Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2014 - FY14 Organic Transition

(Draft)

State Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the state priority category.	
	1	a Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Transition to Organic Plan (138)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	400
2		Soil Quality Degradation: Answer all questions that apply for a maximum of 45 points.	
	2	a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of two or more soil quality or enhancing practices that address soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter compaction, etc.?	45
	2	b EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of one soil quality or enhancing practice that addresses soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc.?	25
3		Soil Erosion: Maximum of 45 points	
	3	a Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations include practices that will result in reduction of erosion?	45
4		Water Quality Degradation: Answer all that apply for a maximum of 110 points	
	4	a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes 595 Integrated Pest Management?	45
	4	b EQIP Schedule of operations includes implementation of practices for the management of noxious and invasive species ONLY on "non-cropland" acreage?	20
	4	c EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practice 590 Nutrient management for management of soil fertility, plant nutrients, and soil amendments?	45
5		Degraded Plant Condition: Answer all that apply for a maximum of 90 points	
	5	a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practices that will result in creation of buffer zones that will mitigate offsite contaminates from entering farm?	30
	5	b EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practices with the intent of increasing habitat for pollinators and/or beneficial insects?	30
	5	c EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practice(s) that support Integrated Pest Management?	30
6		Insufficient Water: Answer all that apply for a maximum of 50 points	
	6	a Practices scheduled in the EQIP Schedule of Operations will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system?	25
	6	b EQIP Schedule of Operations will include practices that will improve irrigation water management and/or conserve soil moisture?	25

7		Livestock Production Limitation: Answer all that apply for a maximum of 60 points	
	7	a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practice 528 Prescribed Grazing AND/OR 512 Pasture & Hayland Planting for management of plant species, livestock, residues, feed, and other identified resource needs?	30
	7	b EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practices that limit and manage domestic livestock access to streams, creeks, and other natural water bodies?	20
	7	c EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practices to assure adequate domestic livestock drinking water sources (not to include streams) are available in the treatment unit?	10
		Maximum Points: 400 Total Points	825

Local Issues:

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		If the application is for the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answer "Yes" to the following question. Answering "Yes" to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the state priority category.	
	1	a. Is the program application for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP) for a TSP prepared Transition to Organic Plan (138)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No" , proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section	250
2		Water Quality Degradation - Answer all questions that apply.	
	1	a. Is the application within a watershed listed in "Iowa Section 303(d) Impaired Waters Listings" or one of the following water quality approved projects: Watershed Protection Program Fund (WSPF), Water Protection Fund (WPF), EPA 319 Project, Iowa Watershed Improvement Review Board (IWIRB) Fund, or Iowa Nutrient Reduction Strategy Priority Watersheds?	35
	2	b. EQIP plan includes practices that will manage excess surface water discharge from the treatment unit to an impaired water body (e.g., EPA 303d list, etc.) to FOTG quality criteria standards.	60
	3	c. EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practice 590 Nutrient Management for management of soil fertilility, plant nutrients, and soil amendments?	60
	4	d. EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practice 595 Integrated Pest Management?	60
3		Soil Quality Degradation - Answer all questions that apply.	
	1	a. EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of two or more soil quality or enhancing practices that address soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter compaction, etc.	35
		Maximum Points: 250 Total Points	500