



PEI Soil & Crop Improvement Association

P.O. Box 21012,

Charlottetown, PE

C1A 9H6

Tel/fax: (902) 887-2535

SUBMISSION FORM:

Deadline February 17th, 2020

**P.E.I. SOIL & CROP IMPROVEMENT ASSOCIATION
SOIL CONSERVATIONIST OF THE YEAR AWARD**

Livestock Producer

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Note: Candidates are not required to be nominated for consideration for this award.

IF NOMINATED, NAME OF NOMINATING PERSON OR GROUP:

Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone: _____

Note: Questions apply to own and rented properties for the **2019** crop year. If you would like to provide additional information on any question see **Section H**, or just write a small note beside the question if space allows. **Please contact the PEI Soil and Crop office at (902) 887-2535 if you have any questions.**

A. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Number of **years** farming:
2. Do you grow cash crops? Yes or No.
3. On average is **60%** or more of your farm income as a result of your livestock operation? Yes or No. If No, then a “Cash Crop Producer” nomination form may be more appropriate to complete.
4. How many **acres** (own and rented) do you farm? Owned: _____ acres; Rented: _____ acres
5. How many **fields** (own and rented) do you farm? Owned: _____ fields; Rented _____ fields
6. How many **acres** of your farm do you trade or rent to Cash Crop Producers? _____ acres
7. List of crops grown and number of acres each?

Cereals	..... acres	Soybeans	..... acres	Other (_____)	..... acres
Corn	..... acres	Forages	..... acres	Other (_____)	..... acres
Cole Crops	..... acres	Other (_____)	..... acres	Other (_____)	..... acres

8. Number of livestock, housing style and manure type - Please detail below

Farm Type	Animal Type	Housing Style (ie. tie stall, free stall, pens, not housed, wintered outside, livestock yard etc)	Manure Type (ie. liquid, sold, semi solid, slurry)	Number of animals (total head; or pork feeders please list number marketed per year)
Dairy	Milk Cow			
	Dry Cow			
	Heifers and calves			
Beef	Cow/calf			
	Heifers/dry cows			
	Feeders/Backgrounders			
Pork	Sows			
	Feeders			
Other				
Other				
Other				
Other				

B. MANURE MANAGEMENT AND HANDLING

1. For each type of animal you have on your farm, please detail how manure is handled in table below:

Farm Type	Animal Type	Type of storage (ie. manure pack, concrete structure, earthen structure, underground storage, no structure)	Manure handling system (ie. barn cleaner, boom, ram, gravity, alley scrapers, skid steer, tractor)	Length of storage on farmstead (see below for selections)	Is storage complemented with field storage ? (yes or no)
Dairy	Milk Cow				yes or no
	Dry Cow				yes or no
	Heifer				yes or no
Beef	Cow/calf				yes or no
	Heifers/dry cows				yes or no
	Feeders or Backgrounder				yes or no
Pork	Sows				yes or no
	Feeders				yes or no
Other					yes or no
Other					yes or no
Other					yes or no
Other					yes or no

NOTE: Selections for **Length of Storage on Farmstead** (see table above)

- a) 0 Days b) Less than 1 Week c) 1-4 Weeks d) 1-4 Months
- e) 4-8 Months f) 8 or more Months

2. If you supplement your manure storage with field storage, what factors do you take into consideration to protect the environment? _____

3. What season(s) is manure generally applied? (please select as many as applies)
 a) Spring, b) summer, c) fall or, d) winter

4. When selecting fields for manure applications, what fields do you select?
 a) Fields as close to the livestock barns as possible c) Rotated fields to best utilize the manure nutrients as much as possible
 b) Same fields year after year

5. What crops receive manure in most years (please select as many as applies):
 a) Cereals b) Corn c) Forages d) Pastures e) Potatoes f) Other _____

4. How quickly is manure usually incorporated into the soil on land that will be tilled that year? Please describe _____
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C. AGRONOMIC PRACTICES

1. List the sequence(s) of crops you have in your rotation(s). Please include crops rented to cash crop producers: _____
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2. Please elaborate on your tillage practices for all crops grown in your rotation(s), including practices to conserve soil _____
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4. On your entire land base, what area do you annually establish winter cover on? Winter cover includes both straw/hay mulching and planted winter cover crops. _____ acres

5. What agronomic practices do you perform to build soil organic matter levels and soil tilth? _____
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6. On average, how often do you soil test each property? a) ___ Each year; b) ___ Every two years; c) ___ Every three years; d) ___ Every four years; e) ___ Every five years; f) ___ Six or more years; g) ___ Never.

7. Before determining how much commercial fertilizer to apply to a crop, do you take into consideration credits for: a) legume plow downs Yes or No or N/A.; b) manure applications Yes or No or N/A.

