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## Ranking Tool Summary

### for FY2016 - EQIP 2016 Cropland FOSA 3C

(Released 11/18/2015 )

#### Description:

EQIP 2016. This ranking tool is to be used when ranking EQIP 2016 Cropland applications in Bollinger, Iron, Madison and Reynolds counties.

#### Land Uses:

Crop

#### Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 126.670

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 100 - 70	Medium: 69 - 30	Low: 29 - 0
100-70	69-30	29-0

#### Optional Notes:

#### National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 250 - 175	Medium: 174 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
250-175	174-100	99-0

#### Questions:

Number	Question	Points
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.	250
2	a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	15
2	b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	10
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)?	10
2	d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a "non-impaired water body"?	10
2	e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	10
3	a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	15
3	b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	10
3	c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	10
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?	10
4	a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	10

4	b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	10
4	c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	10
4	d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	10
5	a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil "T")?	10
5	b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	10
6	a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	10
6	b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	10
6	c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	10
6	d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	10
7	a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	10
7	b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	10
8	a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	10
8	b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	10
9	a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	10
Total Points		500

**State Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 300 - 200	Medium: 199 - 100	Low: 99 - 0
300-200	199-100	99-0

**Questions:**

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other state level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	300
	2	Soil Erosion: Does the application include a vegetative or management practice or combination of vegetative/management practices that will ensure the erosion rate on all offered HEL cropland planning land units is reduced to "T"?	100
	3	Water Quality: Does the application include a practice to establish at least 1 acre of permanent perennial vegetation strips, buffers or waterways on offered cropland planning land units?	100
	4	Water Quality: Does the application include a practice on cropland planning land units directly adjacent to surface water and will result in water runoff being filtered?	50
	5	Soil Erosion: Does the application include a structural practice to address observable, actively eroding ephemeral gully or classic gully erosion and/or water quantity where the applicant agrees to construct 100% of structural practices and apply cover crop on deferred acres containing the planned structure between May 1st and September 30th?	50
Maximum Points: 300 Total Points			600

**Local Issues:**

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Scoring Ranges and Results Text:

High: 350 - 275	Medium: 274 - 175	Low: 174 - 0
350-275	274-175	174-0

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
	1	Is the program application to support the development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP)? If answer is "Yes", do not answer any other local level questions. If answer is "No", proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section.	350
	2	"Will Water Quality - inefficient water use on irrigated land resource concern be addressed and do the EQIP planned practices include Irrigation Land Leveling (464) and / or Irrigation Pipeline (430) to be completed on 50%of the eligible cropland acres in the Tract(s)?"	70
	3	"Will Water Quality - inefficient moisture management resource concern be addressed and do the EQIP planned practices include Irrigation System - Surface and Subsurface (443) planned practices on 50% of the eligible cropland acres on the Tract(s)?"	70
	4	"Will Soil Erosion - Classic Gull resource concern be addressed and does the EQIP application include at least one planned structural practice (362, 410, 412, 620, 630, 683) to control erosion within any of the eligible cropland acres on the Tract(s)?"	70
	5	"Will Soil Quality Degradation - Organic Matter Depletion resource concern or soil health be addressed and will the EQIP planned practices include Cover Crop (340) to be applied on 50% of the eligible cropland acres on the Tract(s)?"	70
	6	"Will Water Quality Degradation - Nutrients and/or Pesticides in surface water resource concern be addressed and will the EQIP planned practices include Nutrient Management (590) and/or Pest Management (595) on 50% of the eligible cropland acres on the Tracts (s)?"	70
Maximum Points: 350    Total Points			700

**Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:**

Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

    Prescribed Burning (338)

    Prescribed Burning Plan - Written (112)

Degraded Plant Condition: Wildfire Hazard, Excessive Biomass Accumulation

    Firebreak (394)

Excess Water: Runoff, Flooding, or Ponding

    Vertical Drain (630)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Cover/Shelter

    Conservation Cover (327)

    Early Successional Habitat Development/M (647)

    Fish and Wildlife Habitat Plan - Written (142)

    Pollinator Habitat Plan - Written (146)

    Structures for Wildlife (649)

    Tree/Shrub Establishment (612)

    Tree/Shrub Site Preparation (490)

    Upland Wildlife Habitat Management (645)

    Windbreak/Shelterbelt Establishment (380)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Water  
Shallow Water Management (646)

Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water  
Irrigation Land Leveling (464)  
Irrigation Pipeline (430)  
Irrigation System, Surface and Subsurfac (443)  
Irrigation Water Management (449)  
Irrigation Water Management Plan - Witt (118)  
Sprinkler System (442)

Soil Erosion: Classic Gully Erosion  
Diversion (362)  
Grade Stabilization Structure (410)  
Grassed Waterway (412)

Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully Erosion  
Underground Outlet (620)  
Water and Sediment Control Basin (638)

Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion  
Conservation Crop Rotation (328)  
Critical Area Planting (342)  
Heavy Use Area Protection (561)  
Mulching (484)  
Residue Mgmt-No-Till (329)  
Terrace (600)

Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion  
Cover Crop (340)

Water Quality Degradation: Excessive Sediment in Surface Water  
Field Border (386)  
Structure for Water Control (587)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater  
Well Decommissioning (351)

Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water  
Nutrient Management (590)  
Nutrient Management Plan - Written (104)  
Subsurface Drain (606)

Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Surface Water  
Drainage Water Management (554)  
Drainage Water Management Plan - Written (130)  
Integrated Pest Management (595)  
Integrated Pest Management Plan - Writte (114)  
Riparian Herbaceous Cover (390)

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