

## Ranking Categories – ORGANIC-TRANSITION and ORGANIC-CERTIFIED

### Primary Resource Concerns –

- **Domestic Animals – Inadequate Stock Water**
- **Fish and Wildlife – Threatened and Endangered Species, Declining Species, Species of Concern (Arkansas Darter, Arkansas River Shiner, Bald Eagle, Eastern Spotted Skunk, Greater Prairie Chicken, Lesser Prairie Chicken, Neosho Madtom, Neosho Mucket Mussel, Northern Bobwhite Quail, Topeka Shiner)**
- **Plant Condition – Productivity, Health, Vigor (Cropland, Forestland, Rangeland, Pastureland, Hayland)**
- **Plant Condition – Noxious, Invasive Plants**
- **Soil Condition – Organic Matter Depletion**
- **Soil Erosion – Streambank**
- **Water Quality – Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater**
- **Water Quality – Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water**
- **Water Quality – Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Groundwater**
- **Water Quality – Harmful Levels of Pesticides in Surface Water**
- **Water Quality – Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water**

### Eligible Land Uses –

- **Crop, Forest, Grazed Range, Hay, Headquarters, Pasture**

### State Issues –

Practice Implementation to Support Organic – If applicable, answer ONE of the following two questions. If neither apply, leave the answers “NO”.

- (1a) EQIP plan schedule of operations provides for implementation of all funded practices within two years or less. (30 points)
- (1b) EQIP plan schedule of operations provides for implementation of all funded practices within three years or less. (15 points)

Fish and Wildlife Resource Issues – Answer EACH of the following two questions.

- (2) EQIP plan includes implementation of practices which include pollinator friendly plant species in the crop rotation system. (20 points)
- (3) EQIP plan includes implementation of conservation practices which include pollinator plant species for organic production systems (e.g., filter and buffer strips, hedge rows, windbreaks, etc.) (10 points)

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### Local Issues –

Soil Resource Issues – If applicable, answer ONE of the following two questions. If neither apply, leave the answers “NO”:

- (1a) EQIP plan includes implementation of two or more soil building/enhancing practices that address soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc., to eFOTG quality criteria standards. (15 points)
- (1b) EQIP plan includes implementation of one soil building/enhancing practices that address soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc., to eFOTG quality criteria standards. (5 points)

Soil Resource Issues – Answer the following question.

- (2) Soil Condition: EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 590, Nutrient Management, to eFOTG quality criteria for management of soil fertility, plant nutrients, and soil amendments. (15 points)

Soil Erosion Resource Issues – Answer the following question.

- (3) EQIP plan includes practices which will result in measurable reduction of erosion from all sources OR participant has already addressed all erosion problems to eFOTG quality criteria standards. (30 points)

Water Quality Resource Issues – Answer EACH of the following three questions.

- (4) EQIP plan includes practices that will result in reduction of nonpoint source pollution, such as nutrients, pesticides, and sediment, leaving the treatment unit to eFOTG quality criteria standards. (10 points)
- (5) 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 eFOTG quality criteria standards. (10 points)
- (6) EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 595, Pest Management, and an IPM plan to eFOTG quality criteria for management of pests and noxious and invasive species to eFOTG quality criteria standards. (5 points)
- (7) EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 633, Waste Utilization, to manage domestic livestock manure to eFOTG quality criteria standards to protect surface and groundwater resources. (5 points)

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Plant Condition Resource Issues – Answer the following question.

- (8) Plant Condition: EQIP plan includes practices which will result in management of vegetation and surface residues to eFOTG quality criteria standards. (30 points)

Domestic Animal Resource Issues – Answer EACH of the following five questions..

- (9) EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 511, Forage Harvest Management, to address NOP requirements for management of feed supplements and forage supplies. (5 points)
- (10) EQIP plan includes implementation of practice 528, Prescribed Grazing, to eFOTG quality criteria standards for management of plant species, livestock, residues, feed, and other identified resource needs. (10 points)
- (11) EQIP plan includes implementation of practices which limit and manage domestic livestock access to streams, creeks, and other natural water bodies to eFOTG quality criteria standards. (10 points)
- (12) 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 eFOTG quality criteria standards. (5 points)