Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary
FY12 Organic Transition

Program: EQIP 2008	**Ranking Date:**	**Application Number:**
Ranking Tool: FY12 Organic Transition		**Applicant:**
Final Ranking Score:		**Address:**
Planner:		**Telephone:**
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15 Point(s)
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	10 Point(s)
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	5 Point(s)
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	15 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	5 Point(s)
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15 Point(s)
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	15 Point(s)

3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	5 Point(s)
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15 Point(s)
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	15 Point(s)
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	15 Point(s)
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives - Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	10 Point(s)
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Implement precision agricultural methods?	10 Point(s)
6. d. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	5 Point(s)
6. e. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	5 Point(s)
Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15 Point(s)
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with more efficient equipment?	10 Point(s)
7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that reduce emissions from GHGs and air pollutants?	10 Point(s)
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	10 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	

9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	5 Point(s)
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	5 Point(s)
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	5 Point(s)

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
Water Quality Resource Issues. Maximum points 110.	
3. a EQIP Schedule of Operations includes 595 Integrated Pest Management which meets FOTG quality criteria.	45 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
4. b EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practices with the intent of increasing habitat for pollinators and/or beneficial insects.	30 Point(s)
4. c EQIP Schedule of Operations includes practice(s) that support Integrated Pest Management.	30 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
5. b EQIP Schedule of Operations will include practices that will improve irrigation water management and/or conserve soil moisture.	25 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)
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 Point(s)

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does this application address resource concerns in multiple land use categories?	50 Point(s)
2. Does the EQIP schedule of operations support the adoption of permanent non-crop vegetation (pollinator or beneficial insect habitat) for the enrolled acres?	50 Point(s)

3. Does the EQIP plan include practices which establish habitat that benefits fish and/or wildlife species?	50 Point(s)
4. Does the EQIP plan include practices which will manage irrigation water to optimize plant health, reduce pest problems, and minimize leaching of nutrients?	100 Point(s)