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## Ranking Tool Summary

### for FY2012 - FY12 Organic Transition

(Released 01/19/2012 )

#### Description:

#### Land Uses:

Crop, Headquarters, Pasture

#### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 66.660

#### Optional Notes:

#### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

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 identified in a State wildlife plan?	15
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 implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants?	10
8	a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract	10

	obligation?	
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

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	30

		plant species, livestock, residues, feed, and other identified resource needs.	
	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: 400    Total Points	425

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Does the applicant have a conservation plan?	75
	2	Does the applicant have a conservation plan that contains the practice they are applying for?	100
	3	In the last 3 years, has the applicant completed all previous Farm Bill contracts without any terminations, cancellations, requests to cancel, or not had any contracts at all?	75
	4	Has the applicant had a previous Farm Bill contract terminated within the last 3 years?	-249
		Maximum Points: 250    Total Points	1

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

Domestic Animals: Inadequate Quantities and Quality of Feed and Forage

- Access Control (472)
- Brush Management (314)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Forage Harvest Management (511)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)

Domestic Animals: Inadequate Shelter

- Brush Management (314)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Domestic Animals: Inadequate Stock Water

- Pipeline (516)
- Spring Development (574)
- Structure for Water Control (587)
- Water Well (642)
- Watering Facility (614)

Energy: Inefficient Energy Use - Equipment and Facilities

- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Energy: Inefficient Energy Use – Farming / Ranching Practices and Field Operations

- Alley Cropping (311)
- Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)

- Contour Farming (330)
- Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
- Integrated Pest Management (595)
- Nutrient Management (590)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
- Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
- Plant Condition: Noxious and Invasive Plants
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (332)
  - Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Forage Harvest Management (511)
  - Grassed Waterway (412)
  - Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
  - Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
  - Irrigation Water Management (449)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Plant Condition: Plants not adapted or suited
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Forage Harvest Management (511)
  - Grassed Waterway (412)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops (798)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Vegetative Barrier (601)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)

Brush Management (314)  
 Conservation Cover (327)  
 Conservation Crop Rotation (328)  
 Contour Buffer Strips (332)  
 Cover Crop (340)  
 Drainage Water Management (554)  
 Fence (382)  
 Forage Harvest Management (511)  
 Hedgerow Planting (422)  
 Herbaceous Weed Control (315)  
 Integrated Pest Management (595)  
 Irrigation Water Management (449)  
 Mulching (484)  
 Nutrient Management (590)  
 Pasture and Hay Planting (512)  
 Prescribed Grazing (528)  
 Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops (798)  
 Stream Crossing (578)  
 Stripcropping (585)  
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)  
 Water Well (642)  
 Well Water Testing (355)  
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Soil Condition: Compaction

Access Control (472)  
 Alley Cropping (311)  
 Conservation Cover (327)  
 Conservation Crop Rotation (328)  
 Cover Crop (340)  
 Critical Area Planting (342)  
 Field Border (386)  
 Filter Strip (393)  
 Forage Harvest Management (511)  
 Integrated Pest Management (595)  
 Pasture and Hay Planting (512)  
 Prescribed Grazing (528)  
 Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)  
 Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)  
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)  
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)  
 Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops (798)  
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)  
 Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Soil Condition: Contaminants - Salts and Other Chemicals

Alley Cropping (311)

Soil Condition: Contaminants-Animal Waste and Other Organics - K

Access Control (472)  
 Alley Cropping (311)  
 Composting Facility (317)  
 Conservation Cover (327)  
 Conservation Crop Rotation (328)  
 Cover Crop (340)  
 Field Border (386)  
 Filter Strip (393)  
 Forage Harvest Management (511)  
 Heavy Use Area Protection (561)  
 Nutrient Management (590)  
 Pasture and Hay Planting (512)  
 Prescribed Grazing (528)  
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)  
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)

- Spring Development (574)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Water Well (642)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Animal Waste and Other Organics - N
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Drainage Water Management (554)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Forage Harvest Management (511)
  - Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Spring Development (574)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Water Well (642)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Soil Condition: Contaminants-Animal Waste and Other Organics - P
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Forage Harvest Management (511)
  - Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Spring Development (574)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Water Well (642)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Soil Condition: Organic Matter Depletion
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Drainage Water Management (554)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Soil Erosion: Classic Gully
  - Access Control (472)
  - Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
  - Conservation Cover (327)

- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)
- Contour Farming (330)
- Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Diversion (362)
- Fence (382)
- Grade Stabilization Structure (410)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Mulching (484)
- Structure for Water Control (587)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Vegetative Barrier (601)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully

- Access Control (472)
- Alley Cropping (311)
- Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)
- Contour Farming (330)
- Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Fence (382)
- Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Mulching (484)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
- Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
- Stripcropping (585)
- Terrace (600)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Vegetative Barrier (601)

Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill

- Access Control (472)
- Alley Cropping (311)
- Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
- Brush Management (314)
- Conservation Cover (327)
- Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
- Contour Buffer Strips (332)
- Contour Farming (330)
- Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
- Cover Crop (340)
- Fence (382)
- Field Border (386)
- Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Mulching (484)
- Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
- Prescribed Grazing (528)
- Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
- Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
- Stripcropping (585)

- Terrace (600)
- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Soil Erosion: Wind
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
  - Brush Management (314)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (332)
  - Contour Farming (330)
  - Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Drainage Water Management (554)
  - Fence (382)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
  - Hedgerow Planting (422)
  - Herbaceous Weed Control (315)
  - Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
  - Mulching (484)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
  - Stripcropping (585)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Groundwater
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Animal Mortality Facility (316)
  - Animal Trails and Walkways (575)
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (332)
  - Contour Farming (330)
  - Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Drainage Water Management (554)
  - Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
  - Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
  - Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (447)
  - Irrigation Water Management (449)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Structure for Water Control (587)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
  - Well Water Testing (355)
- Water Quality: Excessive Nutrients and Organics in Surface Water
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)

Animal Mortality Facility (316)  
 Animal Trails and Walkways (575)  
 Composting Facility (317)  
 Conservation Cover (327)  
 Conservation Crop Rotation (328)  
 Contour Buffer Strips (332)  
 Contour Farming (330)  
 Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)  
 Cover Crop (340)  
 Drainage Water Management (554)  
 Fence (382)  
 Field Border (386)  
 Filter Strip (393)  
 Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)  
 Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)  
 Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (447)  
 Irrigation Water Management (449)  
 Mulching (484)  
 Nutrient Management (590)  
 Pasture and Hay Planting (512)  
 Prescribed Grazing (528)  
 Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)  
 Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)  
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)  
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)  
 Stream Crossing (578)  
 Structure for Water Control (587)  
 Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Water Quality: Excessive Suspended Sediment and Turbidity in Surface Water

Access Control (472)  
 Alley Cropping (311)  
 Brush Management (314)  
 Conservation Cover (327)  
 Conservation Crop Rotation (328)  
 Contour Buffer Strips (332)  
 Contour Farming (330)  
 Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)  
 Cover Crop (340)  
 Critical Area Planting (342)  
 Diversion (362)  
 Field Border (386)  
 Filter Strip (393)  
 Forage Harvest Management (511)  
 Grade Stabilization Structure (410)  
 Grassed Waterway (412)  
 Heavy Use Area Protection (561)  
 Herbaceous Weed Control (315)  
 Irrigation Water Management (449)  
 Mulching (484)  
 Pasture and Hay Planting (512)  
 Prescribed Grazing (528)  
 Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)  
 Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)  
 Riparian Forest Buffer (391)  
 Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)  
 Seasonal High Tunnel System for Crops (798)  
 Spring Development (574)  
 Stream Crossing (578)  
 Stripcropping (585)  
 Structure for Water Control (587)  
 Terrace (600)

- Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Vegetative Barrier (601)
- Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)
- Watering Facility (614)
- Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)
- Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Groundwater
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Drainage Water Management (554)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Forage Harvest Management (511)
  - Integrated Pest Management (595)
  - Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
  - Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
  - Irrigation Water Management (449)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
- Water Quality: Harmful Levels of Pathogens in Surface Water
  - Access Control (472)
  - Alley Cropping (311)
  - Animal Mortality Facility (316)
  - Composting Facility (317)
  - Conservation Cover (327)
  - Conservation Crop Rotation (328)
  - Contour Buffer Strips (332)
  - Contour Farming (330)
  - Contour Orchard and Other Perennial Crop (331)
  - Cover Crop (340)
  - Critical Area Planting (342)
  - Diversion (362)
  - Drainage Water Management (554)
  - Field Border (386)
  - Filter Strip (393)
  - Forage Harvest Management (511)
  - Grassed Waterway (412)
  - Heavy Use Area Protection (561)
  - Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
  - Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)
  - Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (447)
  - Irrigation Water Management (449)
  - Nutrient Management (590)
  - Pasture and Hay Planting (512)
  - Prescribed Grazing (528)
  - Residue Mgmt, Mulch Till (345)
  - Residue Mgmt-No-Till/Strip Till/Direct S (329)
  - Riparian Forest Buffer (391)
  - Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)
  - Spring Development (574)
  - Stripcropping (585)
  - Terrace (600)
  - Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)
  - Vegetative Barrier (601)

Watering Facility (614)

Water Quality: Harmful Temperatures of Surface Water

Access Control (472)

Hedgerow Planting (422)

Riparian Forest Buffer (391)

Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)

Structure for Water Control (587)

Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

Watering Facility (614)

Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land

Conservation Crop Rotation (328)

Diversion (362)

Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)

Irrigation System, Sprinkler (442)

Irrigation System, Tailwater Recovery (447)

Irrigation Water Management (449)

Pipeline (516)

Structure for Water Control (587)

Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

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