



Cropland Guidelines for Open Space

Special Valuation

For Bexar County

The typical farming operation in Bexar County is engaged in either row/broadcast or hay crop operations. Typically these operations are over twenty acres in size for the row/broadcast crops and over ten acres in size for the hay crops. In Southwest Bexar County there are a number of small truck vegetable farms ranging in sizes over three acres. Orchard/vineyard operations are also found in Bexar County. Cropland typically must show signs of weed and brush control. Typically crops also require fertilization and irrigation of the land in order to produce a crop. The following chart outlines the minimum requirements for each crop.

<i>CROPLAND MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS</i>				
Type Crop:	Minimum Acres:	Cultivation:	Fertilization:	Irrigation:
Corn	20	Annually	Yes	Dry or Irrg
Milo	20	Annually	Yes	Dry
Wheat	20	Annually	Yes	Dry
Peanut	20	Annually	Yes	Irrigated
Vegetable	3	Annually	Yes	Irrigated
Orchard Fruit	3	None	Yes	Irrigated
Orchard Pecan	3	None	Yes	Irrigated
Vineyard	3	None	Yes	Irrigated
Sudan	10	Annually	Yes	Dry or Irrg
Oats	10	Annually	Yes	Dry
Johnson Grass	10	Annually	No	Dry
Coastal Bermuda	10	One Time	Yes	Dry or Irrg
Klein Grass	10	One Time	Yes	Dry

NOTE! Expense receipts for cultivation, fertilization and irrigation may be presented as evidence that the operation is meeting the minimum requirements of the crop grown.

Orchard operations have some additional guidelines that they have to follow in order meet the intensity requirements. Orchards in the developing stage have tree spacing and tree per acre requirements, while mature orchards have tree size requirements. The following chart outlines those requirements.

<i>ORCHARD REQUIREMENTS</i>				
Stage of Growth:	Tree Spacing:	Tree/Acre:	Tree Size:	Growth Yr:
Development (pecan)	35 - 50 ft.	16 - 25	N/A	1ST - 7TH
Development (fruit)	10 ft.	30 - 50	N/A	1ST - 4TH
Mature (pecan)	35 - 50 ft.	16 - 25	15 - 20 ft.	8TH - 10TH
Mature (fruit-dwarf)	10 ft.	30 - 50	8 - 10 ft.	3RD - 4TH
Mature (fruit-standard)	10 ft.	30 - 50	15 - 20 ft.	5TH - 7TH