

Natural Resources Conservation Service

**Application Ranking Summary
Beginning Farmer/Rancher - Nursery**

Program:	Ranking Date:	Application Number:
Ranking Tool: Beginning Farmer/Rancher - Nursery	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
WATER QUALITY - Will the funding of this contract:	
1. Result in the treatment of an area that is less than or equal to 300 feet from a sensitive area such as streams, wetlands, etc.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Offset laws &/or regulations imposed on the operation? IF OPERATION IS ALREADY CITED, CAN NOT RECEIVED COST SHARE TO IMPLEMENT CORRECTIVE ACTIONS.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Reduce nutrients, sediment, and pesticides on field(s) in an impaired watershed 303(d), TMDL, or has karsts features or in high aquifer recharge area?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will any abandoned wells be decommissioned or plugged with the funding of this application?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
WATER QUANTITY - Will the funding of this contract:	
1. Will the funding of this application result in the installation of an irrigation system that is 15% more efficient than the existing irrigation system? NOT ELIGIBLE FOR SYSTEMS PREVIOUSLY INSTALLED WITH FEDERAL COST SHARE, IF COST SHARED WITHIN 15 YEARS.	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Is the existing irrigation system that is being replaced a previously-funded NRCS practice and is it now more than 15 years old?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
SOIL EROSION - Will the funding of this contract:	
1. Result in reduction of soil loss to "T" or address High Leach Soils? (CONTRACTED ACREAGE MUST CONSIST OF GREATER THAN 50% HIGH LEACH SOILS)	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
CONSERVATION PLAN	
1. Does the applicant have a conservation plan at the time of ranking for the resource concerns that will be addressed through this application/contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. IF QUESTION #1 IS "YES", Has the applicant completed greater than 50 percent of the practices within the Conservation Plan? If Question #1 is "NO", then answer "NO".	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS	
1. Will the leverage of non-federal funding be utilized to implement this contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Has the applicant ever terminated an EQIP contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Has the applicant signed, or will sign the Notice of Intent to comply with state BMPs with the Florida Department of Agriculture and Consumer Services (FDACS) prior to the obligation date of this contract?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Does EQIP plan schedule of operations provide for implementation of all funded practices within 3 years or less?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>

Local Issues Addressed

Issue Questions	Responses
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PLANT & ANIMAL HEALTH	
1. Will the funding of this contract assist to install Windbreak/Shelterbelt (380) to control diseases and chemical drift, between fields and/or farms?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
WATER QUALITY	
1. Will EQIP funds be used to implement Irrigation Water Management, Code 449 according to NRCS Standards & Specifications, this question may not be answered "YES" if an Irrigation System, code 441, 442 or 443 are planned to be cost-shared (Water Quantity - Questions 3, 4, 5, or 6)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Will EQIP funds be used to implement a Water & Sediment Control Basin, Code 638), according to NRCS Standards & Specifications	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
WATER QUANTITY	
1. Will EQIP funds be used to implement an Irrigation Storage Reservoir, Code 436 or a Water Harvesting Catchment, Code 636, in accordance with the appropriate NRCS Standards & Specifications?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Is the EQIP tract being considered for Water Use Caution Area (WUCA) or Central Ridge; and has irrigation system been used the two out of 5 years; and is there an improvement in irrigation system efficiency (ISE)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
3. Will EQIP funds be used to implement a Irrigation System, Reservoir, Code 436 according to NRCS Standards & Specifications on an existing Irrigation System, Sprinkler, Code 442 or Irrigation System, Surface & Subsurface, Code 443?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
4. Will EQIP funds be used to convert an existing Irrigation System, Sprinkler, Code 442 or Irrigation System, Surface & Subsurface, Code 443 that has been used the last 2 out of 5 years to a Irrigation System, Microirrigation, Code 441 that results in an improvement in irrigation system efficiency (ISE)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
5. Will EQIP funds be used to implement a complete sytem reorganization on an irrigation system that has been used the last 2 out of 5 years that results in an improvement in irrigation efficiency (ISE)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
6. Will EQIP funds be used to implement a partial (poly & emitters only) reorganization on an irrigation system that has been used the last 2 out of 5 years that results in an improvement in irrigation system efficiency (ISE)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
QUESTIONS	
1. All design work has been certified complete, so all practices within the contract are ready to install by the end of the batching period (November 15, 2013)?	Yes <input type="radio"/> or No <input type="radio"/>
2. Does the erosion cause sedimentation to occur off the property?	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:

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:

**Applicant Signature Not Required on this report for
Contract Development unless required by State policy:**

Signature Date:

Signature Date: