

WILDLIFE HABITAT EVALUATION
CROPLAND HABITAT INVENTORY WORKSHEET

Client: _____ FSN # _____
 Date: _____ Tract: _____
 Observer: _____ Field: _____
 Acres: _____

CROPLAND HABITAT INDEX

	POINTS	EXIST	ALT 1	ALT 2
Crop Residue Management				
No fall tillage: overwinter residue >50%	12	_____	_____	_____
After fall tillage: overwinter residue 30-50%	9	_____	_____	_____
After fall tillage: overwinter residue 10-30%	5	_____	_____	_____
Fall moldboard plowing: overwinter residue <10%	1	_____	_____	_____
Crop Rotation				
Row crop or small grain with grass/legume	12	_____	_____	_____
Row crop with small grain	9	_____	_____	_____
Continuous row crop or small grain	5	_____	_____	_____
Crop Management				
> 10% unharvested crop or food plots present	12	_____	_____	_____
1-10% unharvested crop	9	_____	_____	_____
Total crop harvested some weeds present	5	_____	_____	_____
Total crop harvested no weeds present	1	_____	_____	_____
Amount of edge of woody cover in or around cropland				
> 500 feet per 5 acres of cropland	12	_____	_____	_____
375-500 feet per 5 acres of cropland	9	_____	_____	_____
100-374 feet per 5 acres of cropland	5	_____	_____	_____
<100 feet per 5 acres of cropland	2	_____	_____	_____

(A) Total Cropland Habitat Points (48 maximum)

(B) Cropland Habitat Index (Total points/48)

This inventory sheet includes land used for row crops, small grain, orchards, vegetables and fruit production, as well as hayland included as part of a rotation. Important factors are cover and food provided to wildlife over winter. Diversity, summer food sources, and nesting cover also affect wildlife.

Residue management reflects the importance of grain and crop residue that remains on the soil surface over winter.

Crop rotations affect the diversity of cover types available, the amount of overwinter cover, and possible nesting cover. The rotation evaluated does not have to match the order of the rotations listed, but should contain all the elements listed.

Crop management primarily indicates the amount of food sources, both in summer and winter. Unharvested grain at field edges, wet spots, or odd areas provide winter food and cover. Many weeds are important wildlife foods.

Edge in or around a field is important for providing diversity and escape cover that are important to wildlife.