

# 2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



## Great Ash Farm: Robert and Kay Drown

The owners of Great Ash Farm, Robert and Kay Drown, recently completed part of a nutrient management project partially funded by EQIP dollars. The results will be a more efficient farm operation and a cleaner water supply for the City of Concord.

Prior to the project, the cows at Great Ash Farm were held in a small feedlot. This destroyed the vegetation and caused severe erosion. Part of the solution was to roof an existing concrete heavy-use area, direct animal traffic, and better control the barnyard and clean water on site.

Much of the work could be accomplished using EQIP funds and a 319 Nonpoint Source Pollution grant from the NH Department of Environmental Services. NRCS also provided the technical expertise and design services. The Drown family provided matching funds and the extensive labor the project required. The Merrimack County Conservation District and NRCS conservationists together coordinated the various components of the project and wrote grant applications.

The Drowns look forward to sharing their positive experience with others. "I'm very thankful for the funding we've received," said Robert. "We were able to pay our part in cash." "And, the best part of it is, we didn't have to borrow," added Kay.

## New Hampshire Summary

### Overview

New Hampshire has had an overwhelming interest in the Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) in 2001. Sixty-five landowners applications totaled over \$700,000 of needed conservation work. NRCS assisted 45 of these landowners in developing contracts for \$455,456 of federal cost-share assistance. Local Work Groups have continued to assess and document conservation needs allowing many of them to leverage funds from other sources, thereby stretching limited EQIP dollars.

### Accomplishments

This fiscal year has been an active one for EQIP in New Hampshire. The 65 landowners that have participated in the EQIP process have received conservation planning assistance to address agricultural and forestry non-point source pollution problems. This year, EQIP contributed to applying resource management systems (RMS) on 9,376 acres of cropland, nutrient management applied to 7,016 acres, and 56 waste management systems planned and installed. In addition, EQIP Educational Assistance Grants provided workshops for farmers on nutrient management.

### Outlook

Agricultural waste management continues to be a leading non-point source pollution issue in rural New Hampshire. Incentives to apply BMPs are always needed to reduce farm runoff and soil erosion on agricultural and forestland. Additional funding would help ensure a viable agricultural sector in the State, ease the overall demand for conservation practices on private lands, and provide needed financial incentives for environmental stewardship.

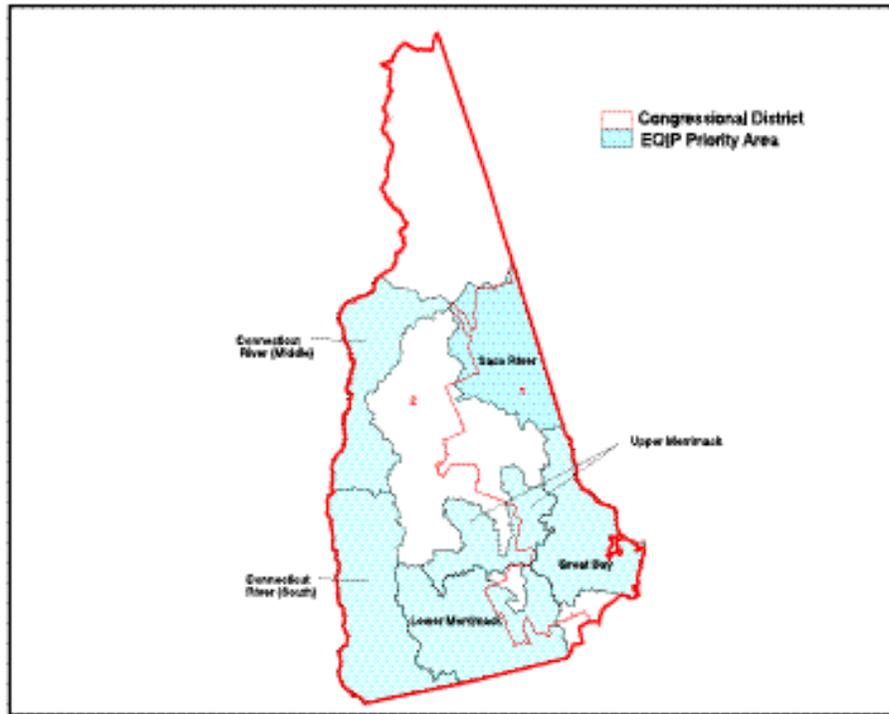
### State Contact

Richard Babcock  
State Conservationist  
(603) 868-7581 or [rbabcock@nh.usda.gov](mailto:rbabcock@nh.usda.gov)



Great Ash Farm's 200 head of dairy cattle now walk from barn to feedlot via a fenced lane (See story to the left).

## New Hampshire EQIP Dollars and Contracts



Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	25	\$144,470	110	\$682,715
District 2	20	\$310,986	161	\$1,469,756
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>45</b>	<b>\$455,456</b>	<b>271</b>	<b>\$2,152,471</b>

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