



Ranking Pool Report

Ranking Pool FY26 MD EQIP General
Eastern
Program EQIP

Display Group: FY26 MD EQIP General Eastern (Active)

 An asterisk will be displayed to show that it is a conditional section or conditional question.

Survey: MD Eastern Applicability Question- FY26

Section: Eastern Applicability Question		
Question	Answer Choices	
The application is predominately located in Eastern region of Maryland (Applicable Counties are Caroline, Dorchester, Kent, Queen Annes, Somerset, Talbot, Wicomico, Worcester)	YES	
	NO	

Survey: MD Eastern Category Questions- FY26

Section: Eastern Categories		
Question	Answer Choices	

Section: Eastern Categories

Question	Answer Choices	
Select the Eastern categories to which the assessment is applicable. (Ensure the assessment is eligible for and appropriately aligned with the selected categories)	Cropland	
	Small Grazing	
	Grazing	
	Livestock	
	Forestry-Wildlife	
	National Organic Initiative (NOI)	
	Beginning Farmer/Rancher (BFR)	
	Socially Disadvantaged Farmer/Rancher (SDFR)	
	Irrigation	
	Specialty Crop & Urban	
	Oyster Restoration (Central & Eastern Areas ONLY)	
	Cover Crop	
	Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP)	
	High Tunnel	
	CPA-DIA-CEMA	
	On-Farm Energy	
	RESERVE 1- DO NOT USE	
	RESERVE 2- DO NOT USE	
	RESERVE 3- DO NOT USE	

Survey: MD Eastern Program Questions- FY26

Section: General Program Questions

Question	Answer Choices	
Has the applicant had a contract in any NRCS program terminated for reasons within their control in the last three years; OR does the applicant have an existing contract in any NRCS program that has been determined to be in noncompliance for reasons within their control, and is currently under an active NRCS-CPA-153?	YES	
	NO	
Does the applicant meet the NRCS definition of a veteran farmer or rancher (VFR)?	YES	
	NO	
Did the applicant participate in the CRP Transition Incentives Program (TIP), and has the land in the EQIP application come out of CRP within the last 2 years?	YES	
	NO	
Do the planned primary practices address water quality concerns?	YES	
	NO	
Does the applicant have a current Nutrient Management plan on the land that is being enrolled OR are they exempt from requirements to have a nutrient management plan?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Cropland Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application primarily address resource concerns on cropland?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Small Grazing Program Questions *

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application address resource concerns of an operation with 25 animal units (AUs) or less?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Forestry-Wildlife Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Is the applicant's primarily objective to address wildlife habitat or forest health?	YES	
	NO	

Section: National Organic Initiative (NOI) Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application primarily address resource concerns on land managed for organic production?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Irrigation Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the application address irrigation efficiency on cropland?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP) Program Questions *

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the applicant develop a whole farm assessment, implement at least one primary regenerative management practice by the end of the contract, and will plan/perform soil health testing (CEMA 216) in the first and last year of the contract (at a minimum)?	YES, application meets RPP eligibility requirements	
	NO (Do not rank the application in this category)	

Section: High Tunnel Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Is this application for a 325 - High Tunnel or 821- Low Tunnel?	YES, includes a 325 - High Tunnel or 821- Low Tunnel	
	NO (Do not rank in the High Tunnel category)	
Is the applicant currently producing crops in the field they are planning to implement the practice?	YES	
	NO	

Section: High Tunnel Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will this application result in implementation of 3 or more high tunnels and/or 10 or more low tunnels?	YES	
	NO	

Section: CPA-DIA-CEMA Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Is the program application for development of a Conservation Planning Activity (CPA) or Design and Implementation Activity (DIA), or a Conservation Evaluation and Monitoring Activity (CEMA) (Activity codes 101-228)?	YES	
	NO (Do not proceed with ranking the application in the CPA-DIA-CEMA category)	

Section: On-Farm Energy Program Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application address energy efficiency of equipment, facilities, practices, or field operations?	YES	
	NO	
Does this application include one of the listed energy practices or activities? (Eligible Practices & Activities: 120, 228, 329, 345, 372, 374, 380, 441, 442, 533, 670, 672)	YES, includes the listed On-Farm Energy practices or activities	
	NO (Do not rank the application in the On-Farm Energy category)	

