Land Area

1 2 3 4

Contestant Number

0 0 0 A
1 1 1 B
2 2 2 C
3 3 3 D
4 4 4
5 5 5
6 6 6
7 7 7
8 8 8
9 9 9

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, silty clay, sandy clay	○ **Moderately Fine** Clay loam, sandy clay loam, silty clay loam	○ **Medium** Silt, silt loam, loam	○ **Moderately Coarse** Sandy loam, loamy Sand	○ **Coarse** Coarse and medium sands with some gravel	○ **Organic** Mucks and Peats
2. Subsoil Texture	○ **Fine** Clay, silty clay, sandy clay	○ **Moderately Fine** Clay loam, sandy clay loam, silty clay loam	○ **Medium** Silt, silt loam, loam	○ **Moderately Coarse** Sandy loam, loamy Sand	○ **Coarse** Coarse and medium sands with some gravel	○ **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 t.	○ **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	○ **Strongly Sloping** Over 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

Your Score ☐

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

PART THREE - Land Capability Class

- ◯ 1. Class I – These soils have few limitations that restrict their use.
- ◯ 2. Class II – These soils have some limitations that restrict their use.
- ◯ 3. Class III – These soils have severe limitations that restrict their use.
- ◯ 4. Class IV – These soils have very severe limitations that restrict their use.
- ◯ 5. Class V – These soils have little or no erosion hazards, but other problems impractical to remove.
- ◯ 6. Class VI – These soils have severe limitations that make them unsuited for cultivation.
- ◯ 7. Class VII – These soils have very severe limitations that limit their use to grassland, woodland or wildlife habitat.
- ◯ 8. Class VIII – These soils have limitations that restrict their use to wildlife, recreation; water supply and viewshed.

Your Score ☐

PART FOUR - RECOMMENDED MANAGEMENT AND CONSERVATION PRACTICES FOR AGRICULTURAL USES
(Based on most intensive safe use) Choose practices which are most needed

Management Practices

- ◯ 1. Apply Barnyard Manure.
- ◯ 2. Apply Liming Materials.
- ◯ 3. Apply Phosphorus Fertilizer
- ◯ 4. Apply Potassium Fertilizer
- ◯ 5. Top-dress Established Legumes with Phosphorus
- ◯ 6. Top-dress Established Legumes with Potassium
- ◯ 7. Topdress Permanent Grass Vegetation with Nitrogen.
- ◯ 8. Develop and Implement a Nutrient Management Plan.

Conservation Practices

- ◯ 1. Conservation Crop Rotation
- ◯ 2. Residue and Tillage Management (Reduce Till and No Till)
- ◯ 3. Cover Crops
- ◯ 4. Grassed Waterway
- ◯ 5. Contour Farming
- ◯ 6. Strip Cropping
- ◯ 7. Diversions
- ◯ 8. Windbreak-Shelterbelt Establishment and Renovation.
- ◯ 9. Herbaceous Wind Barriers.
- ◯ 10. Maintain and/or Update Artificial Drainage.
- ◯ 11. Pasture and Hay Planting
- ◯ 12. Grazing Management
- ◯ 13. Brush Management
- ◯ 14. Conservation Cover
- ◯ 15. Tree/Shrub Establishment
- ◯ 16. Forest Stand Improvement

Your Score ☐

PART FIVE - SUITABILITY FOR NON-AGRICULTURAL USES
Choose uses for which this land is especially satisfactory.

- ◯ 1. Conventional Septic System Drainage Fields.
- ◯ 2. Residential development without sanitary or storm sewers.
- ◯ 3. Residential development with sanitary or storm sewers.
- ◯ 4. Local Streets and roads.
- ◯ 5. Playgrounds.
- ◯ 6. Paths and trails or golf courses.
- ◯ 7. Woodland wildlife area.
- ◯ 8. Open land wildlife area.
- ◯ 9. Wet land wildlife area.
- ◯ 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.

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