

PROGRAM INFORMATION

EQIP, CSP, Etc.

EQIP – YOU CAN SIGN-UP ANYTIME FOR 2016 FUNDS AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE. A CUTOFF DEADLINE WILL BE ANNOUNCED LATER THIS SUMMER/FALL.

CSP: REMINDER – SUMMER ENHANCEMENTS NEED TO BE COMPLETED. **SEE BELOW FOR THE LEAF TISSUE SAMPLING (WQL04) ENHANCEMENT WHICH NEEDS TO BE COMPLETED NOW.**

NSWCP: NEW COST-SHARE MONEY IS HERE. APPLICATIONS CAN BE TAKEN AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT: YOU CAN SIGN-UP ANYTIME FOR 2016 FUNDS AT YOUR LOCAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. A CUTOFF DEADLINE WILL BE ANNOUNCED AT A LATER DATE. CONTACT RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KEARNEY AT 308-237-3118, EXT. 4.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

JULY 3: INDEPENDENCE DAY OBSERVED – GOV'T OFFICES CLOSED

JULY 4: INDEPENDENCE DAY

JULY 6: CNPPID BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 9 AM

JULY 14: TBNRD BOARD MEETING 1:30 PM

JULY 19-23: KEARNEY COUNTY FAIR

JULY 25-30: PHELPS COUNTY FAIR

JULY 30-AUG 1: GOSPER COUNTY FAIR

AUG 4: NEBRASKA WATER BALANCE ALLIANCE FIELD DAY AT SUTHERLAND, NE. E-MAIL NEWBA2012@GMAIL.COM TO RSVP BY JULY 28TH. FOR MORE INFO, GOTO WWW.NEBRAKAWATERBALANCE.COM.

Leaf Tissue Samples: **PRIOR TO TASSEL!**

Leaf tissue testing is an adaptive nitrogen management technique used to adjust nitrogen application rates in-season. It can diagnose crop growth problems and when coupled with soil tests, can be useful in refining nutrient inputs.

If you are a CSP contract holder with the “Water Quality Enhancement – WQL04 – Plant Tissue Tests and Analysis to Improve Nitrogen Management”, then you will need to complete your leaf tissue tests now, prior to tassel. Below is a brief outline of the procedure:

1. Appropriately collect multiple sub-samples at random from representative areas in the field that will be combined into a single sample for analysis.
2. Collect the youngest mature corn leaf prior to tassel from 15-20 plants for a sample.
3. Dirty samples need to be lightly rinsed to remove soil particles from the leaf. DO NOT over-rinse as soluble nutrients could be leached out.
4. Samples need to be air dried and placed in a paper bag for shipping.
5. Contact the lab for additional information on sampling and analysis.

Sign and turn in appropriate documents for CSP when done. If you have any questions, contact your local NRCS office.

CURTIS'S COLUMN



HEADS UP!!!

EQIP Dryland, No-till, & Grass Field Checks!!!

The NRCS will be starting their annual field checks for dryland, no-till, and grass contract obligations for EQIP contract holders. These checks will take place over the next month or so. This past spring, EQIP contract holders received a reminder letter with a map indicating which areas needed to be dryland, no-tilled, or have grass maintained. **Failure to comply with your EQIP contract could result in termination, repayment of funds, and/or penalties.** Staff will be completing these field checks across the Tri-Basin NRD on EQIP contracts not yet expired from 2009 through 2014.

If you have any questions, contact your local NRCS office at the address or phone numbers listed on page 4.

Sensor Reading Observations:

From the few sensor readings I am seeing, it looks as if the fields that have not turned irrigation systems on yet are quickly depleting moisture in the top foot. So far in visiting with producers, that is the case as well. Deeper we are still seeing moisture which again is what I am gathering from producers. These fields are showing the 2nd foot is beginning to utilize moisture. Hopefully the roots will get rooted down to 3 feet at silking. Below is a chart showing the moisture levels to a 4 foot depth on pivot corn fields that have not yet turned on their pivots as of June 29th.

