Maryland EQIP - Tiered Pest Management System Checklist - 2006

Participant Name: ________________________________   No./Tract No.: ______________________

NRCS in Maryland wants to reward producers who implement pest management techniques that go beyond the minimum requirements of the Pest Management standard (Code 595). A multi-level system of incentives will be offered to producers who do a better overall job of reducing pesticide usage, reducing pesticide effects on the environment, and utilizing more environmentally-friendly pest controls.

Check (✓) the practices for which the producer is requesting EQIP incentive payments. Producers are not eligible for payments for practices or activities that they (or persons working for them) have already implemented on acreage proposed for enrollment. File the completed checklist in the producer’s case file.

A field cannot be enrolled for Tier I & Tier II payments in the same calendar year. Producers may transition from Tier I to Tier II in successive years. Pest Management incentive payments are limited to no more than three years of a contract.

### Tier I – Implement a Pest Management Plan

- Row or hay crops
  - [ ] $6/acre
  - _______ acres

- Specialty crops
  - [ ] $12/acre (vegetables, orchards, vineyards, sod)
  - _______ acres

Pest management plans must be developed by a certified professional consultant [i.e., a person who is certified through a professional program, such as the Certified Crop Advisor (CCA) program sponsored by the American Society of Agronomy, or the Certified Professional Crop Consultant (CPCC) program sponsored by the National Alliance of Independent Crop Consultants (NAICC)]. The pest management plan will meet the minimum requirements of the Maryland NRCS 595 Pest Management standard and will be reviewed annually by a certified conservation planner. With this tier, a producer is expected to accomplish routine ICM practices, which could include when appropriate: spot spraying, use of scouting including in field monitoring, insect trapping in vegetable crops, crop rotations, set-backs or vegetated buffers along sensitive areas such as watercourses, prescriptive pesticide applications, and correctly rinsing and disposing of empty pesticide containers.

### Tier II – Advanced Pest Management

| Maximum payment up to $15/ac for all crops (row, hay, and specialty crops) |
| Must meet requirements for Tier I. A producer may select from the following options: |
| [ ] - Release beneficial insects
  - [ ] $10/acre
  - _______ acres
  - Examples include ladybugs, parasitic wasps, mantids, etc. as specified in the pest management plan. |

| [ ] - Utilize genetically modified crops
  - [ ] $5/acre
  - _______ acres
  - Such as Bt corn. Does not include Roundup-ready crops. |

| [ ] - Use Site Specific spray technology
  - [ ] $5/acre
  - _______ acres
  - Examples include: a system that allows a choice of multiple nozzles choices; directed sprayers to apply insecticides, fungicides; use of a shielded sprayer to spray post emergent herbicides; Geo-referenced light bar. |

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☐ - Apply pesticides to crops using a GPS precision sprayer

$5/ac  __________ acres

Apply pesticides to crops using a precision spray system that will allow treatment of pests that have been located and identified using improved sensing systems. These systems atomically vary the concentration of material applied to the fields using prescription maps created from detailed aerial images.

☐ - Use latest sprayer technology that reduces drift and rate

$5/ac  __________ acres

Spray drift reduction with shrouded boom sprayers, low pressure nozzles, pre-orifice or turbulence chamber nozzles or air curtain or shielded booms.

☐ - Utilize a chemical induction sprayer

$5/ac  __________ acres

Uses a closed chemical transfer system to safely transfer chemicals to spray container. The system provides safe, ground level chemical filling to help reduce or practically eliminate exposure to toxic chemicals.

Producer Certification

I understand that I am not eligible for EQIP payments for practices or activities that I (or persons working for me) have already implemented on acreage proposed for enrollment.

I certify that the above "checked" (✓) incentive practices are not currently used on the acreage that I want to enroll in EQIP.

Producer Signature: __________________________  Date: ________________