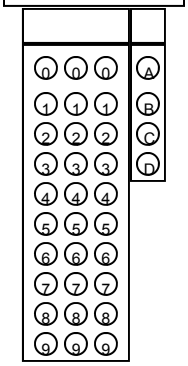
Land Area

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.	○ **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

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

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.

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

Your Score ☐

PART FIVE - SUITABILITY FOR NON-AGRICULTURAL USES

Choose uses for which this land is especially satisfactory.

- ◯ 1. Septic tank disposal field.
- ◯ 2. Residential development without sanitary or storm sewers.
- ◯ 3. Residential development with sanitary or storm sewers.
- ◯ 4. 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.

Revised 2004.