



United States  
Department of  
Agriculture

Natural  
Resources  
Conservation  
Service

January 2002

# 2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



## Customer Focus

Tony Dale Roberts of Henderson County, Tennessee has been involved in farming all his life. Although a brick mason by profession, Robert operates the family farm, along with another farm of 208 acres which he recently purchased. Located in western Tennessee where producing row crops is the predominant farming enterprise, Roberts decided to convert his farming operation from continuous row crops to pasture and hay production. He is making the transition with technical assistance from the Lexington Field Office of NRCS and has enrolled in the EQIP. His five year contract includes installing livestock water ponds and troughs, cross-fencing, heavy use areas, and establishment of 177 acres of cool season and warm season grasses and legumes. With the implementation of his plan, Roberts can more effectively practice rotational grazing, produce needed hay, and improve and protect the quality of soil, water, and related natural resources.

## Tennessee Summary

### Overview

During Fiscal Year 2001 Tennessee received 1,160 applications for EQIP assistance and funded 366 contracts. This includes contracts funded with Labor, Health, and Human Services (LHHS) funds. Approximately ninety (90) % of the funds were allocated during the first quarter signup and this significantly effected the application rate of other applicants during the remainder of the year. Tennessee had fifteen (15) conservation priority areas and three statewide natural resource concerns. Statewide natural resource concerns focused on water quality, soil erosion, and grazing land. Total funding available for contracts was approximately \$2.5 million.

### Accomplishments

With the enrollment of three hundred sixty-six (366) contracts in Fiscal Year 2001, Tennessee has a cumulative enrollment of two thousand one hundred fifty-four (2,154) contracts with an estimated cost share in contracts of approximately \$11.7 million. Tennessee has approved twenty-seven (27) conservation priority areas for funding since 1997. Conservation priority areas range in size from 20,000 acres to over one (1) million acres. Statewide natural resource concerns address water quality, agricultural waste management, soil sustainability, and grazing land improvement. Contracts in Tennessee currently average approximately five thousand four hundred (5,400) dollars. Priority conservation practices include agricultural waste management systems, filter strips, riparian buffers, prescribed grazing, nutrient management, grade stabilization structures, and terraces.

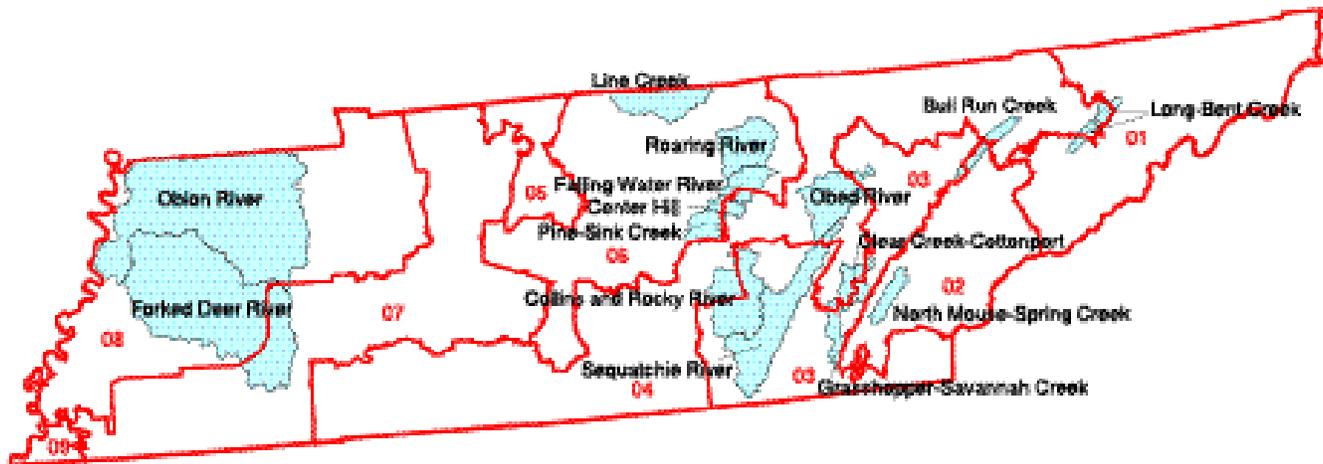
### Outlook

Landowners and operators are becoming more familiar with the "whole farm planning" concept and the use of long term contracts to meet conservation objectives and solve natural resource problems. EQIP is highly effectively in meeting the long term commitment of cost share funds to solve soil, water, and other related natural resource problems. Funding limitations have caused applicants to become frustrated after not being accepted into the program. The number of applicants declined in Fiscal Year 2001 as compared to previous years. This can be attributed to the inability to fund excellent applications due to the limited funding available.

### State Contact

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## Tennessee EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



## Tennessee EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional District

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 1	\$16,505	2		
District 2	\$224,448	25		
District 3	\$228,628	32		
District 4	\$586,393	97		
District 5	\$12,000	4		
District 6	\$503,975	92		
District 7	\$88,776	23		
District 8	\$760,105	91		
<b>State Totals</b>	<b>\$2,430,830</b>	<b>366</b>	<b>\$11,701,105</b>	<b>2,154</b>

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