

2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus—

Steve Corazzas and his wife Maureen have a poultry farm in Townsend, Delaware. The sign at the entranceway to the broiler operation reads R.A.S.P. farm which stands for Rene (Maureen) And Steve Poultry. Their poultry operation consists of 112,000 broilers on approximately 60 acres of land, with only 18 acres of cropland available for manure application. The operation has a manure storage structure capable of storing a total manure clean out. With too few acres of cropland for proper manure disposal, Steve and Maureen have been looking for an alternative use for their manure. Acquiring additional cropland for manure application is not a viable alternative. Many of the farms in the area are small and are adjacent to large residential developments. Because of these factors landowners prefer not have manure spread on their fields. Using EQIP funds and funds from New Castle Conservation District cost-share program, Steve and Maureen have erected a bio-digester. The in-vessel digester can convert 80 cubic yards of raw litter into a high value product in seven days. The Corazzas' feel the EQIP program helped them address a potential pollution problem that they might not have been able to afford to correct on their own. The compost material generated from the bio-digester solves the land application problem and provides income. When marketed correctly, Steve and Maureen feel the economic decision to generate compost is equal to the income that could be generated from constructing additional chicken houses.

Delaware Summary

Overview

Delaware farmers continued their strong interest in EQIP during 2000 by requesting \$1,403,000 to develop 246 contracts. NRCS assisted landowners in developing 120 contracts which obligated \$692,000 of federal cost-share assistance. Nearly 90 percent of the funds address natural resource concerns related to livestock production.

Accomplishments

Two thousand was an active year for EQIP in Delaware. Approximately 100 farmers participated in the program, developing 5-year contracts providing for nutrient management on 6500 acres of cropland, construction of 27 manure storage facilities and installation of 17 livestock mortality composters.

Outlook

NRCS and its conservation partners are committed to meeting the Governor's goal of improved water quality while maintaining the profitability of the state's agricultural industry. Additional EQIP funding would provide more farmers needed financial incentives for environmental stewardship by implementing their conservation plans.

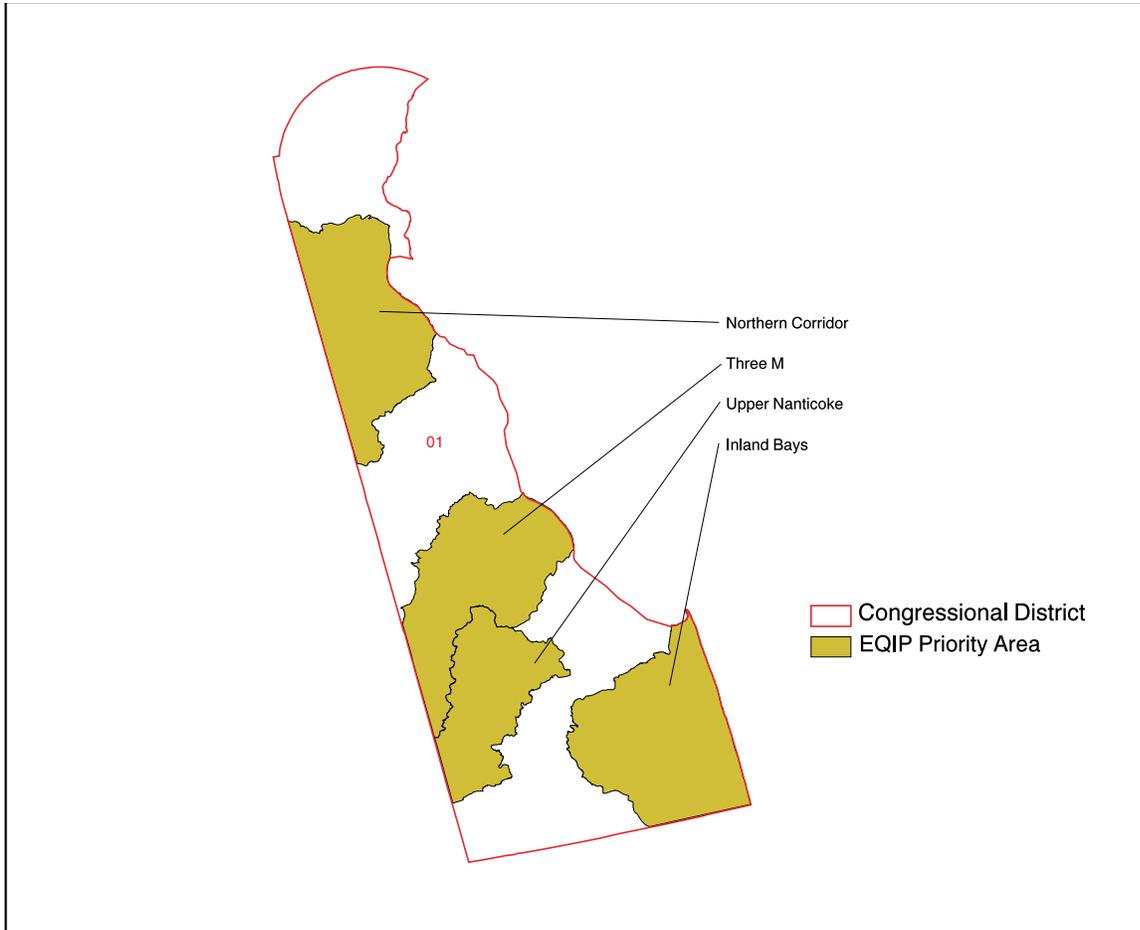
Delaware Contact

Lester Stillson, State Operations Manager, (302) 678-4162



*The Corazzas, New
Castle Delaware*

Delaware EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



Delaware EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2000		Cumulative Total (97-00)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 0	\$306,273	50	\$1,322,399	246
District 1	385,658	70	1,662,266	299
State Totals	\$691,931	120	\$2,984,665	545

Note: EQIP contracts for each Congressional District are estimated from Conservation Priority Areas which may include more than one district Congressional District 0 = EQIP Contracts for Statewide Natural Resource Concerns which can be in any Congressional District in the state.

Source: FSA Recordset type01, data through 4th quarter FY2000

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