



SOIL QUALITY HEALTH CARD Scorecard Sheet

Date _____ Crop _____

Farm/Field ID _____

Soil Quality	Poor			Medium			Good		
Indicators	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9
Root Mass									
Smell									
Feel									
Porosity									
Soil Organisms									
Tilth									
Infiltration									
Wind and/or water Erosion									
Crop Residue									
Other <i>(write in)</i>									
Other <i>(write in)</i>									

Indicator (top 6")		Poor (1)	Medium (5)	Good (9)
Root Mass	Spring	Few roots, most horizontal roots	Moore horizontal than vertical roots	Abundant vertical & horizontal roots
Smell		Little or no odor	Some order, mineral odor	Pungent, sweet "earthy" odor
Feel		Soil hard, blocky	Soil difficult to crumble	Soil crumbles easily
Porosity (before tillage)		Very few worms and/or root channels, solid mass, hard plow pan	Some new & old worm and/or root channel, weak plow pan	Many worms and/or root channels
Soil Organisms		Few insects, worms or fungi	Some insects, worms & fungi	Many insects, worms & fungi
Tilth	↓	Crusting, large clods, works hard	Some crusting, small clods, medium pull	Mellow, crumbly, works easy
Infiltration	After Rain	Rain ponds on soil surface	Rain soaks in, some ponding	Rain soaks into soil quickly
Wind and/or Water Erosion	Summer	Deposition obvious	Some deposition evident	No visible soil movement
Crop Residue	Fall	Light, <20% cover	Moderate, 20%-40%	Heavy, >40% cover

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