

Natural Resources Conservation Service

Application Ranking Summary

High Tunnels

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: High Tunnels	Applicant:	
Final Ranking Score:	Address:	
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
1. a. Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is “Yes”, do not answer any other national level questions. If answer is “No”, proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Reducing impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides on land adjoining a designated “impaired water body” (TMDL, 303d listed waterbody, or other State designation)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. d. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm water use as a result of changing to crops with lower water consumptive use, the rotation of crops, or the modification of cultural operations?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting 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"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health :- Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Plant Condition - The proposed high tunnel will assist the producer to: (Select all that apply)	
1. 1.a. Grow plants in areas where they are not typically suited or adapted to grow.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. 1.b. Improve productivity, health and vigor of vegetable and other specialty crops.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Water Quality - (Answer either a or b if applicable, and c if it applies) The proposed project will:	
2. 2.a. Reduce transport of sediment, nutrients or pesticides in areas impacting 303D listed IMPAIRED WATER categories 4-5 (within ¼ mile up- gradient of the designated waters), or DRINKING WATER, Surface Water Zones A-B (within zone and up-gradient), Groundwater Zones 1-2 or IWPA's (within zone).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. 2.b. Reduce transport of sediment, nutrients or pesticides in areas impacting OTHER WATER, including designated shellfish growing areas, surface water, aquifers and wells (within 300' up-gradient of surface water or within groundwater zone).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. 2.c. Reduce sediment or nutrients from the operation impacting surface and ground water by installing additional practices such as CONTOUR BUFFER STRIPS (332), DIVERSION (362) or FILTER STRIP (393).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Soil and Water Conservation - The proposed project will: (Select all that apply)	
3. 3.a. Address all water runoff and erosion concerns from the high tunnel and other nearby sources.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 3.b. Improve the Soil Condition Index (SCI) score by incorporating practices like crop rotation, cover crop or mulching.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 3.c. Improve the existing irrigation system resulting in an estimated WATER SAVINGS of > 15%.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Business Lines:	
4. 4.a. The proposed project will enhance PROTECTED LAND (i.e. APR or CR).	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 4.b. The applicant has failed to implement past AMA, EQIP or WHIP contracts: >= 1 CANCELLED or TERMINATED for non-compliance or cause in the last two years?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 4.c. The applicant has not implemented past contracts in a timely manner: > 1 year behind schedule with an active CPA-153 Non-Compliance Agreement issued?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Site Conditions: (Select ONE)	
1. 1.a. The site is optimal, considering slope, sun exposure, water drainage, soil quality and fertility, air drainage, and risk of herbicide or soil pest carry-over.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. 1.b. The site has minor limitations, considering slope, sun exposure, water drainage, soil quality and fertility, air drainage, and risk of herbicide or soil pest carry-over.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

1. 1.c. The site has significant limitations, considering slope, sun exposure, water drainage, soil quality and fertility, air drainage, and risk of herbicide or soil pest carry-over.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Soils - The proposed high tunnel will be located on:	
2. 2.a. Soils that are classified in Hydrologic Soil Group A or B?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. 2.b. Relatively flat ground with a slope of 0-3%?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Water -The proposed high tunnel will be supported by: (Select all that apply.)	
3. 3.a. Available water supply sufficient to meet the crop water needs.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 3.b. Existing irrigation system.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. 3.c. Additional practices to improve irrigation water use efficiency and meet NRCS standards.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Sustainable Agriculture: The proposed high tunnel project will: (Select ONE, representative of the majority of farm sales)	
4. 4.a. Facilitate local food production marketed within 50 miles of the site.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 4.b. Facilitate local food production marketed within 50 - 100 miles of the site.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. 4.c. Facilitate local food production marketed within >100 miles of the site.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Business Lines - Program Delivery: The proposal will:	
5. 5.a. Assist an applicant who has never received funding through EQIP.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. 5.b. Assist an applicant who has never received EQIP funding for other high tunnel installations.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

<p>Efficiency:</p> <p>Local Issues:</p> <p>State Issues:</p> <p>National Issues:</p> <p>Final Ranking Score:</p>

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:

<p>NRCS Representative:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>	<p>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>
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