

CONNECTICUT NRCS  
 FY 2020 RANKING POOL  
 EQIP: FY20 Transition to Organic

Land Use	Modifier	Ranking Weights		Practices
		Factors	Weight in Ranking	
Associated Ag land	Organic	Vulnerability	30%	All CT FY20 EQIP Practices
Crop	Organic	Planned Practice Effects	20%	
Farmstead	Organic	Resource Priorities	20%	
Forest	Organic	Program Priorities	20%	
Pasture	Organic	Efficiencies	10%	

Resource Concerns Categories and Weighted Vulnerability Consideration	
Resource Concern Category	%
Air quality emissions	2
Aquatic habitat	2
Concentrated erosion	10
Degraded plant condition	12
Field pesticide loss	2
Field sediment, nutrient and pathogen loss	5
Inefficient energy use	5
Livestock production limitation	5
Pest pressure	10
Soil quality limitations	15
Source water depletion	10
Storage and handling of pollutants	2
Terrestrial habitat	5
Weather resilience	5
Wind and water erosion	10

100

**SURVEY QUESTIONS**

Question Type	Question Text	Choices	Points	Total Possible Points	Condition	Land Uses
Applicability	Did the applicant self-certify as 'Transitioning to become Certified Organic' OR 'Exempt from Organic Certification as defined by the National Organic Program (NOP)' on the NRCS-	Yes No	N/A	N/A		All
Category	Is the majority of the land in the assessment in Connecticut?	Yes No	N/A	N/A		All
Program Questions	Is the applicant currently in compliance with all existing contracts or will this be the first contract for the applicant?	Yes No - participant has current CPA-153	50 -50	50		All
	Has the applicant had any contract terminations within their control?	Yes No - no terminations for cause N/A -- no prior contracts completed	-50 25 0	25		All
	Is the applicant following all Operation and Maintenance for all practices that are still within their lifespan on any existing contract?	Yes No N/A --1st contract, or all practices are beyond their lifespan	25 -25 0	25		All
	Will the application address Wildlife Habitat by implementing Core wildlife practices?	Yes No	50 0	50		All
	Will other Federal, State or Local financial resources be leveraged to assist with the implementation of this project?	Yes No	50 0	50		All
	Is this application located in a Source Water Protection Area?	Yes No	NA	0		All
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE PROGRAM POINTS (20% of Total Score)</b>				<b>200</b>		

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Resource Questions	Will the practices in the application include one or more soil quality or enhancing practice(s) that addresses soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc. as part of a Soil Health System?	<b>More than 2 practices</b> <b>2 practices</b> <b>1 practice</b> <b>N/A</b> -soil health not resource concern	50 25 0 0	50		All
	Does practice schedule include practices necessary to support a new OR existing High Tunnel System (325), in order to manage concentrated flow from the High Tunnel(s). Practices could include 342, Critical Area Planting; 412, Grassed Waterway; 468, Lined Waterway or Outlet; or 362 Diversion.	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b>	10 0	10		All
	Does the EQIP schedule of operations include practices that will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system, conserve soil moisture, or both?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b>	10 0	10		All
	Will the practices in the application assist the producer to implement a Nutrient Management Plan that meets NRCS specifications for applying fertilizer according to June Nitrate testing?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b>	10 0	10		All
	Does the EQIP schedule of operations include implementation of practices that limit and manage domestic livestock access to streams, creeks, and other natural water bodies?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b> - livestock will continue to access surface water <b>N/A</b> - no livestock access to surface water	10 -10 0	10		All
	Does the EQIP schedule of operations include implementation of practices to ensure adequate domestic livestock drinking water sources (not including streams) are available in the treatment unit?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b>	10 0	10		All
	Does the EQIP schedule of operations include practices with the intent of increasing habitat for pollinators, beneficial insects, or both?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b>	20 0	20		All
	Does the EQIP schedule of operations include implementation of practices for the management of noxious and invasive species only on noncropland acreage?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b>	10 0	10		Farmstead Forest Pasture AAL
	Does the EQIP schedule of operations include practices that will result in creation of buffer zones that will mitigate offsite contaminants from entering the farm?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b>	20 0	20		All
	Is this application located in a Source Water Protection Area and does the schedule of operations contain practices that address Water Quality or Water Quantity?	<b>Yes</b> <b>No</b> <b>N/A</b> - land is not in swp area	50 0 0	50	program question re. Source Water	All
<b>TOTAL POSSIBLE RESOURCE POINTS (20% of Total Score)</b>			<b>200</b>			