June 29, 2015	
Soil Depth	Pivot Irrigation
1 foot	70%
2 foot	95%
3 foot	100%
4 foot	100%
4 ft. avg.	91%

REMINDER

Leaf Tissue Samples Prior to Tassel!!!

CSP participants with WQL04, Plant Tissue Testing and Analysis, in their contracts need to be getting tissue samples completed prior to tassel in order to meet contract obligations. See article on the right side of this page for more info.



**Wishing You All a
Safe and Wonderful
Independence Day!!!**

Summer Tours and Irrigation Meetings:

Area tours and irrigation meetings are great things to put on the bucket list if you are missing them. The benefits of continuing education throughout life are well documented and in particular for irrigators, taking time to discuss water issues from all viewpoints allows the best possible solutions to be found. The annual Water & Natural Resources Tour is a great example of a good educational exercise. The just completed 2015 tour was in the Republican Basin where NE and CO augmentation projects, the new Wheat Center in Grant, the drained Bonnie Reservoir in CO, NE oil/gas resources, the Valmont Pivot factory in McCook, surface (river) water issues for two irrigation districts, NE/KS Reclamation Office, invasive species work in the river bed, Harlan Dam gate repair and water-based boat recreation at Harlan Co Lake were stops on the tour. Producers and agency people were among the participants from across the state; each with a different perspective and set of goals.

Central has tours of its system on a continuing basis. A few hundred people take the one or two day tour each year and we always welcome any and all participants who are interested in the history and current operation of this exceptional project. Call the District Office, 308 995-8601, to take a no-cost tour.

Paulman Farms is having a field day near Sutherland on August 4th. Many producers, vendors and agency people will gather to see the newest water measurement and monitoring technology for precision management of crop production. Also, a panel of producers will share their experience with technology and what is working in their operations. Directions to the farm, a program agenda and the RSVP form are on the NE Water Balance Alliance website; www.nebraskawaterbalance.com.

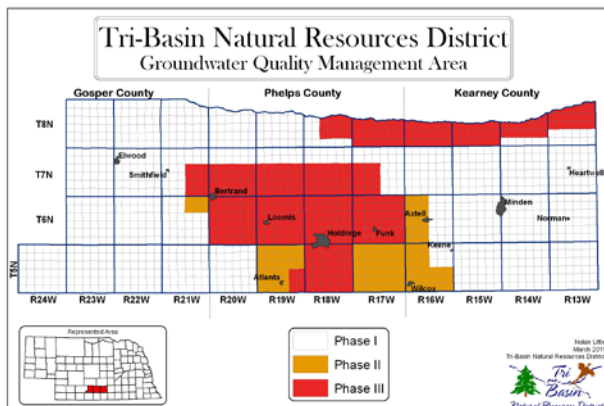
TRI-BASIN NRD NEWS



Remember to Take Water Samples for Nitrogen Management Reports:

If you have fields in Phase 2 or Phase 3 of our Groundwater Quality Management Area (see map), you are required to sample your own irrigation water and test it for nitrates each year. With above average rains in some portions of the district causing a delayed start to the irrigation season, it's important to remember to collect the water samples once you start irrigating. If possible, you should take samples after the well has been running for awhile, in order to get more accurate results.

The results from the samples you take this irrigation season will be used in nitrogen planning for next year's crop and reported on your 2016 Nitrogen Management Reports. Sample bottles are available at Tri-Basin NRD and the NRCS offices.



Climate Outlook:

After a wet start to the month, things have dried out over the past 14 days. The last significant moisture to fall in the Tri-Basin area was on June 18th and it has been dry ever since. Most of the recent rainfall has been concentrated east of Nebraska. However, as I write this on Wednesday afternoon, there is a good chance of precipitation on Thursday. Overall, temperatures have been moderate due to the ridge over the western U.S. and the trough over the eastern U.S., which has put the jet stream right over the top of Nebraska. This is the same pattern that dominated our weather this past winter and it may dominate our pattern for the next few weeks. This pattern has brought in numerous, small chances for precipitation and a west-to-east temperature gradient. It also allowed for portions of southern and western Nebraska to really heat up into the upper 90s, while eastern areas remained in the upper 70s to low 80s. Dewpoints have remained quite high, so conditions have been humid and sticky.

