

# Tri-Basin Irrigator

Volume 08, Issue 12

Serving Gosper, Phelps, and Kearney Counties

Oct. 9, 2008

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### ***EQIP, WHIP, WRP, CREP, CONT. CRP, & SAFE:***

APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE OR ANNUAL PAYMENTS CAN BE TAKEN AT YOUR LOCAL USDA SERVICE CENTER. – TIMETABLES FOR RANKING DATES, APPROVAL DATES, ETC. FOR 2009 EQIP FUNDING HAS NOT BEEN SET.

***REMINDER: EQIP CONTRACT HOLDERS WITH IRRIGATION PRACTICES NEED TO SUBMIT THEIR IRRIGATION WATER MANAGEMENT RECORDS TO THEIR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE.***

***NSWCP:*** APPLICATIONS FOR COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE CAN BE TAKEN ANYTIME AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE. APPLICATIONS FOR IRRIGATION PRACTICES WILL BE REVIEWED FOR APPROVAL AT THE NRD'S DECEMBER, FEBRUARY, AND MAY BOARD MEETINGS. FLOW METERS COST-SHARED THROUGH NSWCP ARE REQUIRED TO READ IN ACRE-INCHES AND CANNOT HAVE A RESETTABLE TOTALIZER.

***NEBRASKA BUFFER STRIP PROGRAM: SIGNUP IS SEPTEMBER 15 THROUGH NOVEMBER 14, 2008.*** FOR MORE INFO, GOTO [WWW.AGR.NE.GOV/DIVISION/BPI/PES/BUFF.HTM](http://WWW.AGR.NE.GOV/DIVISION/BPI/PES/BUFF.HTM). APPLICATIONS CAN BE TAKEN AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE OR NRD OFFICE.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- OCT. 13:** COLUMBUS DAY – GOV'T OFFICES CLOSED.  
**OCT. 14:** TBNRD BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM  
**NOV. 3:** CNPPID BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 9 AM

### ***Year-End Useful Information and Tools!***

- > **No-till On The Plains** is an excellent website for no-till information and upcoming events. Link to [www.notill.org](http://www.notill.org).
- > **NO-TILL@UNL.EDU** is a FREE e-mail list to share information about no-till with other no-tillers, university staff, etc. For sign-up information, contact Curtis Scheele at 308-995-6121, Ext. 3 or at email address [curtis.scheele@ne.usda.gov](mailto:curtis.scheele@ne.usda.gov).
- > **Holdrege No-till Conference** and the **Holdrege Water Conference** will take place again this January and February. Dates will be announced this fall.
- > **Central Plains Irrigation Conference** is an excellent conference to attend, usually in February. It rotates each year between Colby, KS, Kearney, NE, and Sterling, CO. When the information is posted, you can find it at <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/sdi/events/sdievent.htm>
- > **UNL Water** website has lots of good information. Link to <http://water.unl.edu/home>. If no internet, dial 1-800-755-7765.
- > **K-State Mobile Irrigation Lab** website has lots of good irrigation information and useful tools. Goto <http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/mil/>.
- > **Energy Estimator** tools can be used to estimate irrigation, nitrogen, and tillage energy costs. Goto <http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/technical/energy/index.html>.

## ACROSS THE TRI-BASIN NRD

### ***FINAL Tri-Basin Irrigator for 2008***

The fourth year of the Tri-Basin Irrigator has come to a close. I hope that you received helpful information during this past irrigation season. It sure has been an interesting season. We started the crop season with a full soil moisture profile. There were good timely rains in areas throughout the season. This was a year for good soil moisture monitoring and irrigation scheduling as it possibly may have saved you an irrigation or two which means more money in your pocket. Since this is the final issue for 2008, I need to mention a couple of things.

***First, the Nebraska Soil & Water Conservation Program (NSWCP) has approved a new irrigation practice. Eligible items for cost-share are soil moisture sensors, data readers, and soil moisture probes. Sign-up will be with your local NRCS office. This is general information but I wanted to get this in my newsletter for your awareness. More details are forthcoming.***

***Second, I need to remind all the EQIP contract holders with irrigation practices that you need to submit your Irrigation Water Management records to your local NRCS office. These reports are different than the Crop Water Use reports you submit to the NRD. The EQIP reports require more information than just beginning and ending flow meter readings. If you have a crop consultant that kept track of your soil moisture levels, copies of their reports will suffice. Any questions, contact your local NRCS office.***

Again, I hope you enjoyed another year of the Tri-Basin Irrigator. If you wish to provide feedback, comments, or suggestions for next year, contact Curtis Scheele at 308-995-6121, Ext. 3 or at email address [curtis.scheele@ne.usda.gov](mailto:curtis.scheele@ne.usda.gov).

### ***Stage of Growth***

**Corn (Full Dent – 90-95% milk line to Harvesting stage): Soybeans (Full Seed (R6) to Harvesting):** There are some soybeans turning yellow in wheat harvested fields. Leaves turning yellow occurs shortly after R6.

### ***Irrigation***

Harvest was moving right along until the recent rains. Some places got from 1½ inches to up near 5-6 inches. Producers are now slowly getting back to harvest.

Lake McConaughy is at 35.2% capacity versus 27.3% a year ago. Inflows to Lake McConaughy are at 709 cfs versus 586 cfs a year ago. Flows on the South Platte River @ North Platte are at 121 cfs versus 130 cfs a year ago.

### ***Rainfall***

Rainfall amounts come from NeRAIN which can be found at website <http://dnrdata.dnr.ne.gov/NeRAIN/index.asp?&>. Rainfall totals – **September 25 thru October 8:**

Arapahoe 6.9 mi. NW	1.65"
Bertrand 6.1 mi. SE	1.56"
Funk 12.5 mi. N	1.82"
Wilcox 0.3 mi. SW	2.64"
Minden 4.4 mi. NW	4.45"

## NAWMDN CROP ET INFORMATION

Additional Atmometer sites and Weather Station Data can be found on CNPPID's website at <http://www.cnppid.com/ETdata2008.htm>.

7 Days = Sept 22-Sept 28    7 days = Sept 29-Oct 5

Inches of Crop Water Use (ET) = Evaporation x **Kc**

Atmometer Station: Arapahoe 8 Northwest (#8)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

Atmometer Station: Elwood 1 East (#9)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

Atmometer Station: Bertrand 4 Southwest (#10)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

Atmometer Station: Loomis 7 North (#13)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

Atmometer Station: Holdrege 1 Southeast (#11)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

Atmometer Station: Odessa 5 Southeast (#4)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

Atmometer Station: Minden 10 South (#2)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

Atmometer Station: Heartwell 4 Southeast (#5)

**Evaporation:**    Week #1 = **NA inches**    Week #2 = **NA inches**

### Crop Coefficients (Kc)

Corn		Soybeans	
Stage	<b>Kc</b>	Stage	<b>Kc</b>
2 leaf	0.10	Cotyledon (VC)	0.10
4 leaf	0.18	1st Node (V1)	0.20
6 leaf	0.35	2nd Node (V2)	0.40
8 leaf	0.51	3rd Node (V3)	0.60
10 leaf	0.69	Beg. Bloom (R1)	0.90
12 leaf	0.88	Full Bloom (R2)	1.00
14 leaf	1.01	Beg. Pod (R3)	1.10
16 leaf	1.10	Full Pod (R4)	1.10
Silk, Bl., Dough	1.10	Beg. Seed (R5)	1.10
Beg. Dent	1.10	Full Seed (R6)	1.10
Full Dent ½ line	0.98	Beg. Mat. (R7)	0.90
Black Layer	0.60	Full Mat. (R8)	0.20
Full Maturity	0.10	Mature	0.10

### ET Information Sites

NAWMDN Sites:

[www.cnppid.com/ET\\_Map\\_location\\_page.htm](http://www.cnppid.com/ET_Map_location_page.htm)

[elkhorn.unl.edu/ETGage/](http://elkhorn.unl.edu/ETGage/)

Water Use Hotline – dial 1-800-993-2507

Central Irrigation District: [www.cnppid.com](http://www.cnppid.com)

UNL Cropwatch – [cropwatch.unl.edu/weather/gdd-et.html](http://cropwatch.unl.edu/weather/gdd-et.html)

### Websites of Interest

NRCS Nebraska [www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov](http://www.ne.nrcs.usda.gov)  
 Central Irrigation District [www.cnppid.com](http://www.cnppid.com)  
 TBNRD Home Page [tribasinprd.org](http://tribasinprd.org)  
 Farm Service Agency [www.fsa.usda.gov](http://www.fsa.usda.gov)  
 UNL Cropwatch [cropwatch.unl.edu](http://cropwatch.unl.edu)  
 UNL Extension [www.extension.unl.edu/home](http://www.extension.unl.edu/home)  
 UNL Water [extension-water.unl.edu](http://extension-water.unl.edu)  
 K-State SDI Website [www.oznet.ksu.edu/sdi](http://www.oznet.ksu.edu/sdi)  
 No-till On The Plains [www.notill.org](http://www.notill.org)  
 No-till Notes [www.npnrd.org/notill.htm](http://www.npnrd.org/notill.htm)



**Signs of over-irrigation!!!**

*Why do people believe you when you say there are four billion stars, but check when you say the paint is wet?*

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\*\*\* If you wish to receive this newsletter via e-mail, or have any questions, comments or ideas, feel free to contact Curtis Scheele at the NRCS office in Holdrege or you can email him at [curtis.scheele@ne.usda.gov](mailto:curtis.scheele@ne.usda.gov). \*\*\*

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 309 Smith Street  
 PO Box 41  
 Elwood, NE 68937-0041  
 308-785-3307, Ext. 3

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 Minden, NE 68959-2601  
 308-832-1895, Ext. 3

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