

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary  
Cropland

Program: AMA 2008	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Cropland		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" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	15 Point(s)
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	5 Point(s)
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer implement conservation practices which:	
2. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	15 Point(s)
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements 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 on-farm agricultural sources - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
3. a. Meet on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	15 Point(s)
3. b. Reduce on-farm generated green house gases such as CO2 (Carbon Dioxide), CH4 (Methane), and N2O (Nitrous Oxide)?	15 Point(s)
3. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	5 Point(s)
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	15 Point(s)
4. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	5 Point(s)
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Wildlife Habitat Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
5. a. Benefit on-farm habitat associated with threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	15 Point(s)
5. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	10 Point(s)
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer implement practices which:	
6. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive species on non-cropland?	10 Point(s)
6. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	10 Point(s)
6. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	5 Point(s)
6. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	10 Point(s)
6. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	10 Point(s)
6. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	5 Point(s)
Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	

7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	15 Point(s)
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP (122,124)?	10 Point(s)
7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	10 Point(s)
<b>Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:</b>	
8. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	10 Point(s)
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	5 Point(s)
8. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	5 Point(s)

**State Issues Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
<b>History of Irrigation:</b>	
1. a. Is the planned irrigation system the first irrigation system for this farm?	100 Point(s)
1. b. Is the planned irrigation system an expansion of an existing system?	30 Point(s)
1. c. Will the operation be adding a new micro irrigation system (441)?	45 Point(s)
1. Is there an existing Irrigation Water Management Plan in place?	50 Point(s)
<b>Fertilizer Application (Select ONLY 1 ANSWER):</b>	
2. a. After practice installation, will water soluble fertilizers be applied to crops by hand?	0 Point(s)
2. b. After practice installation, will water soluble fertilizers be applied by chemigation per IWM plan?	75 Point(s)
2. c. No water soluble fertilizers will be applied to irrigated crops.	10 Point(s)
<b>Water Quality Protection (Select ONLY 1 ANSWER):</b>	
3. a. Is there at least 100' from the planned crop fields and the nearest body of water?	100 Point(s)
3. b. Is there a 50' wide vegetated filter strip between the planned crop fields and the nearest body of water?	50 Point(s)
3. c. If there is between 50' and 30' between crop fields and the nearest body of water, are there planned conservation practices AND an IWM plan to address resource concerns, OR are there existing conservation measures in place?	10 Point(s)
<b>Soil Erosion (Select ONLY 1 ANSWER):</b>	
4. a. Have cropping activities historically been performed up and down slope, and will that continue?	0 Point(s)
4. b. Are cropping activities performed on the contour? RUSLE2 calculates soil loss is at "T".	40 Point(s)
4. c. Have cropping activities historically been performed up and down slope, but with installation of this system, they will be performed on the contour? RUSLE2 calculates soil loss will reduced to "T".	25 Point(s)

**Local Issues Addressed**

<b>Issue Questions</b>	<b>Responses</b>
<b>Location</b>	
1. a.. Is this application located in a Public Water Supply Watershed or designated Aquifer Protection Area AND does it contain practices that address water quality?	40 Point(s)
1. b. Does the contract application involves land that has been permanently protected through federal, state, local government programs or private land trusts?	15 Point(s)
<b>Degree of Cooperation by Producer</b>	
2. a. Have other Federal, State, local, or non governmental organization financial resources been committed to this project?	10 Point(s)

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2. b.If the applicant has an existing AMA contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	10 Point(s)
2. c. Did the applicant successfully complete ANY past contract(s) in full compliance?	5 Point(s)
2. d. Is this the applicant's first AMA application?	5 Point(s)
<b>Magnitude of Expected Environmental Benefits</b>	
3. a. Does the contract application involve conservation of surface and/or groundwater (i.e. irrigation water management)	10 Point(s)
3. b. Will the practices in this contract directly benefit threatened or endangered species according to results obtained from the CT-DEEP NDDB (Natural Diversity Database)?	15 Point(s)
3. c. Has the producer completed, or is currently enrolled in, an organic certification program recognized by USDA?	15 Point(s)

**Land Use:**

**Crop:**

<b>Resource Concerns</b>	<b>Practices</b>
Air Quality: Excessive Greenhouse Gas - CO2 (carbon dioxide)	Combustion System Improvement
Air Quality: Excessive Greenhouse Gas - CO2 (carbon dioxide)	Pumping Plant
Air Quality: Particulate matter less than 10 micrometers in diameter (PM 10)	Combustion System Improvement
Air Quality: Particulate matter less than 2.5 micrometers in diameter (PM 2.5)	Combustion System Improvement
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Irrigation Pipeline
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Irrigation Reservoir
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Irrigation System, Microirrigation
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Irrigation System, Sprinkler
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Irrigation Water Management
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Pond
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Pond Sealing - Clay Treatment
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Pumping Plant
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Water Well
Plant Condition: Productivity, Health and Vigor	Well Water Testing
Soil Erosion: Irrigation-induced	Irrigation Pipeline
Soil Erosion: Irrigation-induced	Irrigation System, Microirrigation
Soil Erosion: Irrigation-induced	Irrigation System, Sprinkler
Soil Erosion: Irrigation-induced	Irrigation Water Management
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Irrigation Pipeline
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Irrigation Reservoir
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Irrigation System, Microirrigation
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Irrigation System, Sprinkler
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurface
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Irrigation Water Management
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Pond
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Pond Sealing or Lining, Bentonite
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Pond Sealing or Lining, Flexible
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Pumping Plant
Water Quantity: Inefficient Water Use on Irrigated Land	Water Well

**Ranking Score**

Efficiency:
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Local Issues:

State Issues:

National Issues:

**Final Ranking Score:**

This ranking report is for your information. It does not in any way guarantee funding. When funding becomes available, you will be notified if your application is selected for funding. Some changes to the application may be required before a final contract is awarded.

Notes:

**NRCS Representative:**

**Applicant  
Signature  
Not  
Required on  
this report  
for Contract  
Developmen  
t unless  
required by  
State policv:**

**Signature Date:**

**Signature  
Date:**