value of Saving Soil text box in this section)</i></p>	<p>Potential income gain and costs avoided: +</p> <p>Potential income loss and costs to pay: -</p> <p>Your judgment on value to your farm of qualitative benefits: +</p> <p>Value to society or environment: +</p> <p>Add up the total net value per acre per year:</p> <p>Multiply by a time frame (5 years? 10 years?)</p> <p>Total value over time:</p>