Table: 14-Day weather recap for June 17-30.

Station	Avg High (°F)	Avg Low (°F)	Avg Dew Pt (°F)	Soil Temp (°F)	Total Precip (in)	GDD (50) Total
Holdrege	85.4	58.9	62.1	80.0	1.34	297
Holdrege 4N	84.2	59.1	62.3	77.1	1.37	293
Minden	84.1	59.1	63.5	76.2	1.11	292
Smithfield	84.3	58.9	62.1	78.1	1.24	293

Data from the High Plains Regional Climate Center

For the next few days, this pattern will continue with variable temperatures and scattered precipitation chances.

Temperatures will warm over the holiday weekend, but cool back down to start the week, with another decent chance of precipitation on Monday and Tuesday. Temperatures will be in the 80s and the warmest day looks to be Sunday with highs reaching 90°F. Next week, we will see a few disturbances come through the area from Canada

bringing in some good chances for moisture. The best chances for precipitation over the next week are down in Kansas through Missouri and Tennessee.

For the extended forecast, this pattern will probably continue for a while. The models consistently want to bring the ridge from the desert southwest over our area, but as the forecast hour gets closer the models continue the current pattern. If this ridge does move over our area, temperatures will really heat up and dry conditions will prevail. For what it's worth, the long-term forecast models have the strong ridge building in around the 20th of July; however, the confidence is very, very low. This will be worth paying attention to in the next couple weeks, as it could impact corn during the most critical period.

For now, typical July weather should prevail, but prolonged hot weather is not expected. The majority of July looks to have below normal temperatures with the potential for near to above normal precipitation.

-Tyler Williams, Nebraska Extension Educator

NAWMN CROP ET INFORMATION

Additional Information and other ET resources can be found at websites listed under "ET Information Sites" below.

$$\text{Inches of Crop Water Use (ET)} = \text{Evaporation} \times K_c$$

Site	June 15 - June 21		June 22 - June 28	
	Evaporation	Rain	Evaporation	Rain
1	1.40	1.20	1.40	0.00
2	1.30	2.41	1.70	0.00
3	1.50	2.30	1.60	0.00
4	1.50	1.68	1.60	0.00
5	1.00	2.15	1.65	0.00
6	1.50	1.70	1.60	0.00
7	1.30	1.55	1.50	0.00
8	1.30	1.66	1.60	0.00
9	1.40	1.55	1.80	0.00
10	1.50	1.34	1.70	0.00
11	1.30	1.80	1.50	0.00
12	1.20	1.84	1.70	0.00
13	1.30	1.41	1.60	0.00
14	1.30	1.85	1.70	0.00
15	1.40	1.07	1.70	0.00
16	1.20	0.72	1.70	0.00
17	1.40	0.95	1.40	0.00

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 - Beg. Dent	1.10	Beg. Seed (R5)	1.10
¼ Milk Line	1.04	Full Seed (R6)	1.10
Full Dent (½ Milk)	0.98	Yellow Leaf (R6.5)	1.00
¾ Milk Line	0.79	Beg. Mat. (R7)	0.90
Black Layer	0.60	Full Mat. (R8)	0.20
Full Maturity	0.10	Mature	0.10

CROP STAGE INFORMATION

Corn (V7-7 Leaf to V16-16 Leaf stage): Most corn is approaching the peak water use stage for corn which is silking. Corn should be taking water from the 2nd foot and working its way to 3 feet by silking.

