

PROGRAM INFORMATION

CSP: THE CSP CONTINUOUS SIGNUP IS UNDERWAY. APPLICATION CUTOFF FOR RANKING IS **SEPTEMBER 30th**. CONTACT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE.

EQIP, AWEP, WHIP, WRP, CREP, & CONT. CRP: APPLICATIONS FOR FUNDING ASSISTANCE AND/OR ANNUAL PAYMENTS CAN BE TAKEN ANYTIME AT YOUR LOCAL USDA SERVICE CENTER. -- EQIP AND AWEP APPLICATIONS FOR 2010 DOLLARS COULD BE RANKED THIS FALL SO GET YOUR APPLICATIONS IN. NEWS RELEASES WILL BE ISSUED WHEN A CUTOFF DEADLINE HAS BEEN ANNOUNCED.

NSWCP: APPLICATIONS FOR COST-SHARE ASSISTANCE CAN BE TAKEN ANYTIME AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE. APPLICATIONS FOR IRRIGATION PRACTICES WILL BE LOOKED AT FOR APPROVAL ON DECEMBER 8, 2009.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT: APPLICATIONS CAN NOW BE TAKEN FOR 2010 MONEY. PRACTICES INCLUDE PIVOTS, SUBSURFACE DRIP SYSTEMS, UNDERGROUND PIPE, WELL & PUMP UPGRADES, PIVOT BRIDGES, ETC. CONTACT KELLEY MESSENGER WITH RURAL DEVELOPMENT AT 308-237-3118, EXT. 4.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- OCT 5: CNPPID BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING, 9 AM
- OCT 12: COLUMBUS DAY – GOV'T OFFICES CLOSED
- OCT 13: TBNRD BOARD MEETING, 1:30 PM

Consider Cover Crops!!!

Considering cover crops after early bean and corn harvest can improve your soil health. A cover crop after hailed out beans and corn can also improve the soil health. Keeping the soil alive during the off-season can reap many benefits.

1. Protect the soil from wind and water erosion.
2. Capture deep nitrogen before it leaches out of the root zone and becomes unavailable to the crops. This captured nitrogen is stored in the cover crop residue and is released to the crops as the residue decomposes.
3. Fix nitrogen with a legume cover crop to be utilized by the following years crop.
4. Increase water infiltration by creating new cavities, especially from larger rooted cover crops.
5. Provide additional grazing opportunities for livestock.
6. Preserve moisture later by creating a cover that will prevent soil evaporation. Especially important when cutting silage or removing stover.
7. Increase the overall soil health. This is done by keeping the soil alive with microbial activity. If nothing is growing the soil becomes dead.
8. Utilize moisture that would normally be lost beyond the root zone, thus protecting soil from erosion, capturing nitrogen, fixing nitrogen, increasing infiltration for those large rain events, providing grazing, and improving the overall health of the soil.

If you have questions about cover crops or no-till in general, you can contact Dan Gillespie, NRCS No-till Specialist at 402-675-2745 or at daniel.gillespie@ne.usda.gov.

ACROSS THE TRI-BASIN NRD

2009 Year End Reports Due!!!

Rainy days this time of year allows us to clean up some year end reports while the crop year is still fresh in our minds.

EQIP Irrigation Water Management (IWM) Records: All EQIP contract holders with irrigation practices need to submit their irrigation records to their local NRCS office this fall. These reports differ from the Crop Water Use reports required by the NRD. These IWM records require more information such as soil moisture, ET, rainfall, and flow meter readings. An NE-ENG-80 form was sent out last spring to be used during the irrigation season. Copies of agronomists field reports, CNPPID's schedule, or any other forms can be substituted provided the above information is recorded.

Water Use Reports: **Deadline for submitting these reports to the Tri-Basin NRD is December 4, 2009.** Postcard reminders will be sent next week to those producers required to submit these reports. Producers can request the necessary forms from the Tri-Basin NRD. Letters and forms will be sent around November 1st to those who have not yet submitted their reports.

