

# 2000 Environmental Quality Incentives Program



## **Customer Focus—**

LA PLATA -Approved EQIP  
Proposal

Mr. Pedro Rivera, a limited resource farmer, operates a 44-acre farm devoted to a diversified operation. The operation includes a small herd of swine, crops, and a 20,000 capacity poultry barn. Mr. Rivera participates in all aspects of the operation and is a cooperater in the Cibuco Soil and Water Conservation District, which is 45 minutes from San Juan. Most of the farm is on moderately steep to steep land. The soils are of the Caguabo, Humatas, and Naranjito series. Water impairment is the principal hazard, and many of these soils are sufficiently eroded above their tolerance value. La Plata Reservoir, which serves potable water to the metropolitan area, is about 1 mile from the site location.

The waste management system for Mr. Rivera's farm consists of installation of liquid separator boxes and an infiltration ditch. By collecting the organic solids, the final product is used to fertilize plantains on 11 acres. Poultry manure is also used to supplement fertilizer application to plantains. Plantains are planted following guidelines by NRCS technicians. Minimum tillage basically reduces runoff and helps to trap sediment and pollutants.

## **Caribbean Area Summary**

### **Overview**

Agricultural waste is still the biggest challenge in the Caribbean Area. Most of the agricultural enterprises are generating waste that is not managed properly before reaching the soil and water. Environmental benefits from the installation of sound conservation practices are the reduction of organic waste discharges that impair the waterbodies, signed contracts that will comply with local regulations, and the wise use of organic waste as a source of fertilizer, which will reduce costs from chemical fertilizer.

### **Outlook**

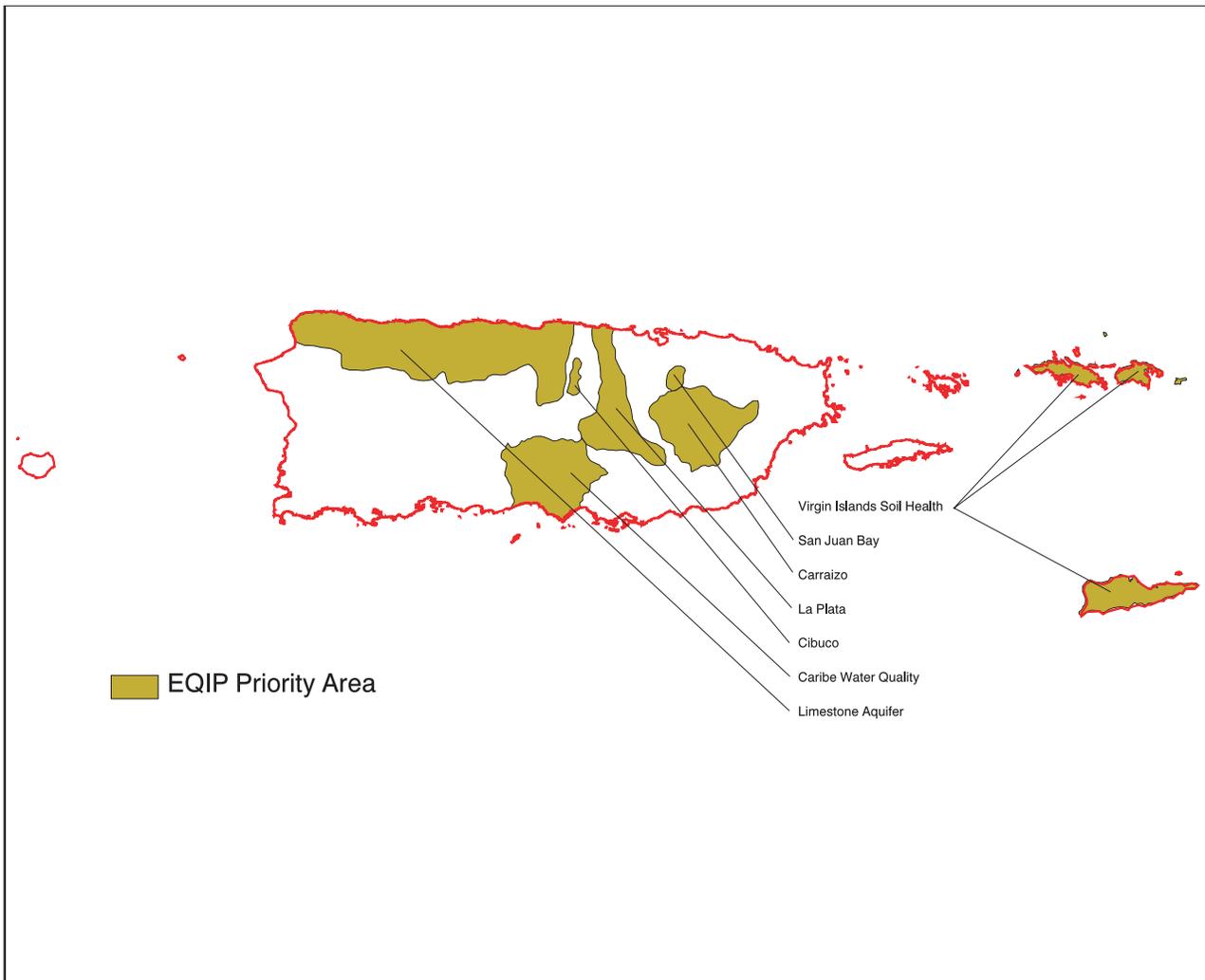
Land treatment is critically needed in the Caribbean Area. Additional funding would ensure continued financial incentives to existing program operation as well as to new proposal requests.

### **State Contact**

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## Caribbean Area EQIP Priority Areas within Congressional District



## Puerto Rico EQIP Contracts by Congressional District

Congressional District	Fiscal Year 2000		Cumulative Total (97-00)	
	Amount	Number	Amount	Number
1	\$460,581	96	\$2,295,559	379
<b>Area Totals:</b>	<b>\$460,581</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>\$2,295,559</b>	<b>379</b>

Note: EQIP contracts for each Congressional District are estimated from Conservation Priority Areas, which may include more than one district

Congressional District 0 = EQIP Contracts for Statewide Natural Resource Concerns, which can be in any Congressional District in the state

Source: FSA Recordset type01, data through 4th quarter FY2000

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