

## PROGRAM INFORMATION

### *EQIP, AWEP, CSP, WHIP, WRP, & MANY MORE:*

APPLICATIONS FOR 2012 FUNDS CAN BE TAKEN ANYTIME AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE. APPLICATIONS MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO STARTING ANY INSTALLATION WORK.

**NSWCP:** APPROVALS FOR IRRIGATION RELATED APPLICATIONS WILL BE ON SEPTEMBER 13, 2011. APPLICATIONS MUST BE SIGNED BY THE OWNER AND COMPLETED BY THE END OF AUGUST IN ORDER TO BE REVIEWED FOR APPROVAL AT THE SEPTEMBER BOARD MEETING. APPLICATIONS FOR COST-SHARE CAN BE TAKEN AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE. APPLICATIONS MUST BE APPROVED PRIOR TO STARTING ANY INSTALLATION WORK. THE NEXT TIME IRRIGATION APPLICATIONS WILL BE APPROVED FOR FUNDING WILL BE AT THE DECEMBER BOARD MEETING.

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

- AUG 16: CNPPID STARTS LAST 2-WEEK IRRIGATION RUN
- AUG 26-SEPT 5: NEBRASKA STATE FAIR
- SEPT 5: LABOR DAY – GOVERNMENT OFFICES CLOSED
- SEPT 6: CNPPID BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING – 9 AM
- SEPT 8: NO-TILL EXPO SOUTH OF MINDEN, REGISTRATION FORMS ARE AT YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE. **REGISTRATION DEADLINE IS SEPT. 2<sup>ND</sup>**. ALL THIS IS ALSO AVAILABLE AT [WWW.NOTILL.ORG/WWW.TOUR/WWW.11/MINDEN.HTM](http://WWW.NOTILL.ORG/WWW.TOUR/WWW.11/MINDEN.HTM)
- SEPT 13: TBNRD BOARD MEETING – 7:30 PM
- SEPT 13-16: HUSKER HARVEST DAYS, GOTO [WWW.HUSKERHARVESTDAYS.COM](http://WWW.HUSKERHARVESTDAYS.COM) FOR MORE INFO.

### No-Till Residue: How Valuable Is It???

No-till residue is very valuable in crop production. Hopefully, this synopsis will shed some light on its value.

No-till residue protects the soil from rain and irrigation water droplets. This residue prevents crusting, thus increasing water infiltration (reduced runoff) and seed emergence. Without this residue money is spent replacing the runoff water with irrigation. Equipment is used to break crusts or irrigation is used to water up crops all because money was spent removing the residue which allowed the creation of crusts.

No-till residue prevents valuable water from evaporating off the soil. Evaporated water because of tillage expenses has to be replaced by spending additional money to irrigate.

No-till residue prevents weeds which utilize a lot of valuable water. Weed seeds are planted with tillage equipment, fuel and time expenditures. Then dollars are spent killing weeds and replacing lost water from the weeds.

No-till residue collects off-season moisture at no expense.

No-till residue provides a strong soil structure due to extra organic matter. This structure keeps pivot tracks from creating ditches which are later worked in with equipment, fuel and time.

No-till residue increases organic matter. Organic matter increases nutrients for the crops meaning less fertilizer.

In closing, time and dollars are spent creating situations that require additional time and dollars rectifying them. Hummm???

A chance to learn more about no-till is right here in our back yard with the Whirlwind No-Till Expo south of Minden on September 8<sup>th</sup>.

## ACROSS THE TRI-BASIN NRD

### **Whirlwind No-Till Expo South of Minden!!!**

It's here!!! Since these expos started, I don't recall one held in the Tri-Basin NRD. Well now one is. It will be held Thursday, September 8<sup>th</sup> at 8:30 AM at the William R. Nielsen farm about 8 miles south of Minden and a little bit east. **Registration Deadline is September 2<sup>nd</sup>**. You can register online or send in a registration form. See the attached/enclosed registration form and agenda. With the benefits of no-till, cost is a cheap \$30.00. A catered lunch will be provided at the Minden Opera House with an afternoon program to follow. So plan on a full day. Should it rain, the entire event will be held at the Minden Opera House. These expos are excellent field days so plan to attend.