Survey: MD Eastern Resource Questions- FY26**Section: General Resource Questions***

Question	Answer Choices	
Do the planned primary practices that address water quality occur within 500 feet of streams, tidal wetlands, drainage ditches, rivers, bays, or lakes?	YES	
	NO	
Does the tract(s) currently have, or will the application result in permanent buffers of at least 35 feet in width on all surface waters?	YES	
	NO	
Are any planned primary practices avoid or control practices from the Avoid-Control-Trap list?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application address all soil erosion and water quality resource concerns on the tract(s) that are included in the application? (If not applicable select NO)	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in the creation or improvement of habitat for wildlife or invertebrates?	YES	
	NO	
How many of the resource priorities will the application address: air quality, aquatic or terrestrial habitat, forest health, grazing, irrigation efficiency, soil erosion, soil health, water quality?	1-2 resource priorities	
	3-4 resource priorities	
	5-6 resource priorities	
	7-8 resource priorities	
	None	

Section: Beginning Farmer Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application include practices that will improve forest stand structure and composition?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include conversion of cropland or pasture to ungrazed permanent cover?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include conversion from cropland to grazing?	YES	
	NO	
Will any of the practices reduce the risk of nutrient or pesticide loss due to runoff or leaching?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in a managed grazing system with a grazing period per paddock of 7 days or less?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in the establishment of native trees, shrubs, or warm-season grasses?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include fencing to exclude livestock from all surface waters?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Socially Disadvantaged Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application include practices that will improve forest stand structure and composition?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include conversion of cropland or pasture to ungrazed permanent cover?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include conversion from cropland to grazing?	YES	
	NO	
Will any of the practices reduce the risk of nutrient or pesticide loss due to runoff or leaching?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in a managed grazing system with a grazing period per paddock of 7 days or less?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in the establishment of native trees, shrubs, or warm-season grasses?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include fencing to exclude livestock from all surface waters?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Cropland Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Do the practices address leaching or surface runoff within areas of high or moderately high leaching or surface runoff potential based on SVI?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Cropland Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Do any of the primary practices address soil health?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application address concentrated erosion concerns?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include a crop management practice that will be scheduled for at least 3 out of 5 years?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Small Grazing Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application result in crop to pasture conversion?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in the exclusion of livestock from all surface waters?	YES	
	NO	
Is the applicant currently following a prescribed grazing plan or will the application result in the implementation of a prescribed grazing plan?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application result in grazing management that reduces the time in a paddock to 3 days or less?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in grazing annuals or crop residue on cropland?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Grazing Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application result in crop to pasture conversion?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in the exclusion of livestock from all surface waters?	YES	
	NO	
Is the applicant currently following a prescribed grazing plan or will the application result in the implementation of a prescribed grazing plan?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application result in grazing management that reduces the time in a paddock to 3 days or less?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in grazing annuals or crop residue on cropland?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Livestock Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
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Section: Livestock Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the application complete the implementation of a CNMP?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in treatment of resource concerns associated with an animal concentration area?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application address manure storage concerns for existing livestock (i.e. not due to increasing herd size)?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in the exclusion of livestock from all surface waters?	YES	
	NO	
Do the livestock addressed by the application spend at least 50 percent of their time on pasture following a prescribed grazing plan?	YES	
	NO	