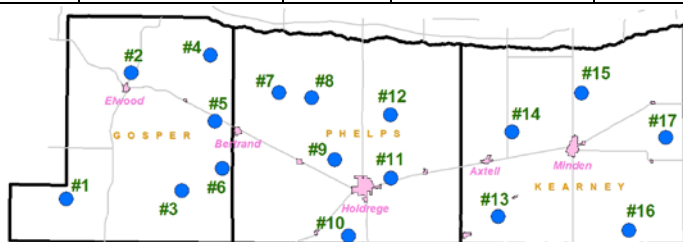
Avg. daily water use from June 22 – June 28 was 0.10"-0.24".

Soybeans (V4-Fourth Node to R1-Beginning Bloom stage): Vertical root growth increases sharply at R1.

Secondary roots and root hairs proliferate after R1 in the top 9 inches. Beginning Bloom should be drawing moisture from the 2nd foot.

Avg. daily water use from June 22 – June 28 was 0.15"-0.21".

June 22-June 28 (17 of 17 NAWMN sites reporting): Average weekly rainfall was 0.00 (range 0.00 to 0.00). Average weekly ET for corn was 1.10 and for soybeans was 1.20.



2015 Map of NAWMN Sites Across the Tri-Basin NRD.

ET INFORMATION SITES

NAWMN Sites:

- * <http://www.cnppid.com/news-info/weatheret-data/nebraska-agricultural-water-management-network/>
- * <https://nawmn.unl.edu/>

CropWatch: <http://cropwatch.unl.edu/gdd-etdata>

CNPPID: <http://www.cnppid.com/news-info/weatheret-data/>

Water Use Hotline: 1-800-993-2507

Corn Stage		DESCRIPTION
V10	10 Leaves	Leaf stage is defined by number of leaves with visible collars. The collar is a discolored line where the leaf meets the stalk. This line circles the stalk.
V16	16 Leaves	
R1	Silking	Beginning of visible silk outside the husks.
Soybean Stage		DESCRIPTION
V(n)	Nth Node	Additional nodes continue to grow as plants develop.
R1	Beginning Bloom	At least one open flower is present at any main stem node.
R2	Full Bloom	At least one open flower is present at any one of the two uppermost main stem nodes that have fully developed leaves.

LAKE AND RIVER LEVELS

CNPPID Reservoir Elevation and Platte River Flow data listed below and other locations can be found on CNPPID's website at <http://www.cnppid.com/news-info/reservoirriver-data/>.

	July 2, 2015, 7:00 AM	1 Year Ago
Capacity of Lake McConaughy	97.2%	66.4%
Inflows to Lake McConaughy	3,521 cfs	856 cfs
Flows on the North Platte River at North Platte	281 cfs	363 cfs
Flows on the South Platte River at North Platte	5,430 cfs	1,071 cfs

Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it.

- Thomas Paine

WEBSITES OF INTEREST

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

RAINFALL

Rainfall amounts listed below and other locations come from NeRAIN which can be found at website <http://nerain.dnr.ne.gov/NeRAIN/docs/report.asp>.

Location:	June 18 – July 1	May 1 – July 1
Arapahoe 6.9 NW:	0.30	6.85
Bertrand 6.1 mi. SE:	0.41	10.23
Funk 4.1 mi. NNE:	0.22	7.58
Minden 0.855 mi. W:	1.15	8.44
Minden 8.8 mi. ESE:	0.31	10.74

Average Rain for May-June in Holdrege = 8.04 Inches

*** 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. ***

USDA - Natural Resources Conservation Service

1609 Burlington Street
 South Brown Street
 PO Box 798
 Holdrege, NE 68949-0798
 308-995-6121, Ext. 3

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



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

Central Nebraska Public Power & Irrigation District

415 Lincoln Street
 PO Box 740
 Holdrege, NE 68949
 308-995-8601



Tri-Basin Natural Resources District

1723 Burlington Street
 Holdrege, NE 68949
 308-955-6688



Nebraska Extension

1308 2nd Street
 Holdrege, NE 68949
 308-995-4222

PO Box 146
 Elwood, NE 68937
 308-785-2390

424 North Colorado
 PO Box 31
 Minden, NE 68959
 308-832-0645

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