

FARMERS ADVOCATING RESOURCE MANAGEMENT



DELTA F.A.R.M.

EVALUATION

PERSONAL CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT TOOL

An official publication of Delta Farmers Advocating Resource Management

Latest Revision: 2013

EVALUATION

PERSONAL CONSERVATION ASSESSMENT TOOL

Each member has the option to complete the evaluation by himself, or with the assistance of the Delta F.A.R.M. staff. If you choose to complete the evaluation by yourself, please return the completed Evaluation to Delta F.A.R.M. before March 1. An enclosed return envelop has been provided for you convenience.

General Information:

Please fill out each blank completely

Farm Name _____
Name of Landowner or Operator _____
Mailing Address _____
City, State, Zip _____
Office or Cell Phone No.: _____
Email Address: _____

Land Use:

Please fill out each blank completely base upon the cropping year just completed

Total Acres (owned, rented, and/or leased) _____
Cotton _____
Rice _____
Soybeans _____
Corn _____
Wheat _____
Milo _____
Catfish _____
Other Crops _____
Timber or lands not farmed _____

1ST ASSESSMENT TOOL

Instructions: In this section, use the answers “yes,” “no,” or “n/a” to accurately answer the stated question in the specific context of your individual farming operation during the immediate past cropping year. Only use “n/a” if the mentioned practice does not apply to your farming operation. For example, an “n/a” would be an appropriate answer for anyone answering questions related to aquaculture that does not grow catfish, prawns, or other freshwater aquaculture commodities. This specific information is confidential, but will be added to the information gathered from all other Delta F.A.R.M. members to document the composite environmental benefits generated by all Delta F.A.R.M. members.

Soil Conservation, Water Quality & Water Supply

<i>Do you...</i>	<i>Yes - No - N/A</i>
Have a Soil Conservation Plan?	_____
Have filter strips or buffers on your farm?	_____
Have grass waterways (vegetative ditches)?	_____
Have terraces or contour farm on extreme slopes?	_____
Use conservation tillage practices?	_____
Use water-control structures (pipes with riser)?	_____
Manage crop residues?	_____
Sub-soil or chisel in the fall?	_____
Rotate crops?	_____
Have raised turnrows or pads around your fields?	_____

Soil Conservation, Water Quality & Water Supply

Do you... ***Yes - No - N/A***

Double crop? _____

Use cover crops? _____

Maintain riparian areas near water (buffers)? _____

Hold winter water on your fields? _____

Maintain good grass cover on exterior pond levees? _____

Use 6/3 water management system in catfish ponds? _____

Extend catfish pond drains past the toe of the levee? _____

Utilize seining pads in catfish ponds? _____

Precision landform fields for irrigation? _____

Use straight levees in rice production? _____

Use zero grade fields in rice production? _____

Use side inlet irrigation in rice production? _____

Use a flowmeter to monitor water use? _____

Use a timer on irrigation water wells? _____

Capture and use surface water for irrigation? _____

Use a formal tail water recovery system? _____

Use a formal on farm storage pond? _____

Use sprinkler irrigation systems? _____

Use PHAUCET? _____

Use Surge valves? _____

Use Soil Moisture Probes to schedule irrigation events? _____

Use the Mississippi Irrigation Scheduling Tool, Arkansas Irrigation Scheduling Tool, or a similar “check book” style irrigation scheduling tools? _____

Pesticide, Fertilizer, and Petroleum Stewardship

Do you... Yes - No - N/A

Have filter strips around mixing facilities? _____

Have back-siphon check valves? _____

Utilize a closed or a semi-closed mixing systems? _____

Use precision application technologies? _____

Use drift reduction BMPs (wind, droplet size, etc.)? _____

Use Integrated Pest Management System (IPM)? _____

Select genetics packages that reduce pesticide use? _____

Rotate crops? _____

Manage crop residues? _____

Impound winter water? _____

Use variable rate mixed fertilizer applications? _____

Use a “spring burn down” to manage winter weeds? _____

Use resistance management tools and strategies? _____

Optimize your planting times for early harvest? _____

Use seed treatments ? _____

Apply multiple nitrogen applications? _____

Use an independent crop consultant? _____

Hazardous and Solid Waste Disposal

Do you... Yes - No - N/A

Recycle empty pesticide containers? _____

Recycle used oil? _____

Recycle used batteries? _____

Recycle used tires? _____

Recycle used polypipe? _____

Wildlife Management and Wildlife Habitat Enhancement

Do you... Yes - No - N/A

Have a wildlife management plan? _____

Leave crops for wildlife? _____

Maintain riparian areas around rivers and wetlands? _____

Plant supplemental food sources for wildlife? _____

Flood fields for waterfowl? _____

Construct or maintain habitat for wildlife? _____

2nd ASSESSMENT TOOL

Instructions: In this section, producers should answer the following questions to the best of their ability, using numeric values. Most questions are intended to quantify the amount of voluntary conservation practiced on your farm. This specific information is confidential, but will be added to the information gathered from all other Delta F.A.R.M. members to document the composite environmental benefits generated by all Delta F.A.R.M. members.

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation that drains through filter strips or grass waterways. _____

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation that you can control water through the use of water control structures. (i.e. slotted board risers, flash board risers, overfall pipes, etc...). _____

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation on which you:
practice no-till _____
minimum till _____
reduced-tillage _____
conventional tillage _____

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation that has been land formed. _____

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation, which is contained by a levee system in the form of raised turnrows or pads.

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation, which is flooded each year for waterfowl, erosion control, and/or weed control.

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation, which is in a straight levee production system. _____

Estimate the number of acres on your farming operation, which is irrigated with:

Groundwater _____

Surface water from natural ditches, streams and lakes _____

Formal tail water recovery system _____

Formal on-farm storage system _____

Phaucet _____

Surge Valves _____

Use of Soil Moisture Probes to trigger irrigation events _____

Use of other irrigation scheduling tools to trigger irrigation _____

Estimate the number of acres of:

Timberland _____

Wildlife food plots _____

Recreational ponds or lakes _____

Acres of riparian areas (buffers) _____

Lands you consider wildlife habitat _____

Estimate how many rolls of polypipe you recycle each year. _____

Estimate the number of acres you have enrolled in the following USDA Programs:

CRP _____

WRP _____

WHIP _____

CSP _____

Estimate the number of acres you have "treated" with conservation practices partially funded through EQIP:

Pads _____

Pipes _____

Underground Irrigation Lines _____

Tail Water Recovery System _____

On-Farm Storage _____

Other: Specify _____

Other: Specify _____

COMMENTS & QUESTIONS

Delta F.A.R.M. encourages all members, cooperators, sponsors, and other interested parties to submit comments or questions. The success of the program depends on the cooperation, guidance, and help of its members and concerned parties. If you have any ideas or suggestions to strengthen the program or the evaluation, please submit your suggestions or comments to:

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