



2001 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



Customer Focus

Dave Johnson of Highland Dairy in Washington County is participating in the FY 2001 USDA EQIP. Dave is using assistance from NRCS to construct a dairy waste storage and distribution system to handle all the waste produced by his 350-cow dairy. Dave drew on EQIP funds, state cost sharing and Fish & Wildlife Service funds to help cover the costs of a 1.2-acre storage pond, a 75,000-gallon collection basin, and a solids separator.

Dave's waste management plan covers both collection and utilization of the waste. The waste will be flushed from the barns into the collection box, where solids and liquids will be separated. Solids will be stored on a covered platform and directly applied to the land. Liquids will be piped to the pond, and then underground to crop fields, where a travel-ing big gun irrigation system will apply it to the land.

Water quality is important to Dave and wife Jo. "We do a lot of kayaking and we have seen good and bad streams. Today's regulations on farmers are chang-ing things that have been common practice for 150 years. You need quality people helping you, and we had excellent assistance from NRCS. You also need cost-sharing since a lot of farmers can't afford what's now required."

Virginia Summary

Overview

The Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP) was popular with Virginia farmers in FY 2001. The EQIP allocation of \$2,553,398 was broken into two categories: statewide concerns (\$784,483) and priority areas (\$1,768,915). Since EQIP began in 1997, 22 priority areas have been funded in Virginia.

Accomplishments

Statewide concerns:

- Applications received from 160 landowners
- 62 contracts were developed for a total cost of \$784,483
 - ❖ Grazing - 123 applications with 50 funded
 - ❖ Cropland - 4 applications with 4 funded
 - ❖ Animal waste - 33 applications with 17 funded

Priority areas:

- Five priority areas received funding
- 214 contracts were funded for a total cost of \$1,768,915
- Education assistance funds totaled \$12,020

Outlook

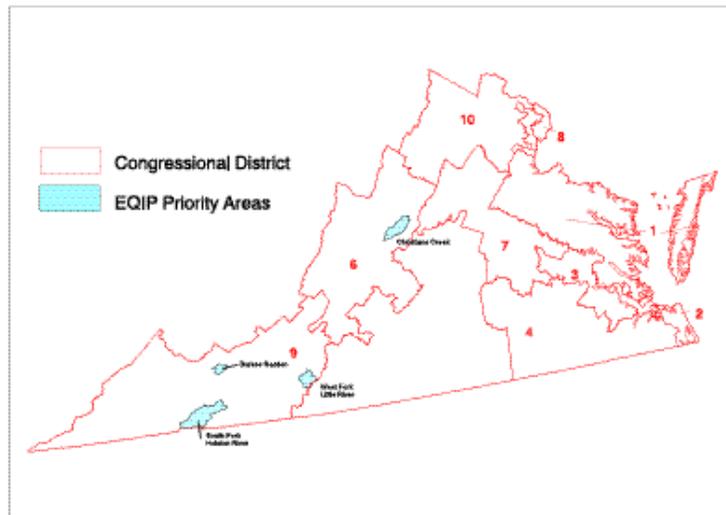
EQIP applications continue to exceed funding levels, especially for grazing and animal waste resource concerns. If animal waste regulations and the drought continue, requests will go even higher. Many good projects and contracts presently go unfunded in Virginia. Eight new priority areas have been submitted for FY 2002.

State Contact

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Dave Johnson (left) received the Holston River Soil & Water Conservation District's Clean Water Farm Award for his conservation efforts. Solids and liquids will be separated in the collection box (center). Since the manure pond is located in karst topography, a heavy synthetic liner was installed (right).

Virginia EQIP Priority Areas Within Congressional Districts



Virginia EQIP Dollars and Contracts by Congressional Districts

Congressional Districts	Fiscal Year 2001		Cumulative Total (97-01)	
	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts	Obligated Dollars	Number of Contracts
District 0	\$784,483	62	\$4,302,407	559
District 1	0	0	457,200	26
District 2	0	0	132,986	7
District 4	0	0	284,662	35
District 5	341,826	11	853,618	42
District 6	102,625	3	102,625	3
District 7	0	0	238,368	10
District 9	1,324,464	138	4,676,280	404
District 10	0	0	667,782	29
State Totals	\$2,553,398	214	\$11,715,928	1115

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.

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