

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
2019 AMA High Tunnel System**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: 2019 AMA High Tunnel System		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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated "impaired water body" (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a "non-impaired water body"?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement conservation practices which:	
2. a. Decrease aquifer overdraft?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as CO ₂ (Carbon Dioxide), CH ₄ (Methane), and N ₂ O (Nitrous Oxide)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practice(s) which:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Improve soil tilth, organic matter, structure, health, etc.?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Help retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
6. a. Help manage or control noxious or invasive species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Increase, or improve habitat to benefit pollinator or other targeted wildlife species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Properly dispose of livestock carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Are identified in an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. e. Are identified in a Nutrient Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. f. Apply principles of adaptive nutrient management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Energy Conservation - Will the proposed project assist the producer to implement practices which:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Increase on-farm energy efficiency with practices and improvements identified in an approved energy audit equivalent to criteria required in Ag EMP?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. c. Assist in implementing energy conservation measures that also reduce greenhouse gas emissions and other air pollutants?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines - Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all conservation practices scheduled in the contract on the CPA-1155 within three years of date of obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. c. Implementation of practice(s) which will complete an existing conservation system or suite of practices?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Answer as applicable for the planned location of the high tunnel system:	
1. Planned location(s) for high tunnel system has access to a source of irrigation water sufficient to meet crop needs (Per 325-High Tunnel System Specification Guide)? 100 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Planned location(s) for high tunnel system was previously used to produce an in-ground crop (not hay)? 50 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Slope of planned location(s) for high tunnel system is less than 3%? 25 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Planned location(s) for high tunnel system has no history of flooding, and topography which indicates that concentrated flow erosion would not occur? 25 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer as applicable about the operation:	
5. The farming operation regularly sells agricultural products within a 100 mile radius? 100 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. This will be the first high tunnel system used by this operation for the production of crops in the ground? 100 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Answer as applicable for the planned location of the high tunnel system:	
1. Is the planned high tunnel location in Maine Plant Hardiness Zone 3b or 4a or 4b (See USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map)? If YES, assign 30 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer as applicable about the operation:	
2. If selected, will this be the first AMA contract for this participant, or has the participant had no AMA contracts awarded to them within the last 10 years? If YES, assign 40 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Does the farming operation sell agricultural products at a roadside stand and/or U-pick? If YES, assign 45 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does the farming operation sell agricultural products at a farmers' market? If YES, assign 45 points	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Does the farming operation sell agricultural products to local, regional or national businesses? If YES, assign 45 points Do not answer "yes" if the client sells to these businesses ONLY through a farmers' market or CSA.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Does the farming operation offer customers a Community Supported Agriculture* (CSA) share? If YES, assign 45 points *CSA is a food production and distribution system that directly connects farmers and consumers. Consumers buy "Shares" in a farm's harvest in advance.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency:
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 Development unless required by State policy:
Signature Date:	Signature Date: