

**Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)  
Zone 1—Beginning Farmer  
Screening Criteria Worksheet – FY 2016**

A Screening Worksheet is required to be completed for each eligible EQIP application in the Zone 1 Beginning Farmer Funding Pool.

**Instructions:**  
This screening worksheet must be completed for each eligible producer applying for EQIP in the Zone 1 Beginning Farmer Local Funding Pool. Applications will be accepted on a continuous basis; however, cutoff dates are established for the purposes of ranking and funding allocation. The goal of this screening tool is to ensure that conservation technical assistance and EQIP program benefits are efficiently allocated to address the priorities of the Zone 1 Beginning Farmer Funding Pool.

Completion of this worksheet and documentation does not constitute agreement to provide EQIP program benefits or approval of an EQIP contract. The original screening worksheet should be filed with the applicant case file or EQIP program file and the screening priority (High, Medium, and Low) must be recorded in ProTracts. The applications will be placed in these screening priorities and funded until all monies have been distributed.

Detailed Screening Criteria Worksheet- Complete for each eligible EQIP Applicant			
Applicant Name:			
Application Number:			
Evaluator Name:			
		Date:	

Priority Determination for ProTracts – Select One:	
<b>High Priority Category:</b> - The application addresses the resource concern of Soil Erosion. Planned practices will include (512) Forage and Biomass planting or (550) Range Planting.	<b>High Priority</b> Status in ProTracts
<b>Medium Priority Category:</b> - The application does not meet “High Priority Category” criteria, but does address resource concern of Soil Erosion. Planned practice will include (329) No-till.	<b>Medium Priority</b> Status in ProTracts
<b>Low Priority Category:</b> - The application does not meet “High Priority Category” or “Medium Priority Category” criteria, but does address a resource concern identified as National, State, or Local priority (can answer “Yes” to at least one Resource Concern Priority Question on AERT).	<b>Low Priority</b> Status in ProTracts
All applications which do not address the resource concerns listed above will be deferred at this time.	<b>Deferred</b>

D.C. Signature for Approval		Date Approved:	
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