8. On average, how closely do you follow the liming and fertility recommendations on soil reports for each field? a) ___ Exactly as recommended; b) ___ Slight modifications; c) ___ Major modifications; d) ___ Not at all

9. i) Are your fields crop scouted for pests and diseases to determine if they have reached threshold levels or not? Yes or No.

ii) If yes, how is it done (please check as many as applies):
a) ___ from the field edge; b) ___ selected pattern throughout the field
c) ___ by an untrained scout; d) ___ by an experienced scout (farmer, employee, or hired agrologist)

10. How often do you calibrate your sprayer? a) ___ Twice each season; b) ___ Once a season; c) ___ Every 2-years; d) ___ Every 3-5 years; e) ___ Every five or more years; f) ___ Never.

D. EDUCATIONAL AND PROMOTIONAL ACTIVITIES IN SUSTAINABLE AGRICULTURE

1. Have you completed an **Environmental Farm Plan (EFP)**? Please check the most appropriate response:

- ____ 1. Yes, on **all** owned and **all** rented properties (ie. my EFP is up-to-date)
____ 2. Yes, but on **all** owned and **some** rented properties only
____ 3. Yes, but on **all** my owned properties only
____ 4. Yes, but only **some** of my owned properties (ie. home farm only)
____ 5. No, not on **any** property

Having the EFP available as a resource will help answer some questions in **Section E** of this submission form

2. (i) How recently had your EFP been completed or updated _____ ?
(ii) Does your EFP currently need to be updated because of changes on your farm? Yes or No.
3. In the past two years, have you attended any farm meetings, workshops, conferences, etc to learn new ideas to improve the production, management, and environment of your farm? Yes or No.
4. Do you promote conservation practices to other farmers? Please explain. _____
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E. LEVEL OF SOIL CONSERVATION

(The following questions will be easier to answer with your completed EFP available as a resource. If your EFP is not done, please provide your property numbers, if you wish, and these calculations can be done for you. Or you could attend an EFP workshop to complete or update your EFP Action Plan.)

1. Have soil loss rates been calculated on the worst slopes for each property?
a) Owned properties Yes or No.; b) Rented properties Yes or No.
2. i) If so, how many fields currently would have soil loss rates less than 3 tons per acre per year on:
a) Owned properties _____ Fields; b) Rented properties _____ Fields
- ii) How long have you had these sustainable soil loss rates on these fields?
a) _____ Accomplished within last 2-years; b) _____ Within last 10 years; c) _____ Within last 15 years;
d) _____ Always; e) Other - Please describe _____
3. Of the properties that you farm, how many have been treated with some combination of strip cropping, terracing and farmable berms: a) Owned properties _____ Fields; b) Rented properties _____ Fields
_____ Acres _____ Acres
4. When you consider all your crop land, what percentage of the hollows that handle concentrated flow do you leave in permanent grass? a) _____ Less than 20 %; b) _____ 20 % to 60 %; c) _____ 60 % to 90 %; d) _____ 100 %
5. On fields that are farmed with **row crops** running up-and-down the slope, on what percentage of fields do you leave grassed headlands at the lower ends of fields? a) _____ Less than 20 %; b) _____ 20 % to 60 %;
c) _____ 60 % to 90 %; d) _____ 100 %.

7. Describe how you may enhance buffer zones around your farm? _____
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F. DESCRIBE ANY CASH CROP OPERATIONS ON YOUR FARM AND ENVIRONMENTAL CONSIDERATIONS YOU HAVE MADE _____
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G. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Past and present participation in farm organizations (memberships, representation on boards, volunteer work, etc.) _____
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2. What practices do you employ on your farm to enhance wildlife habitat (ie. nest boxes, artificial wetlands, small marshes or duck ponds, planting trees, preserving hedgerows, large buffer zones, etc.) _____
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3. Are you enrolled in or exploring HACCP (ie. quality assurance programs) for your farm produce or products? Yes or No.

4. i) Have you implemented any of the Action Plan items to date from your EFP? Yes or No.
ii) If so, what percentage of your Action Plan would now be complete? _____ %

5. Describe any recent improvements in your fuel storage. _____
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6. Describe any recent improvements in your pesticide storage. _____
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7. If livestock are pastured, please describe the pasture and water management systems. Are all watercourses fenced? _____

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8. Please describe the milk house wash water treatment and handling. _____

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7. Other pertinent information which should be taken into consideration by the awards committee : _____

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H. IF YOU NEED EXTRA SPACE FOR ANY PREVIOUS QUESTION, PLEASE USE THE FOLLOWING SPACE:

Section # /Question #: _____

Section # /Question #: _____

Section # /Question #: _____

Section # /Question #: _____

Section # /Question #: _____

Section # /Question #: _____

Section # /Question #: _____