

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
FY15 Seasonal High Tunnels**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: FY15 Seasonal High Tunnels		Applicant:
Final Ranking Score:		Address:
Planner:	Telephone:	
Farm Location:		

National Priorities Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
If the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP), the agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1a will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the national priority category.	
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.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Quality Degradation – Will the proposed project improve water quality by: (select all that apply)	
2. a. Implementing the practices in a Comprehensive Nutrient Management Plan (CNMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. b. Implementing the practices in a Nutrient Management Plan (NMP)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. d. Reducing the impacts from sediment, nutrients, salinity, or pesticides in a “non-impaired water body”?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. e. Implementing practices that improve water quality through animal mortality and carcass management?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Water Conservation – Will the proposed project conserve water by: (select all that apply)	
3. a. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce aquifer overdraft.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. b. Implementing irrigation practices that reduce on-farm water use?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. c. Implementing practices in an area where the applicant participates in a geographically established or watershed-wide project?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
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?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Air Quality - Will the proposed project improve air quality by: (select all that apply)	
4. a. Meeting on-farm regulatory requirements relating to air quality or proactively avoid the need for regulatory measures?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. b. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm emissions of particulate matter (PM2.5, PM10)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. c. Implementing practices that reduce on-farm generated greenhouse gases such as carbon dioxide (CO2), methane (CH4), and nitrous oxide (N2O)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. d. Implementing practices that increase on-farm carbon sequestration?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Soil Health:– Will the proposed project improve soil health by: (select all that apply)	
5. a. Reduce erosion to tolerable limits (Soil “T”)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. b. Increasing organic matter and carbon content, and improving soil tilth and structure?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Wildlife Habitat – Will the proposed project improve wildlife habitat by: (select all that apply)	
6. a. Implementing practices benefitting threatened and endangered, at-risk, candidate, or species of concern.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. b. Implementing practices that retain wildlife and plant habitat on land exiting the Conservation	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Reserve Program (CRP) or other set-aside program?	
6. c. Implementing practices benefitting honey bee populations or other pollinators?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. d. Implementing land-based practices that improve habitat for aquatic wildlife?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Plant and Animal Communities: Will the proposed project improve plant and animal communities by: (select all that apply)	
7. a. Implementing practices that result in the management control of noxious or invasive plant species on non-cropland?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. Implementing practice in an Integrated Pest Management Plan (IPM)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Energy Conservation– Will the proposed project reduce energy use by: (select all that apply)	
8. a. Reducing on-farm energy consumption?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. b. Implementing practice(s) identified in an approved AgEMP or energy audit, which meet ASABE S612 criteria?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Business Lines – Will the practices to be scheduled in the “EQIP Plan of Operations” result in:	
9. a. Enhancement of existing conservation practice(s) or conservation systems already in place at the time the application is received?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

State Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
Answer ALL of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects impact on addressing resource concerns. Maximum points 250.	
1. Will the contract include a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to grow plants in areas where they are not typically suited or adapted to grow?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the contract include a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to improve plant productivity, health and vigor?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the contract include practices or supports the use of existing practices (such as; cover crops, residue management, and residue and tillage management) which will result in a positive Soil Condition Index (SCI) score as determined by RUSLE II?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the contract include supporting practices necessary to support a new or existing seasonal high tunnel in order to address soil erosion?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects ability to address excess nutrients and organics in surface water.	
5. Will the contract include a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated ?impaired water body? (TMDL, 303d, etc.)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will the contract include a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce excess nutrients and organics in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
Answer ONE of the following criteria that apply regarding the projects ability to address harmful levels of pesticides in surface water.	
7. Will the contract include a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a designated impaired water body? (TMDL, 303d, etc.)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will the contract include a seasonal high tunnel which will assist the producer to reduce harmful levels of pesticides in surface water from a field that adjoins a non-impaired water body?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
1. If funded, would this be the applicants first NRCS funded High Tunnel (798)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will the contract include installation of a micro-irrigation system (441)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will the contract include Irrigation Water Management (449)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will the contract include Nutrient Management (590)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will the contract include Critical Area Planting (342)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

6. Will a Cover Crop (340) be planted between harvest of crops?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. a. If you are growing multiple species concurrently, will the crops be rotated to different areas in the tunnel from year to year?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
7. b. If you are growing a single species, will you rotate species each year for a 3 year period?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
8. Will the high tunnel be protected from the prevailing wind by an existing fabricated shelter that is greater than or equal to 70% density and located at least 5H from the tunnel and within 10H?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
9. Will the high tunnel be protected from the prevailing wind by an existing 65% density windbreak (vegetative) that is minimum 10 feet high and a minimum of 100 feet away from the structure? (For taller windbreaks, the high tunnel must be greater than 100 ft but within 10H of the windbreak) Refer to Practice 390 to determine porosity of windbreak/shelterbelt.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Land Use:

Resource Concerns	Practices
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Ranking Score

<p>Efficiency:</p> <p>Local Issues:</p> <p>State Issues:</p> <p>National Issues:</p> <p>Final Ranking Score:</p>

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:

<p>NRCS Representative:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>	<p>Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for Contract Development unless required by State policy:</p> <p>Signature Date:</p>
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