Section: National Organic Initiative (NOI) Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application include one or more soil quality or enhancing practice(s) that addresses soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc.?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include practices for the management of noxious and invasive species ONLY on noncropland acreage?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include practices that result in the reduction of erosion?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include practices that will result in creation of buffer zones that will mitigate offsite contaminants from entering the farm?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include practices with the intent of increasing habitat for pollinators and/or beneficial insects?	YES	
	NO	
Does the application include practices that will improve the efficiency of an existing irrigation system and/or conserve soil moisture?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Forestry-Wildlife Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the project result in improved passage for aquatic organisms?	YES	
	NO	
Will the activity restore or enhance natural plant communities?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application restore or enhance habitats for rare, threatened or endangered species?	YES	
	NO	
Will the application improve connectivity between existing forest?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Forestry-Wildlife Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the application restore, create, or rehabilitate wetland habitats?	YES	
	NO	
How much wildlife habitat will be improved or created as a result of the application?	30 or more	
	11-29.99	
	5-9.99	
	1-4.99	
	less than 1	
Is the proposed project contiguous with a:	Protected wildlife habitat area (e.g. state wildlife lands)	
	Forest conservation easement, WRP, ACEP-WRE	
	Perennial or non-channelized intermittent watercourse or shoreline?	
	Not contiguous with protected land or watercourse	
Is the project located within a MD DNR Targeted Ecological Area?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Irrigation Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the applicant be implementing an Irrigation Water Management plan for the irrigated land included in the application?	YES	
	NO	
Is the applicant implementing soil moisture monitoring for water budgeting, or will they be as a result of this application?	YES	
	NO	
If a new well is include as part of the application, is it to support micro/drip/trickle irrigation? Answer "Yes" if a well is not included in the application.	YES	
	NO	
Will the application result in increased irrigation water use efficiency without an increase in irrigated acreage?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Specialty Crop & Urban Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the practices improve the condition, health and vigor of vegetation, including impact from toxic/restrictive soils and extreme weather?	YES	
	NO	
Will the practices improve soil health parameters such as: increase organic matter, water infiltration and reduce chemical usage?	YES	
	NO	
Will the practices improve food or manure waste management?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Specialty Crop & Urban Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the practices improve irrigation efficiency?	YES	
	NO	
Will the EQIP schedule of operations result in the implementation of PAMS strategies to address pesticide use?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Oyster Restoration Resource Questions (Central & Eastern Areas ONLY)*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the application result in the restoration or creation of oyster bar habitat (on bottom)?	YES	
	NO	
The MDE Shellfish Water Quality classification of the waters where the restoration will occur are classified as:	Approved	
	Conditionally approved	
	Other	
Will the oyster bar be seeded entirely with diploid oysters (i.e. oysterscapable of reproduction)?	YES	
	NO	
Does the applicant have an existing or completed contract that has oyster restoration practices planned for FY26?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Cover Crop Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the EQIP Schedule of Operations includes implementation of (Select all that apply):	A multispecies cover crop?	
	A multispecies cover crop with at least 3 functional groups?	
	Aerial seeding that results in an earlier planting date?	
	A fall cover crop planted by October 10th?	
	A fall cover crop terminated after May 1st or "planting green"?	
	A cover crop that provides pollinator benefits?	
	A summer annual cover crop?	
	Grazing a cover crop?	
	Not Applicable	

Section: Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP) Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Will the application include one or more soil quality or enhancing practice(s) that addresses soil tilth, crusting, water infiltration, organic matter, compaction, etc.?	YES	
	NO	

Section: Regenerative Pilot Program (RPP) Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Does the application include practices with the intent of increasing or improving habitat for wildlife, pollinators and/or beneficial insects?	YES	
	NO	
Does this application include a new or higher level RPP primary management practice that will be implemented for at least three years? (RPP Primary Management Practices: 328, 330, 331, 340, 554, 511, 666, 449, 484, 590, 595, 528, 329, 345, 585)	YES	
	NO	
Will the application include practices that integrate livestock into crop production areas?	YES	
	NO	

Section: High Tunnel Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
Are any of the following practices included in the application: 345, 329, 340, 328, 590 or 595?	YES	
	NO	
Are existing high tunnels within their lifespan being used for crop production? Answer "Yes" if the producer has no high tunnels.	YES	
	NO	
Will concentrated erosion concerns be addressed in the crop production areas, or do the crop production areas not have concentration erosion concerns?	YES	
	NO	

Section: CPA-DIA-CEMA Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
The EQIP Schedule of Operations includes which of the following options: (Select ONE)	Contains a CEMA with a CPA and DIA and/or associated practices	
	Contains a CPA with associated DIA	
	Contains DIA with associated practices	
	Contains CPA, DIA, or CEMA as the only contract item	
	None of the above	

Section: On-Farm Energy Resource Questions*

Question	Answer Choices	
How many practices recommended by the agricultural energy assessment are included in the application?	All of the recommended practices that were not previously implemented are included.	
	At least 2 but not all of the recommended practices that were not previously implemented are included.	
	At least 1 but not all of the recommended practices that were not previously implemented are included.	
	None of the above.	

Detailed Assessments

Name	Type	Jurisdiction	Status
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