

PROGRAM INFO

EQIP-GSWC: NEW SIGNUPS CAN BE TAKEN ANYTIME FOR 2007 MONEY.

NSWCP: APPLICATIONS CAN NOW BE TAKEN AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE FOR NEW COST-SHARE MONEY. FIRST APPROVALS FOR IRRIGATION PRACTICES WILL BE SEPTEMBER 12, 2006.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 3: CNPPID BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 9 AM
JULY 4: CNPPID 4-WEEK SCHEDULE STARTS
JULY 4: CNPPID START 2ND RUN OF 5-WEEK SCHEDULE
JULY 4: INDEPENDENCE DAY (GOV'T OFFICES CLOSED)
JULY 11: TBNRD BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM*
JULY 19: NO-TILL EXPO NEAR FULLERTON, NE
JULY 15-20: KEARNEY COUNTY FAIR
JULY 23-27: PHELPS COUNTY FAIR
AUGUST 3-5: GOSPER COUNTY FAIR
AUGUST 24: IRRIGATION TOUR

* Times are tentative

Turn On Irrigation Today or Tomorrow?

Maximizing soil moisture can save dollars. Especially with fuel prices the way they are. To schedule irrigations, follow example below:

- Holdrege Silt Loam soil holds about 2.3 inches per foot
- Corn (silking) = 3 ft. root depth
- ET estimate = 0.36 inches per day
- Producer set goal to irrigate at 60% moisture
- In field, current moisture is 70%

2.3 in./ft. x 3.0 ft. depth x 70% = 4.83 in. available water
2.3 in./ft. x 3.0 ft. depth x 60% = 4.14 in. minimum to irrigate

4.83 in. - 4.14 in. = 0.69 in. water left in soil

0.69 in. / 0.40 in. ET = 1.73 days of water left.

A factor you must take into account is the number of days it takes to get across the field. In this example, if you can irrigate the field in 1 day, you can start irrigating tomorrow. Hopefully catch a rain tonight and you won't have to. If it takes more than 1 day to get across this field, then you need to be starting now if not already irrigating.

If you have any questions about scheduling irrigations or would like to set up an appointment to go over this, call Curtis Scheele at 308-995-6121, Ext. 3.

ACROSS THE TRI-BASIN NRD

REMINDER: EQIP Dryland and No-till field checks:

For those of you who have received irrigation cost-share money from the Environmental Quality Incentive Program (EQIP), you have a signed contract obligating you to dryland farm certain areas. In addition to dryland farming, some of you are also obligated to no-till farm. This is dependent upon the year of your EQIP contract. This past winter/spring you all received a letter with a map indicating which areas need to be dryland and no-tilled for the 2006 crop year. NRCS staff will begin field checking all of these fields about mid-July into August. Failure to comply with your EQIP contract could result in termination, repayment of funds, plus penalties.

If you have any questions related to this or anything else related to your EQIP contract, contact your local NRCS office at the address or phone numbers listed on the backside of this newsletter.

Stage of Growth:

Corn (11-leaf to 16-leaf stage): This is when the plant is determining the number of seeds and the size of ears. Nutrient and moisture deficiencies at this time may seriously reduce these two harvest factors.

Soybeans (V6 to R1-Beginning Bloom stage): Vertical growth rates increase sharply at R1 and stay relatively high until the R4-R5 stages.

Irrigation:

June 15-16th gave us some relief as very nice rains covered the area. Across the NRD, rains ranged from 1-7 inches. Hopefully, we can catch some more before the end of the growing season.

Central's two week allocations are 1.68 inches for the five run schedule and 2.1 inches for the four run schedule. Transfers have been allowed up to a maximum of 3.36 inches every two weeks. The second run of the five week schedule starts July 4th. This is also the start of the four run schedule.

Irrigators may use Central's canals to convey groundwater from one field to another with permission from the Tri-Basin NRD. Flow will be metered at the well and again at the withdrawal point.

Lake McConaughy is at 35.1% capacity versus 36.7% a year ago. Flows on the North Platte River @ Lewellen are at 451 cfs versus 559 cfs a year ago. Flows on the South Platte River @ Roscoe are at 7 cfs versus 294 cfs a year ago.

Rainfall:

The following rainfall amounts (inches) come from NeRAIN which can be found on Tri-Basin NRD's website www.tribasinprd.org. Rainfall totals - **June 15 thru June 28:**

Arapahoe 6.9 mi. NW	1.56
Bertrand 9.2 mi. SSW	0.95
Funk 12.5 mi. N	3.39
Wilcox 0.3 mi. SW	6.18
Heartwell 3.7 mi. S	5.07

