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Ranking Tool Summary for FY2016 - High Tunnel Systems (Released 01/13/2016)

Description:

The goal of this state initiative is to assist producers to extend the growing season for high value crops (specialty) in an environmentally safe manner via the installation of a High Tunnel System (325) Application MUST contain a 325. Priority is given to those applications within the coldest regions as indicated on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map.

Land Uses:

Crop

Efficiency Score:

Scoring Multiplier: 100.000

Optional Notes:

National Priorities:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

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	10

	structure?	
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

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Plants: Questions 1-7: Only one Yes allowed	
	1	High Tunnel will be located in zone 5a on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/).	400
	2	High Tunnel will be located in zone 5b on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/).	350
	3	High Tunnel will be located in zone 6a on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/).	300
	4	High Tunnel will be located in zone 6b on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/).	250
	5	High Tunnel will be located in zone 7a on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/).	200
	6	High Tunnel will be located in zone 7b on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/).	150
	7	High Tunnel will be located in zone 8a on the USDA Plant Hardiness Zone Map (http://planthardiness.ars.usda.gov/PHZMWeb/).	100
Maximum Points: 400			Total Points 1750

Local Issues:

Scoring Multiplier: 1.000

Questions:

Sub-heading Number	Question Number	Question	Points
1		Food Access	
	1	The site for the High Tunnel is within a Low-Income census tract where a significant number or share of residents is more than 1/2 mile (urban) or 10 miles (rural) from the nearest supermarket as defined by USDA's Food Access Research Atlas. Available at http://www.ers.usda.gov/data-	150

		products/food-access-research-atlas/go-to-the-atlas.aspx	
2		Fish and Wildlife	
	1	The application includes at least one of the practices listed that benefit pollinator habitat: 327 Conservation Cover; 386 Field Border or 422 Hedgerow Planting	50
3		Water Management	
	1	The application includes 558 Roof Runoff Structure and any and all associated practices (342 Critical Area Planning, 412 Grassed Waterway, 606 Subsurface Drain, and/or 620 Underground Outlet) necessary to manage storm water runoff associated with the High Tunnel.	25
4		Geographic and Resource Priorities	
	1	Will the project occur within 2 miles of, AND provide a direct benefit to a species that is in the Toolkit layer T&E species (either DGIF or Natural Heritage). The direct benefit shall be confirmed by a biologist and documentation exists to substantiate points awarded.	25
Maximum Points: 250 Total Points			250

Selected Resource Concerns and Practices:

Degraded Plant Condition: Excessive Plant Pest Pressure

- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Field Border (386)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)

Degraded Plant Condition: Inadequate Structure and Composition

- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Field Border (386)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)

Degraded Plant Condition: Undesirable Plant Productivity and Health

- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Diversion (362)
- Field Border (386)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- High Tunnel System (325)
- Irrigation Pipeline (430)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Subsurface Drain (606)
- Underground Outlet (620)

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

- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Field Border (386)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)

Fish and Wildlife - Inadequate Habitat: Inadequate Habitat - Food

- Conservation Cover (327)
- Critical Area Planting (342)
- Field Border (386)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)

Insufficient Water: Inefficient Use of Irrigation Water

- Irrigation Pipeline (430)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Soil Erosion: Classic Gully Erosion
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Irrigation Pipeline (430)
 - Roof Runoff Structure (558)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
 - Underground Outlet (620)
- Soil Erosion: Ephemeral Gully Erosion
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Roof Runoff Structure (558)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
 - Underground Outlet (620)
- Soil Erosion: Sheet and Rill Erosion
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Roof Runoff Structure (558)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
- Soil Quality Degradation: Organic Matter Depletion
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Hedgerow Planting (422)
 - Irrigation Water Management (449)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
- Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Groundwater
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
 - Irrigation Water Management (449)
 - Roof Runoff Structure (558)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
- Water Quality Degradation: Nutrients in Surface water
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Critical Area Planting (342)
 - Field Border (386)
 - Grassed Waterway (412)
 - Hedgerow Planting (422)
 - Irrigation Pipeline (430)
 - Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
 - Irrigation Water Management (449)
 - Roof Runoff Structure (558)
 - Subsurface Drain (606)
 - Underground Outlet (620)
- Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Groundwater
 - Conservation Cover (327)
 - Diversion (362)
 - Field Border (386)

- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Subsurface Drain (606)

Water Quality Degradation: Pesticides in Surface Water

- Conservation Cover (327)
- Diversion (362)
- Field Border (386)
- Grassed Waterway (412)
- Hedgerow Planting (422)
- Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
- Irrigation Water Management (449)
- Subsurface Drain (606)
- Underground Outlet (620)

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