

## Ranking Tool Summary

### for FY2012 – EQIP Organic Initiative

#### State Questions:

| Sub-heading Number | Question Number | Question  | Points |
|--------------------|-----------------|---|--------|
| 1                  |                 | Soil Quality Degradations -Organic Matter Depletion. Answer 1 question for maximum of 45 points.  |        |
|                    | 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., to FOTG quality criteria standards.   | 45     |
|                    | 1               | 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., to FOTG quality criteria standards.          | 25     |
| 2                  |                 | Soil Erosion Resource Issues. Answer 1 question for maximum of 45 points.   |        |
|                    | 2               | a Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practices that will result in reduction of erosion to FOTG quality criteria standards?  | 45     |
| 3                  |                 | Water Quality Resource Issues. Maximum points 110.  |        |
|                    | 3               | a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes 595 Integrated Pest Management which meets FOTG quality criteria.  | 45     |
|                    | 3               | b EQIP Schedule of operations includes implementation of practices for management of noxious and invasive species ONLY on “non-cropland” acreage only to FOTG quality criteria.   | 20     |
|                    | 3               | c EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practice 590 Nutrient Management to FOTG quality criteria for management of soil fertility, plant nutrients, and soil amendments.  | 45     |
| 4                  |                 | Plant Condition Resource Issues. Answer all that apply for Maximum points 90.   |        |
|                    | 4               | a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practices that will result in creation of buffer zones that will mitigate offsite contaminates from entering farm.   | 30     |
|                    | 4               | b EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practices with the intent of increasing habitat for pollinators and/or beneficial insects.   | 30     |
|                    | 4               | c EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practice(s) that support Integrated Pest Management.   | 30     |
| 5                  |                 | Water Conservation . Answer all that apply for Maximum points 50.   |        |
|                    | 5               | a Practices scheduled in the EQIP Schedule of Operations will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system.  | 25     |
|                    | 5               | b EQIP Schedule of Operations will include practices that will improve irrigation water management and/or conserve soil moisture.   | 25     |
| 6                  |                 | Domestic Animal Resource Issues; answer all that apply for Maximum points 50.   |        |
|                    | 6               | a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practice 528 Prescribed Grazing to FOTG quality criteria standards for management of plant species, livestock, residues, feed, and other identified resource needs.            | 30     |
|                    | 6               | b EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of practices that limit and manage domestic livestock access to streams, creeks, and other natural water bodies to FOTG quality criteria standards.                               | 20     |
|                    | 6               | 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 and meets FOTG quality criteria standards. | 10     |
|                    |                 | Maximum Points:      Total Points   | 425    |

**Local Questions:**

| Sub-heading Number | Question Number | Question   | Points |
|--------------------|-----------------|--|--------|
| 1                  |                 | Practice Implementation to Support Organic   |        |
|                    | 1               | EQIP plan schedule of operations provides for implementation of all funded practices within 2 years or less. (Can only answer Yes to one of questions 1.1 - 1.2)                               | 90     |
|                    | 2               | EQIP plan schedule of operations provides for implementation of all funded practices within 3 years or less. (Can only answer Yes to one of questions 1.1 - 1.2)                               | 45     |
| 2                  |                 | Soil Erosion Resource Issues   |        |
|                    | 1               | 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. | 90     |
| 3                  |                 | CONTRACT HISTORY   |        |
|                    | 1               | Do any of the applicants of this application have an existing EQIP contract that is behind schedule (this includes any contracts that have been modified to extend the schedule)?              | -50    |
| 4                  |                 | Outreach and Advocacy  |        |
|                    | 1               | Is participant a Historically Underserved Producer?  | 70     |
|                    |                 | Maximum Points: 250    Total Points  | 245    |