

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
EQIP General FA 10 Specialty Crops**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: EQIP General FA 10 Specialty Crops		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Quality – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
1. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to animal feeding operations, or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. b. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
1. c. Reduce sediment, nutrients or pesticides from agricultural operations located within a field that adjoins a water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean and Abundant Water: Water Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
2. a. Increase groundwater recharge in identified groundwater depletion areas (http://water.usgs.gov/ogw/rasa/html/TOC.html)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Conserve water from irrigation system improvements and result in estimated water savings of at least 5% and saved water will be available for other beneficial uses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. c. Conserve water in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Clean Air: Treatment of Air Quality from Agricultural Sources – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
3. a. Meet regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Reduce green house gases such as methane, nitrous oxide, and volatile organic compounds (VOC)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Increase carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils Erosion Reduction – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
4. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Healthy Plant and Animal Communities Wildlife Habitat Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
5. a. Benefit threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern as identified in a State wildlife plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Retain wildlife and plant benefits on land exiting the Conservation Reserve Program (CRP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
High Quality, Productive Soils, Healthy Plant and Animal Communities: Special Environmental Efforts/Initiatives – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
6. a. Eradicate or control noxious or invasive species?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Increase, improve or establish pollinator habitat?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. c. Properly dispose of animal carcasses?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implement an Integrated Pest Management plan?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. e. Implement precision agricultural methods?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Strategic Initiative – Energy Conservation and Sustainable Production Energy Conservation – Will the proposed project assist the producer to:	
7. a. Reduce energy consumption on the agricultural operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Business Lines – Conservation Implementation Additional Ranking Considerations - Will the proposed project result in:	
8. a. Implementation of all planned conservation practices within three years of contract obligation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Improvement of existing conservation practices or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is accepted, or will complete an existing conservation system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Does the applicant meet the following conditions:	
9. a. If the applicant has an existing EQIP contract, has it been, and is it now, on schedule and in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. b. Did the applicant successfully complete any past contract(s) in full compliance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. c. Is this the applicant's first EQIP application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Will this application contain practices that exclude cattle or other livestock from environmentally sensitive areas. (Examples are wetlands, stream side slopes, streams, and riparian stream buffers)? Mark no if no livestock are present.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the majority of the land offered in this application lie in a watershed designated on SCDHEC's 303d list of impaired watersheds or is in a watershed with an existing 319 project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will this application contain at least one (1) practice that treats highly erodible fields or gullied areas?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will this application contain at least one (1) planned item that is a water conserving practice?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will this application have practices that include buffers, field borders, invasive species control, or culturally sensitive crops?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will this application have at least one (1) practice that directly benefits threatened and endangered or at-risk wildlife species (plant or animal) as identified by NRCS, South Carolina DNR, and/or the US Fish and Wildlife Service?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. Is this application from a producer of documented culturally sensitive crops or heirloom crops? (Unique to certain cultures or groups)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will this application have at least two (2) or more practices applied on the same field or fields benefiting energy conservation, carbon sequestration, and climate change? (Use the energy practice list to identify approved practices)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Has the applicant attended or completed an agricultural, natural resources related or technical education event within the past year? (Examples are a field day, seminar, work shop, class room course, or others)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
10. Does the application include practices that benefit pollinators? (Use the pollinator practice list to identify approved practices)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
11. Will this application contain practices that improve the soil conditionig index by a minimum of 0.25?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
12. Is the applicant currently using some form of alternative fuel in the operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
13. Will the length of the contract be three (3) or less years with two (2) or less years of cost share and one (1) year of maintenance?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
14. Has an RMS conservation plan been completed prior to August 1, 2009, on the parcel offered for the program contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
15. Is this application from a certified organic farm?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
16. Has the applicant successfully completed all previous contracts offered? (Answer YES if applicant has never had a contract cancelled, terminated, or is actively applying (on schedule) any existing contracts not yet completed.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. Does this application contain at least two(2) of the NRCS Core 4 Conservation Practices? (Nutrient Management, Pest Management, Conservation Tillage, or Buffer Practices (Filter Strip, Field Border, Grassed Waterway, Riparian Forest Buffer))	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Has the applicant successfully completed ALL previous contracts offered? (Answer YES if applicant has never had a contract cancelled, terminated or is actively applying (on schedule) any existing contracts not yet	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

completed; or has never had a contract).	
3. Does this application include the conservation practice "Seasonal High Tunnel System" as part of the farming operation?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does this application include conversion of an existing, inefficient irrigation system to a more efficient, low volume irrigation system?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

Efficiency: Local Issues: State Issues: National Issues: Final Ranking Score:
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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:

NRCS Representative: Signature Date:	Application Signature Not Required for Contract Development unless required by State policy: Signature Date:
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