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Ranking Tool Summary

for FY2012 - Priority Cover Crop

(Released 02/21/2012)

Description:

Land Uses:

Crop, Forest, Hay, Headquarters, Pasture

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 80.000

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Number	Question	Points
1	a. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within special consideration river basins and/or designated CBWI priority watersheds?	50
1	b. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	30
1	c. Improve control of livestock access to waters that flow to the Chesapeake Bay?	15
2	a. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5%?	10
3	a. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	10
3	b. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	5
3	c. Increase carbon sequestration?	5
4	a. Reduce sheet and rill erosion from greater than tolerable limits (Soil "T") to T or below T?	20
5	a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	20
6	a. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	5
6	b. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	5
6	c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	5
7	a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within two years of contract obligation?	15
7	b. Adoption of CBWI priority conservation practices or will complete an existing conservation system? (A conservation system is defined as a combination of conservation practices and resource management for the treatment of soil, water, air, plant, or animal resource concerns.)	15
8	a. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	20
8	b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	10
8	c. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	10
	Total Points	250

State Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Does the site where the practice is to be applied have a high or moderately high runoff potential as identified in the Maryland Soil Runoff Risk Assessment GIS layer? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or chemical loss due to runoff?	80
	2	Does the predominant soil where the practice is to be applied have a high leaching potential as identified in the Maryland Soil Leaching Risk Assessment GIS layer? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or chemical loss due to leaching?	80
	3	Does the predominant soil where the practice is to be applied have a Moderately High leaching potential as identified in the Maryland Soil Leaching Risk Assessment GIS layer? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or chemical loss due to leaching?	40
	4	Is the planned practice less than 50 feet from surface water? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or sediment transport to surface water?	80
	5	Is the planned practice between 50-150 feet from surface water? If Yes, will the planned practice reduce the risk of nutrient or sediment transport to surface water?	40
	6	Is the the predominant acreage of the tract with in an impaired area that is in the 75th percentile or greater for BOTH Nitrogen and Phosphorous yields delivered to the Chesapeake Bay?	160
	7	Is the the predominant acreage of the tract with in an impaired area that is in the 75th percentile or greater for Nitrogen or Phosphorous yields delivered to the Chesapeake Bay?	100
	8	Is the the predominant acreage of the tract with in an impaired area that is between the 50-75th percentile or greater for BOTH Nitrogen and Phosphorous yields delivered to the Chesapeake Bay?? If one Nutrient is greater than the 75 percentile and the other is in the 50-75 percentile range, Answer this question Yes.	120
	9	Is the the predominant acreage of the tract with in an impaired area that is between the 50-75th percentile for Nitrogen or Phosphorous yields delivered to the Chesapeake Bay?	60
	10	Does the application include a practice identified as an AVOIDING measure? (Avoid practices include 313, 316, 317, 327, 342, 359, 366, 410, 412, 468, 472, 590, 612, 629, 632, 633, 634)	40
	11	Does the application include a practice identified as a CONTROLLING measure? (Control practices include 328, 329, 340, 345, 360, 362, 382, 386, 511, 512, 528, 558, 561, 579, 580, 587, 591, 600, 614)	28
	12	Does the application include a practice identified as a TRAPPING measure? (TRAP measures include 350, 378, 380, 390, 391, 393, 422, 635, 646, 657, 658)	20
	13	Will the cover crop to be planted be predominantly (greater than 50%) Rye?	80
	14	Will the cover crop to be planted be predominantly (greater than 50%) Barley?	60
	15	Will the cover crop be predominantly something other than Rye or Barley	20
	16	Will greater than 50% of the cover crop be planted prior to October 1? (You may answer yes to both questions 16 and 17 if applicable)	80
	17	Will greater than 50% of the cover crop be planted prior to October 15th? (You may answer yes to both questions 16 and 17 if applicable)	60
	18	Is the in this application predominantly acres that were not enrolled in a	100

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