

2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus—

Terrell and Kenny McPherson are a father and son team trying to stay on the family farm in southern Kentucky. They are milking 200 cows and have a dairy heifer development program to enhance their farm income. The dairy industry in Kentucky, because of low profits, is losing a dairy farmer at the rate of one per week, a trend that has been occurring for several years.

To survive during this time of low profitability, the McPhersons have increased their cow numbers. More cows mean greater danger of manure runoff getting into nearby streams and ground water. Terrell contacted the USDA Natural Resources Conservation Service for assistance in resolving their animal waste problems and discovered that their farm was within the boundary of the Barren River Lake EQIP Priority Area. This priority area was funded to help local farmers with their animal waste problems. With technical assistance provided by local NRCS personnel and financial incentives provided by EQIP, they were able to solve the problems associated with the livestock manure of over 600 head of dairy cattle.

The solution included constructing an animal waste holding pond, curbing all runoff areas, and developing an intensive nutrient management plan for their operation. This system will allow Terrell and Kenny to continue in the dairy business and sustain the environment at the same time.

Kentucky Summary

Overview

Since the first year of the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP), Kentucky has received far more applications for assistance than EQIP funding could address. In FY 2000, more than 1,100 applications requesting over \$9 million were received throughout Kentucky. NRCS assisted landowners and managers to develop 265 contracts, which obligated over \$2.1 million of Federal cost-share assistance.

Accomplishments

A vast array of natural resource concerns including water quality, animal waste, soil erosion, and wild-life habitat, are being addressed through EQIP. In 2000, EQIP contracts were written to implement many conservation practices including over 40 animal waste systems and more than 4,300 acres of waste utilization. Other notable practices include riparian buffers, field borders, streambank protection, native grass establishment, and alternative livestock water supply.

Outlook

EQIP will remain a popular program among Kentucky's landowners and managers, and future demand is expected to exceed the financial allocations that the State receives.

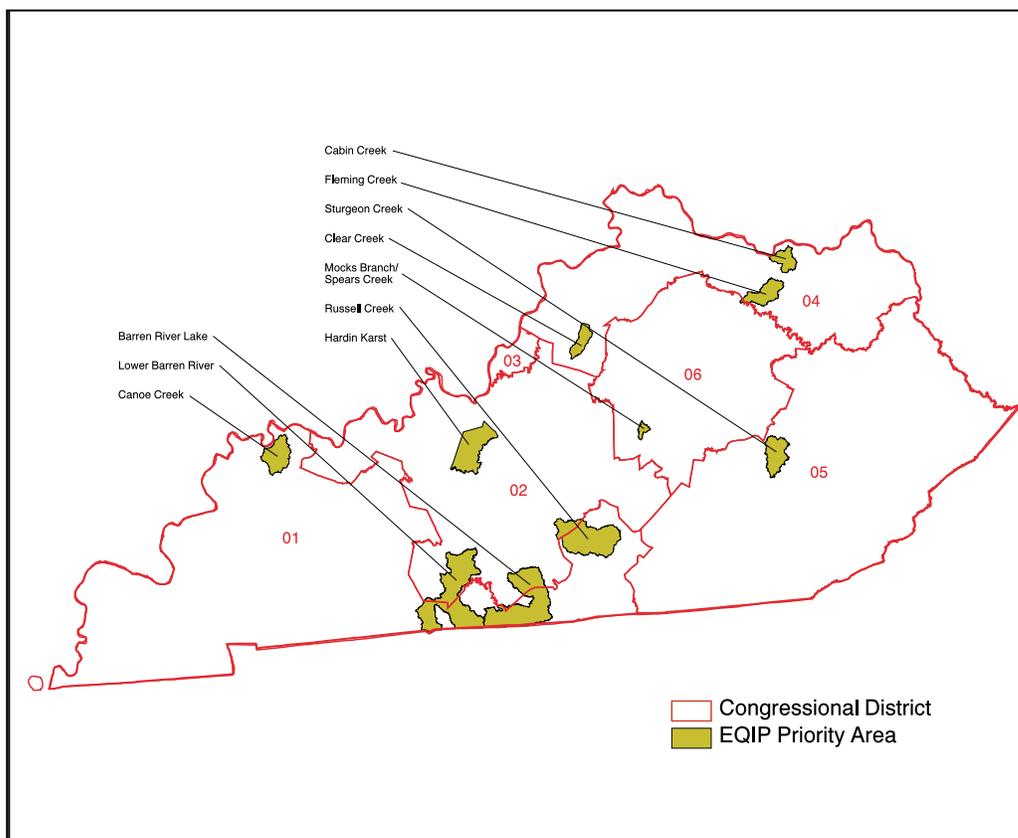
State Contact

Deena M. Wheby, Assistant State Conservationist, (859) 224-7350

Terrell McPherson used EQIP funding to solve problems associated with livestock manure on his dairy farm.



Kentucky EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



Kentucky 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	\$724,738	107	\$3,303,558	636
District 1	746,272	77	4,128,127	534
District 2	371,503	47	466,334	66
District 4	251,101	16	1,164,362	107
District 5	29,458	4	697,6217	3
District 6	5,094	2	149,862	22
State Totals	\$2,128,166	253	\$9,909,864	1,438

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

The U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) prohibits discrimination in all its programs and activities on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, religion, age, disability, political beliefs, sexual orientation, or marital or family status. (Not all prohibited bases apply to all programs.) Persons with disabilities who require alternative means for communication of program information (Braille, large print, audiotape, etc.) should contact USDA's TARGET Center at (202) 720-2600 (voice and TDD).

To file a complaint of discrimination, write USDA, Director, Office of Civil Rights, Room 326W, Whitten Building, 14th and Independence Avenue, SW, Washington, DC 20250-9410 or call (202) 720-5964 (voice and TDD). USDA is an equal opportunity provider and employer.