

Land Area

Contestant Number

MICHIGAN FFA LAND CONSERVATION SCORECARD

CHAPTER NAME: _____

TOTAL SCORE

PART ONE - PHYSICAL FEATURES OF SOIL

 Check *ONE* description in *EACH* of the 7 physical features.

1. Surface Texture	☐ Fine Clay, clay loam, silty clay loam, sandy clay loam	☐ Medium Silt loam, loam	☐ Moderately Coarse Sandy loam, loamy Sand	☐ Coarse Sand	☐ Organic Mucks and Peats
2. Subsoil Texture	☐ Fine Clay, clay loam, silty, clay loam, sandy clay loam	☐ Medium Silt loam, loam	☐ Moderately Coarse Sandy loam, loamy Sand	☐ Coarse Sand	☐ Organic Mucks and Peats
3. Color of Surface Layer	☐ Dark High organic matter content, very dark brown or black		☐ Medium Moderate organic matter content, dark gray or dark grayish brown		☐ Light Low organic matter content, light gray, light grayish brown or pale brown
4. Color of Subsoil	☐ Bright Solid red, yellow or brown colors predominate. Indicates naturally well drained conditions and artificial drainage usually not needed.		☐ Mottled Mixed yellow and brown colors with some grays. Rust brown and orange spots are common. Indicates naturally somewhat poorly drained conditions and artificial drainage usually needed if cropped.		☐ Dull Grays predominate with some rust brown spots. Indicates naturally poorly drained conditions and artificial drainage most always needed if cropped.
5. Slope Steepness	☐ Nearly Level 0-2 ft. fall in 100 ft.	☐ Gently Sloping 2-6 ft. fall in 100 ft.	☐ Moderately Sloping 6-12 ft. fall in 100 ft.	☐ Strongly Sloping 12-18 ft. fall in 100 ft.	☐ Steep 18-25 ft. fall in 100 ft.
6. Erosion Based on Present Surface Layer	☐ Slight Mainly original surface soil		☐ Moderate Mixture of original surface soil and subsoil	☐ Severe Mainly subsoil. May have gullies or blowouts	☐ Very Severe Severely gullied or deep blowouts
7. Type of Slope	☐ Regular Uniform, simple, smooth		☐ Irregular Uneven, complex, wavy		Your Score

PART TWO - PROBLEMS WHICH AFFECT THE USE AND MANAGEMENT OF THE AREA

 Check the *MOST* important problems.

_____ Number of problems to be selected

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| ☐ 1. Soil Structure | ☐ 5. Wet Spots | ☐ 9. Water Erosion |
| ☐ 2. Droughty | ☐ 6. Seasonal Flooding | ☐ 10. Organic Matter |
| ☐ 3. Stony | ☐ 7. Slope | ☐ 11. Permeability |
| ☐ 4. Drainage | ☐ 8. Wind Erosion | |

Your Score

PART THREE - AGRICULTURAL LAND USE

Select the Most Intensive Safe Use

- ☐ 1. Continuous row crops
- ☐ 2. A rotation which includes legumes and grasses, 1/5 or 1/3 of the time.
- ☐ 3. A rotation which includes legumes and grasses, 1/2 or 3/5 of the time.
- ☐ 4. A rotation which includes legumes and grasses, 3/4 to 4/5 of the time. (occasional row crop)
- ☐ 5. Continuous sod crops.
- ☐ 6. Orchard crops.
- ☐ 7. Woodland.

Your Score

PART FOUR - RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION PRACTICES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES

(Based on most intensive safe use) Choose practices which are most needed.

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| ☐ 1. Grass waterways | ☐ 15. Establish and/or maintain grasses for permanent cover, reseeding only when necessary. |
| ☐ 2. Contour tillage. | ☐ 16. Managed grazing of pasture for erosion control. |
| ☐ 3. Strip cropping. | ☐ 17. Top dress established legumes with phosphorus. |
| ☐ 4. Conservation tillage. | ☐ 18. Top dress established legumes with potassium. |
| ☐ 5. Terraces or diversions. | ☐ 19. Top dress permanent grass vegetation with commercial nitrogen. |
| ☐ 6. Windbreaks and/or vegetative barriers for erosion control. | ☐ 20. Eradicate brush. |
| ☐ 7. Install and/or maintain artificial drainage. | ☐ 21. Special plantings for wildlife food and cover. |
| ☐ 8. Barnyard manure if available. | ☐ 22. Plant adapted species of trees. |
| ☐ 9. Liming materials. | ☐ 23. Protect trees and shrub areas from grazing and burning. |
| ☐ 10. Apply phosphorus fertilizer. | ☐ 24. Manage woods - prune, harvest, cull. |
| ☐ 11. Apply potassium fertilizer. | |
| ☐ 12. Cover and green-manure crops. | |
| ☐ 13. Return all crop residues to the soil. | |
| ☐ 14. Establish and/or maintain legume-grass mixture for continuous sod crops or pasture, reseeding only when necessary. | |

Your Score

PART FIVE - SUITABILITY FOR NON-AGRICULTURAL USES

Choose uses for which this land is especially satisfactory.

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| ☐ 1. Septic tank disposal field. | ☐ 6. Paths and trails or golf courses. |
| ☐ 2. Residential development without sanitary or storm sewers. | ☐ 7. Woodland wildlife area. |
| ☐ 3. Residential development with sanitary or storm sewers. | ☐ 8. Open land wildlife area. |
| ☐ 4. Streets and roads. | ☐ 9. Wet land wildlife area. |
| ☐ 5. Playgrounds. | ☐ 10. Excavated pond. |

Your Score

SUGGESTIONS FOR SCORING

To avoid complications and misunderstandings, a definite method of conducting and scoring is highly desirable. It is suggested that the judging committee meet ahead of time (1) to decide upon the correct placings and answers for each land area, and (2) how the points will be allocated in each part of the scorecard. The method of scoring should be explained before the judging begins. It is suggested that one point be given for each answer.

Revised 2004.