

Natural Resources Award



**Sponsored by Kansas Farm Bureau's
Natural Resources Division**



KANSAS FARM BUREAU
The Voice of Agriculture

Goal of the Award: The Natural Resources Award encourages, and recognizes environmental protection measures and conservation practices used on farm and ranches.

Eligibility: A Farmer or Rancher who is a member of any County Farm Bureau.

Award Criteria: This award is in recognition of farmers and ranchers, who practice water quality protection, farm chemical management, crop/grasslands maintenance and also participate in conservation programs. Each county will choose one county Farm Bureau Member for recognition and award. Each county winner will be sent to the State NER committee and pooled with other county winners in each district for evaluation. There will be one winner recognized at the State level during the annual meeting held in November.

Guidelines: There are four categories with a list of yes or no questions under each. Please check either yes or no in the column to the left of the question. If the category does not pertain to you, please indicate “NA” in the comment section after each question. We encourage you to respond in the comment section with ideas or procedures that you feel benefit the situation. This may be a factor in determining a winner, so use this to your advantage. Applicants are not required to use the guideline criteria form.

Awards & Recognition:

- Each **county** winner will be given a sign to display as the year’s county winner.
- **District** winners, not in the top 3 places, will receive a plaque and \$100.00.
- 3rd place in the **state** competition will receive a total of \$250.00 and a plaque.
- 2nd place in the **state** competition will receive a total of \$500.00 and a plaque.
- 1st place in the **state** competition will receive a framed print for display indicating they are the state winner, expenses paid to the state annual meeting, a plaque and a total of \$1000.00.

Sponsored by: Kansas Farm Bureau
Natural Resources Division
800 SW Jackson St., Ste. 1300
Topeka, KS 66612

NATURAL RESOURCES AWARD APPLICATION

Recipients

Name _____

Address

Zip _____

Phone _____

County _____

Please complete the application and send to Sarah Claspill at the address below. If using the criteria form, please attach the application to the form. The deadline for all county entries is August 3.

**Kansas Farm Bureau
Natural Resources Division
800 SW Jackson St., Suite 1300
Topeka, KS 66612**



Kansas Farm Bureau's Natural Resources Award Operation Description

Please fill out the following information for the 2009 Natural Resources Award.
This information will only be used by the judging committee and will not be released to the public or any other entity.

Type of Operation (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Row Crop Farming operation | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock-pasture/grazing |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock-confined feeding | <input type="checkbox"/> Livestock-mixed grazing/feeding |

Size of Operation (Row Crop Farming):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 500 acres | <input type="checkbox"/> 500 to 1000 acres |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 1000 to 2500 acres | <input type="checkbox"/> 2500 to 5000 acres |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5000 to 10,000 acres | <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than 10,000 acres |

Farming Practices (check all that apply and provide acerages):

- | | |
|--|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dryland acres: | <input type="checkbox"/> Irrigated acres: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> No-till acres: | <input type="checkbox"/> Minimum-till acres: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ridge-till acres: | <input type="checkbox"/> Conventional tillage acres: |

Commodities Grown (check all that apply and provide acerages):

- | | |
|---|--|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corn acres: | <input type="checkbox"/> Wheat acres: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Milo acres: | <input type="checkbox"/> Soybeans acres: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cotton acres: | <input type="checkbox"/> Alfalfa acres: |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower acres: | <input type="checkbox"/> Other crop acres: |

Kansas Farm Bureau's Natural Resources Award Operation Description

Livestock Grown (check all that apply):

- | | |
|---------------------------------------|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Beef cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Swine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Dairy cattle | <input type="checkbox"/> Equine |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sheep | <input type="checkbox"/> Other (describe) |

Number of Livestock:

- | | |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Less than 100 | <input type="checkbox"/> 100 to 500 head |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 500 to 1000 head | <input type="checkbox"/> 1000 to 5000 head |
| <input type="checkbox"/> 5000 to 10,000 head | <input type="checkbox"/> Greater than 10,000 head |



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Guidelines for Kansas Farm Bureau's Natural Resources Award

Yes / No

Water Quality Protection Measures

Are buffer strips, riparian strips or filter strip terraces used to reduce runoff and pollutant load to surface waters?

Are buffer zones around livestock confinement areas used?

Have abandoned wells been plugged?

If livestock are confined, are diversion and waste retention structures used to keep waste from running directly into surface waters?

Have designated watering areas for livestock (strategic fencing, bank stabilization with gravel or other nonerodable material) on streams been created to encourage livestock watering and crossing in those areas?

Have alternative water sources been created to keep livestock out of surface waters?

Has a water quality improvement project been funded through the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP)?

Are no-till or minimum till practices used?

Are crop nutrient needs determined before commercial fertilizers or manure are applied so over-application does not occur?

Are herbicide/pesticide applications timed to reduce runoff?

Are herbicide/pesticide applications split during the year?

Are post-emergence herbicides used?

Are terraces with tile outlets, settling basins, and/or grassed waterways used on cropland?

Yes/No

Crop/Grasslands Maintenance

Is a crop rotation used?

Are no-till or minimum till practices used?

Is a nutrient management plan used to determine crop nutrient needs?

Is rangeland periodically burned for forage health?

Is rotational grazing used?

Are livestock stocking rates appropriate for acreage available?

Are terraces with tile outlets or grassed waterways used on cropland?

Yes/No

Conservation Program Participation

Have more than 10 acres of land been enrolled or currently enrolled in CRP?

Are acres currently enrolled in CCRP?

Are acres currently enrolled or enrolled in the past in WRP?

Are acres currently enrolled or enrolled in the past in WHIP?

Yes/No

Farm Chemical Management

Is there a farm chemical management plan in use?

Have expired or banned chemicals been removed from the property and disposed of properly?

Are there designated chemical loading and storage areas with appropriate containment structures?

Are employees given proper training and education to handle and dispose of farm chemicals properly?

Are farm chemicals properly stored (away from water sources, protected from precipitation, no leaky containers or bags, out of sunlight)?

Are there containment structures in storage areas in case of spills or leaks?

Are container rinse waters disposed of properly?

Are fuels stored properly?

Are there containment structures around fuel tanks in case of spill or leak?

Are fuels stored a sufficient distance from water sources or wells?



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Kansas Farm Bureau's Natural Resources Award Additional Information

Please provide any additional information that may be helpful for the judges to use in judging the applicant. It is **suggested** that a one page essay describing the applicant's operation, the type of conservation practices employed and the reasons the applicant feels they are deserving of the award be provided. The essay portion of the application is not a requirement to be eligible to win the district or state award. Additional materials may also be provided in support of the applicant.