

PERRY COUNTY EQIP RANKING CRITERIA

WATER QUALITY

Answering “YES” to any four (4) of the water quality concerns questions will earn a “HIGH” ranking. Three (3) “YES” answers will earn a “MEDIUM” ranking. Two (2) or fewer “YES” answers will earn a “LOW” ranking. A “YES” answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address the concern as a part of an EQIP contract.

1. Does the tract(s) being proposed for contract include rivers, streams, lakes, or wetlands that can be environmentally enhanced by the installation of filter strips?
 YES NO
2. Are nutrient, waste, and/or pest management needed on the tract(s) being proposed for contract? YES NO
3. Does the tract being proposed for contract contain riparian areas that can be environmentally enhanced by installing forested buffers? YES NO
4. Does the tract(s) being proposed for contract contain a minimum of 50% soils with a Nitrate Leach Index of eight (8) or greater? YES NO
5. Does the tract(s) being proposed for contract contain at least one-third HEL soils?
 YES NO
6. Is the tract(s) being proposed for contract currently being farmed with tillage practices that are causing erosion greater than “T”? YES NO
7. On the tract being proposed for contract does livestock have access to water bodies? YES NO

EROSION

Answering “YES” to any three (3) of the erosion concerns questions will earn a “HIGH” ranking. Two (2) “YES” answers will earn a “MEDIUM” ranking. One (1) or fewer “YES” answers will earn a “LOW” ranking. A “YES” answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address the concern as a part of an EQIP contract.

1. Is the tract(s) being proposed for contract currently being farmed with tillage practices that are causing erosion in excess of “T”? YES NO
2. Does the tract(s) being proposed for contract include pasture that does not adequately protect the soil from erosive forces? YES NO
3. Does the tract(s) being proposed for contract contain areas of gully erosion that need conservation practices installed to reduce erosion? Gully erosion is defined as erosion larger than rill erosion and unlike rill erosion cannot be corrected by tillage. YES NO
4. Does the tract(s) being proposed for contract include areas of cropland that will be converted to pasture? YES NO
5. Will you develop a Grazing Land Management Plan for the tract(s) being proposed for contract? YES NO
6. Does the tract(s) being proposed for contract contain at least one-third soils that are HEL? YES NO

LIVESTOCK

Answering “YES” to any three (3) of the livestock concern questions will earn a “HIGH” ranking. “YES” answers to two (2) questions will earn a medium ranking. A “YES” answer to one (1) or zero (0) questions will earn a low ranking. A “YES” answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address that concern as part of an EQIP contract.

1. Will you develop a Grazing Land Management Plan? YES NO
2. Is a CNMP needed for the tract(s) proposed for contract? YES NO
3. On the tract(s) proposed for contract does livestock have access to forested areas or bodies of water? YES NO
4. Does the tract(s) proposed for contract need improved or increased watering facilities for livestock? YES NO
5. On the tract(s) proposed for contract is there less than 90 days storage for animal waste? YES NO

6. Are heavily used watering sites, unavoidable waterway crossings, or intensively used feeding sites present that can be rehabilitated by installing Heavy Use Area Components? YES NO

FORESTRY

Answering “YES” to two (2) of the forestry concern questions will earn a high ranking. One (1) “YES” answer will earn a “MEDIUM” ranking. A “YES” answer will indicate the willingness of the applicant to address that concern as a part of an EQIP contract.

1. Will the wooded acres on the proposed tract benefit from timber stand improvement? YES NO
2. Does livestock currently have access to the woodland on the tract(s) proposed for contract? YES NO
3. Does the tract(s) proposed for contract need improved access for forest land management? YES NO
4. Will crop or pasture land be converted to woodland according to a silviculturally sound forest regeneration plan? YES NO
5. Will a flood plain and/or riparian area be reforested with according to a silviculturally sound forest regeneration plan? This will include all areas that exhibit native wetland plant growth and are subject to annual flooding.
6. Will a tree planting utilizing a silviculturally sound forest regeneration plan be installed to connect two (2) or more forested areas? Those areas connected can be located on the applicant’s land or any land adjacent to the applicant’s land.
7. Does the tract(s) proposed for contract contain one-third or more HEL soils?
 YES NO

NOTE: All concerns that are used to earn points to improve the ranking of the proposed contract must be addressed through a cost shared practice applied to the land under an EQIP contract. Failure to address any concern that earned points will negate the ranking and require a new ranking to be performed that excludes all concerns not addressed.