Nitrogen Management Reports: **Deadline for submitting these reports to the Tri-Basin NRD is December 31, 2009.** Producers will receive a list of required fields to be reported. Forms will be available from Tri-Basin NRD upon request.

Stage of Growth:

Corn (R5-Full Dent, 3/4 Milk Line to R6-Black Layer stage):

Black Layer signals the end of kernel growth for the season. The husks and many leaves are no longer green although the stalks may be. Average kernel moisture at R6 is 30-35%. This can vary depending on hybrids and environmental conditions.

Average daily water use from Sept 14-Sept 20 was 0.04"-0.10".

Soybeans (R7-Beg. Maturity to Harvest stage):

R8-Full Maturity is when 95% of the pods have reached their mature pod color. 5-10 days are required after R8 before soybeans have less than 15% moisture.

Average daily water use from Sept 14-Sept 20 was 0.00"-0.03".

Irrigation:

The last couple of days have provided nice rains to help replenish the soil with moisture. However, the crops need more drying days for harvest. Hopefully, we can move onward with sunshine and get harvest kicked into full gear.

From Sept. 14-Sept. 20 (13 NAWMDN sites), the average weekly rainfall was 0.31" and average weekly ET for corn was 0.50" and beans was 0.20".

Lake McConaughy is at 49.3% capacity versus 34.1% a year ago. Inflows to Lake McConaughy are at 1491 cfs versus 921 cfs a year ago. Flows on the South Platte River @ North Platte are at 414 cfs versus 93 cfs a year ago.

Rainfall:

Rainfall amounts come from NeRAIN which can be found at website <http://dnrdata.dnr.ne.gov/NeRAIN/index.asp?&>.

<u>Location:</u>	<u>Sept 10 – Sept 23</u>	<u>May 1 – Sept 23</u>
Arapahoe 6.9 mi. NW:	2.07"	16.78"
Bertrand 6.1 mi. SE:	2.01"	13.38"
Funk 12.5 mi. N:	3.32"	19.96"
Wilcox 0.3 mi. SW:	0.94"	16.29"
Minden 4.4 mi. NW:	2.09"	14.80"

NAWMDN CROP ET INFORMATION

Additional Atmometer sites and Weather Station Data can be found at websites listed under "ET Information Sites" below.

7 Days = Sept 7-Sept 13 7 days = Sept 14-Sept 20

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

- Atmometer Station: Arapahoe 7 Northwest (#5)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.70 inches Week #2 = 1.00 inches
- Atmometer Station: Elwood 1 East (#6)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.90 inches Week #2 = 0.60 inches
- Atmometer Station: Bertrand 4 Southwest (#7)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.45 inches Week #2 = 0.95 inches
- Atmometer Station: Bertrand 6 Northeast (#12)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.70 inches Week #2 = 0.90 inches
- Atmometer Station: Holdrege 5 Southeast (#9)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.85 inches Week #2 = 0.90 inches
- Atmometer Station: Funk 6 Northeast (#8)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.60 inches Week #2 = 0.85 inches
- Atmometer Station: Minden 11 Southeast (#2)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.50 inches Week #2 = 1.00 inches
- Atmometer Station: Minden 5 North (#3)
Evaporation: Week #1 = 0.60 inches Week #2 = 1.00 inches

		Crop Coefficients (Kc)	
		Corn	Soybeans
Stage	Kc	Stage	Kc
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	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
elkhorn.unl.edu/ETGage/
 Water Use Hotline – dial 1-800-993-2507
 Central Irrigation District: www.cnppid.com
 UNL Cropwatch – cropwatch.unl.edu/weather/gdd-et.html

Websites of Interest

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



**Oats cover crop
no-tilled into
hailed out
soybeans.**

**Oats cover crop
no-tilled into
hailed out
corn.**



Friends are like balloons. Once you let them go, you might not get them back,

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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. ***

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