

Frequently Asked Questions about the CSP Water Quality Eligibility Tool

Question 4

Q: Can you check Question 4 if the producer is pulling noxious weeds by hand?

A: Yes; This is partial treatment by not applying herbicide at all.

Q: Can you check Question 4 if the producer is using partial treatment for post emerge herbicides and full treatment for pre-emerge herbicides?

A: Yes, you can check this box. The producer is taking steps to limit the amount of pesticides applied, limiting acres with pesticides applied, and using IPM principles reduce pesticide use.

Question 5

Q: Can the Question 5 be checked if there are no streams or water courses on the offered acres?

A: No; This question is documenting the buffer conservation measure. If there was no active conservation measure implemented the farmer can not check this and receive points toward the resource concern minimum thresholds.

Q: Can Questions 5, 6 or 7 be checked if buffers or setbacks are applied to wetlands?

A: Yes; If active conservation measures are being implemented to protect water quality the producer would be able to check these questions where applicable.

Question 9

Q: Can question 9 be checked if fallow (summer fallow) is part of the crop sequence?

A: No; Fallow is not considered a crop (annual or perennial) as it is a non-crop period used to control weeds and manage soil moisture in crop sequences such as winter wheat/fallow, winter wheat/fallow/fallow, winter wheat/spr.grain/fallow, spr.grain/fallow, wheat/wheat/sorghum/fallow and wheat/corn/fallow.

Question 10

Q: Can Question 10 be checked if the offered acres are flat with little to no slope?

A: It depends, the question talks to erosion controlled in concentrated flow areas. These can occur in fields with slope as gully and sheet erosion. Additionally concentrated flow areas can occur on roads, field access, and other non field portions of the operation. If erosion is controlled in these areas than it is appropriate to check Question 10.

Question 11

Q: Can Question 11 be checked if the producer is implementing conservation measures that are not specifically on the list?

A: Yes; If the NRCS field person determines that a conservation measure is being implemented on the ground to protect water quality they would get credit for it.

Question 16

Q: If the producer has not conducted a soil test in the last 5 years can they check Question 16? And will they still be eligible for CSP?

A: No; If the producer has not had a soil test in the last 5 years, they can not check this question and receive points toward the resource concern thresholds. The second part of the question is maybe. If the producer can not check question 16, they may still be eligible for CSP if they have reached the minimum thresholds for all other resource concerns. This is possible in many situations. By not having a soil test, and not being able to check question 16, it does not make you ineligible for CSP.