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## Ranking Tool Summary for FY2011 - Organic Certified (Released 12/13/2010 )

### Description:

### Land Uses:

Crop, Hay, Headquarters, Pasture

### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 100.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 75	Medium: 74 - 50	Low: 49 - 0
The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the high point score range	The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the medium point score range	The conservation practices that will be established in the proposed contract are in the low point score range

### Optional Notes:

### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 175	Medium: 174 - 90	Low: 89 - 0
The application is in the high point score range for addressing national priorities	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing national priorities	The application is in the low point score range for addressing national priorities

### Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
1	b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	10
1	c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	5
2	a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas ( <a href="http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html">http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html</a> )?	15
2	b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	10
2	c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5
3	a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15
3	b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	15
3	c. Increase carbon sequestration?	5
4	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15
5	a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as	15

	identified in a State wildlife plan?	
5	b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	15
6	a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	10
6	b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	10
6	c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	10
6	d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	5
6	e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	5
7	a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15
7	b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	10
7	c. Assist in producing energy from renewable resources (solar, wind, biofuel, etc)?	10
8	a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	10
8	b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	10
9	a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	5
9	b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	5
9	c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	5
	Total Points	250

**State Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 400 - 300	Medium: 299 - 200	Low: 199 - 0
The application is in the high point score range for addressing state resource concerns	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing state resource concerns	The application is in the low point score range for addressing state resource concerns

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Practice Implementation to Support Organic (maximum of 50 points, only one selection allowed)	
	1	Practice schedule provides for implementation of all funded practices within two years or less.	50
	2	Practice schedule provides for implementation of all funded practices within three years or less.	30
2		Soil Resource Issues (maximum of 85 points)	
	1	EQIP plan includes implementation of two or more soil building/enhancing practices that address soil tith, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc., to FOTG quality criteria standards. These practices are: 317, 328, 340, and 633.	75
	2	EQIP plan includes implementation of one soil building/enhancing practices that address soil tith, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc., to FOTG quality criteria standards. These practices are: 317, 328, 340, and 633.	50
	3	Soil Condition: EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 590 Nutrient Management to FOTG quality criteria for management of soil fertility, plant nutrients, and soil amendments.	10
3		Soil Erosion Resource Issues:	

	1	EQIP plan includes practices that will result in measurable reduction of erosion from all sources or participant has already addressed all erosion problems to FOTG quality criteria standards. These practices are: 329, 330, 332, 340, 342, 345, 410, 412, 468, 561, 575, 585, & 600.	40
4		Water Quality Resource Issues:	
	1	EQIP plan includes practices that will result in reduction of non point source pollution, such as nutrients, pesticides, and sediment, leaving the treatment unit to FOTG quality criteria standards. These practices are: 350, 390, 391, 393, 472, 527, 558, 574, 578, 633 & 638	40
	2	EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 595 Pest Management and an IPM plan to FOTG quality criteria for management of pests and noxious and invasive species to FOTG quality criteria standards.	15
	3	EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 633 Waste Utilization to manage domestic livestock manure to FOTG quality criteria standards to protect surface and groundwater resources.	15
5		Plant Condition Resource Issues:	
	1	Plant Condition: EQIP plan includes practices that will result in management of vegetation and surface residues to FOTG quality criteria standards. These practices include: 314, 380, 382, 511, 512, 528 & 595	30
6		Domestic Animal Resource Issues:	
	1	EQIP plan includes implementation of practices that limit and manage domestic livestock access to streams, creeks, and other natural water bodies to FOTG quality criteria standards. These practices include: 472 & 578	50
	2	EQIP plan includes implementation of practices to assure adequate clean off-stream domestic livestock drinking water sources are available in the treatment unit and meets FOTG quality criteria standards. These practices include: 516, 533, 574, 614, 642	30
	3	EQIP plan 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.	25
	4	EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 511 Forage Harvest Management to address National Organic Program requirements for management of feed supplements and forage supplies.	10
7		Fish and Wildlife Resource Issues:	
	1	EQIP plan includes implementation of conservation practices that include pollinator plant species for organic production systems (e.g., filter and buffer strips, hedge rows, windbreaks, etc.). These practices include: 386, 390, 422, 612	30
	2	EQIP plan includes implementation of practices that include pollinator-friendly plant species in the crop rotation system. These practices include: 327 & 340 (annual practices)	20
		Maximum Points:	Total Points
			520

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
The application is in the high point score range for addressing local resource concerns	The application is in the medium point score range for addressing local resource concerns	The application is in the low point score range for addressing local resource concerns

Questions:

Sub-heading	Question	Question	Points
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Number	Number		
1		Impaired Watershed Improvement	
	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.	50
2		Local Food Systems	
	2	EQIP plan includes installation of a High Tunnel.	20
		Maximum Points:	Total Points
			70

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

- Domestic Animals: Inadequate Quantities and Quality of Feed and Forage
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Domestic Animals: Inadequate Shelter
  - Livestock Shade Structure (717)
- Domestic Animals: Inadequate Stock Water
  - Pipeline (516)
  - Pumping Plant (533)
  - Spring Development (574)
  - Water Well (642)
  - Watering Facility (614)
- Domestic Animals: Stress and Mortality
  - Livestock Shade Structure (717)
  - Pipeline (516)
  - Pumping Plant (533)
  - Spring Development (574)
  - Water Well (642)
  - Watering Facility (614)
- Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Cover/Shelter
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Fish and Wildlife: Inadequate Food
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Plant Condition: Forage Quality and Palatability
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Fence (382)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Plant Condition: Noxious and Invasive Plants
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Fence (382)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Fence (382)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Pest Management (595)

- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops (798)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Soil Condition: Compaction
  - Cover Crop (340)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Animal Waste and Other Organics - N
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Cover Crop (340)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Animal Waste and Other Organics - P
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Cover Crop (340)
- Soil Condition: Organic Matter Depletion
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Waste Utilization (633)
- Soil Erosion: Classic Gully
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Diversion (362)
  - Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
  - Grassed Waterway (412)
  - Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
  - Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully
  - Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Diversion (362)
  - Grassed Waterway (412)
  - Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
  - Lined Waterway or Outlet (468)
  - Stripcropping (585)
  - Terrace (600)
  - Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill
  - Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (332)
  - Contour Farming (330)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Diversion (362)
  - Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
  - Stripcropping (585)
  - Terrace (600)
- Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater
  - Access Control (472)
  - Animal Mortality Facility (316)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment (527)
  - Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (632)
  - Vegetated Treatment Area (635)
  - Waste Storage Facility (313)
  - Waste Utilization (633)
- Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water
  - Access Control (472)
  - Animal Mortality Facility (316)
  - Filter Strip (393)

- Nutrient Management (590)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment (527)
- Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (632)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Vegetated Treatment Area (635)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Utilization (633)

Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water

- Access Control (472)
- Access Road (560)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment (527)
- Spring Development (574)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Vegetated Treatment Area (635)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Groundwater

- Access Control (472)
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Sinkhole and Sinkhole Area Treatment (527)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)
- Waste Utilization (633)

Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Surface Water

- Access Control (472)
- Animal Mortality Facility (316)
- Filter Strip (393)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
- Roof Runoff Structure (558)
- Sediment Basin (350)
- Solid/Liquid Waste Separation Facility (632)
- Spring Development (574)
- Stream Crossing (578)
- Vegetated Treatment Area (635)
- Waste Storage Facility (313)

Water Quality: Harmful Temperatures of Surface Water

- Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
- Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)