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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2014 - EQIP 2014 Pasture/Hayland Beginning Farmer FA

(Draft)

Description:

EQIP 2014. This Ranking Tool is to be used when ranking 2014 EQIP Pasture/Hayland Beginning Farmer applications.

Land Uses:

Pasture

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 96.000
Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 70	Medium: 69 - 30	Low: 29 - 0
100-70	69-30	29-0

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000
Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 175	Medium: 174 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
250-175	174-100	99-0

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	250
2	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
2	b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	15
2	c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	5
3	a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	15
3	b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	10
3	c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5
4	a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
4	b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	15
4	c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	5
5	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15
5	b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	5

6	a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	15
6	b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	10
7	a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10
7	b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	10
7	c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	5
7	d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	10
7	e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	10
7	f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	5
8	a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15
8	b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP?	10
8	c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	10
9	a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	10
9	b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	5
9	c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	5
	Total Points	500

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 300 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
300-200	199-100	99-0

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	FY14 EQIP planned practice will be for the development of one of the following Conservation Activity Plans (CAP), to be developed by a Technical Service Provider (TSP): 110 – Grazing Management Plan, 104 - Nutrient Management Plan, or 114 - Integrated Pest Management Plan. NOTE: an FY14 EQIP applicant requesting financial assistance for BOTH a CAP AND CPS must be considered as separate applications and ranked accordingly.	300
	2	To address the resource concerns: Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, Does the FY14 EQIP application include practices to install a new, minimum 4-permanent paddocks per herd grazing system that will meet the Prescribed Grazing (528) CPS?	60
	3	To address the resource concerns: Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, Does the FY14 EQIP application include practices to (a) expand an existing, properly-managed grazing system by at least 3 permanent paddocks per herd OR (b) installing a new, minimum 8-permanent paddocks per herd grazing system, that (for applicable a or b) will meet the Prescribed Grazing (528) CPS?	60
	4	To address the resource concerns: Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, Does the FY14 EQIP application include structural practices that will meet the Prescribed Grazing (528 CPS AND provide at least 300 days of grazing pasture forage to the herd, as documented by the inventory & planning within the Graze4)?	60

	5	To address the resource concerns: Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, Does the FY14 EQIP application include Access Control (472) to exclude all livestock from any streams, wetlands, or sink holes?	60
	6	To address the resource concerns: Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Feed and Forage, does the FY14 EQIP application include Forage & Biomass Planting (512) to convert at least fifty percent (50%) of the annually-tilled/annually-planted commodity cropped land use acres [present on the tract(s) being offered in EQIP] to permanent herbaceous vegetation?	60
		Maximum Points: 300 Total Points	600

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 350 - 275	Medium: 274 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
350-275	274-100	99-0

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	FY14 EQIP planned practice will be for the development of one of the following Conservation Activity Plans (CAP), to be developed by a Technical Service Provider (TSP): 110 – Grazing Management Plan, OR 104 - Nutrient Management Plan, OR 114 - Integrated Pest Management Plan. NOTE: an FY14 EQIP applicant requesting financial assistance for BOTH a CAP AND CPS must be considered as separate applications and ranked accordingly.	350
	2	To address the resource concerns: Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, Does the FY14 EQIP application include practices to (a) expand an existing, properly-managed grazing system by at least 3 permanent paddocks per herd OR (b) installing a new, minimum 8-permanent paddocks per herd grazing system, that (for applicable a or b) will meet the Prescribed Grazing (528) CPS?	88
	3	To address the resource concerns: Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, Does the FY14 EQIP application include structural practices that will meet the Prescribed Grazing (528 CPS AND provide at least 300 days of grazing pasture forage to the herd, as documented by the inventory & planning within the Graze4)?	88
	4	To address the resource concerns: Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health, Does the FY14 EQIP application include Access Control (472) to exclude all livestock from any streams, wetlands, or sink holes?	87
	5	To address the resource concerns: Livestock Production Limitation - Inadequate Feed and Forage, does the FY14 EQIP application include Forage & Biomass Planting (512) to convert at least fifty percent (50%) of the annually-tilled/annually-planted commodity cropped land use acres [present on the tract(s) being offered in EQIP] to permanent herbaceous vegetation?	87
		Maximum Points: 350 Total Points	700

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Air Quality Impacts: Objectionable Odors

- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Degraded Plant Condition: Excessive Plant Pest Pressure
- Brush Management (314)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)

Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health
- Access Control (472)
- Grazing Management Plan - Written (110)
- Prescribed Burning (338)
- Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Pumping Plant (533)
- Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490)

Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation
- Firebreak (394)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter
- Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)
- Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)
- Pollinator Habitat Plan - Written (146)
- Shallow Water Management (646)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Feed and Forage
- Fence (382)
- Forage & Biomass Planting (512)

Livestock Production Limitation: Inadequate Water
- Livestock Pipeline (516)
- Pond (378)
- Spring Development (574)
- Water Well (642)
- Watering Facility (614)

Soil Erosion: Classic Gully Erosion
- Diversion (362)
- Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Underground Outlet (620)
- Vertical Drain (630)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Mulching (484)

Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion
- Cover Crop (340)

Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Field Border (386)
- Stream Crossing (578)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater
- Well Decommissioning (351)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Nutrient Management Plan - Written (104)

Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Surface Water
- Integrated Pest Management (595)
- Integrated Pest Management Plan - Writte (114)

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