### **Stage of Growth:**

**Corn (R3 Milk to R4.7-Beginning Dent stage):** Corn roots should be in the 4 foot root zone or close to it. One needs to start allowing the plants to remove moisture from the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> foot root zones. At Beginning Dent, kernels are beginning to dent at the base of the ear. Full Dent is when the milk line is ½ way down the kernel.

**Average daily water use from Aug 8-Aug 14 was 0.13"-0.20".**

**Soybeans (R5-Beginning Seed stage to R6-Full Seed stage):** Roots should be in the 4 foot root zone or close to it. Demand for water and nutrients is large throughout the rapid seed filling period, through R-6, Full Seed.

**Average daily water use from Aug 8-Aug 14 was 0.13"-0.20".**

### **Irrigation:**

Moisture is in the soil. From what I have seen as of August 15<sup>th</sup>, Holdrege Silt Loam (2.25 inches per foot) soil moisture levels are ranging from 75-100%. Most corn is in the late dough/beginning dent stage. Corn needs 5.0 inches to reach maturity at beginning dent. To end the year at 40% moisture to a 4 foot depth, those at 75% moisture level needs an additional 2 inches of water while those at field capacity need 0.0 inches of additional water. No need to rush into irrigation. Continue to monitor moisture levels and crop maturity.

**August 8-August 14 (14 of 14 NAWMN sites reporting): average weekly rainfall = 0.98" (range 0.66" to 1.45") and average weekly ET for corn = 1.17" and for soybeans = 1.17".**

CNPPID started their last scheduled 2-week run on August 16<sup>th</sup>. This will of course end around August 31<sup>st</sup>, September 1<sup>st</sup> depending upon each producers schedule. CNPPID will have water available after this time should anybody need another shot of water. Irrigators will need to visit with their canal patrolman if they wish to have additional water..

Lake McConaughy is at 93.8% capacity versus 90.0% a year ago. Inflows to Lake McConaughy are 4199 cfs versus 3476 cfs a year ago. Flows on the South Platte River @ North Platte are 408 cfs versus 242 cfs a year ago.

### **Rainfall:**

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

<b>Location:</b>	<b>Aug 4 – Aug 17</b>	<b>May 1 – Aug 17</b>
<b>Arapahoe 6.9 mi. NW:</b>	<b>1.81</b>	<b>13.80</b>
<b>Bertrand 6.1 mi. SE:</b>	<b>5.70</b>	<b>20.89</b>
<b>Funk 12.5 mi. N:</b>	<b>2.36</b>	<b>16.52</b>
<b>Minden 0.855 mi. W:</b>	<b>2.12</b>	<b>13.25</b>
<b>Minden 8.8 mi. ESE:</b>	<b>3.05</b>	<b>14.03</b>

## NAWMN CROP ET INFORMATION

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

7 Days = Aug 1-Aug 7 7 days = Aug 8-Aug 14

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

- Atmometer Station: Arapahoe 7 Northwest (#1)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.70 inches Week #2 = 1.30 inches
- Atmometer Station: Elwood 1 North (#2)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.50 inches Week #2 = 1.10 inches
- Atmometer Station: Bertrand 4 Southwest (#4)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.30 inches Week #2 = 1.00 inches
- Atmometer Station: Bertrand 6 Northeast (#5)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.20 inches Week #2 = 0.80 inches
- Atmometer Station: Holdrege 5 Southeast (#8)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.40 inches Week #2 = 1.10 inches
- Atmometer Station: Funk 7 Northeast (#10)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.40 inches Week #2 = 1.10 inches
- Atmometer Station: Minden 5 North (#12)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.20 inches Week #2 = 1.10 inches
- Atmometer Station: Minden 11 Southeast (#13)  
**Evaporation:** Week #1 = 1.20 inches Week #2 = 1.25 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 - 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

### ET Information Sites

- NAWMN Sites:  
[www.cnppid.com/ET\\_Map\\_location\\_page2011.htm](http://www.cnppid.com/ET_Map_location_page2011.htm)  
[elkhorn.unl.edu/ETGage/](http://elkhorn.unl.edu/ETGage/)  
 Water Use Hotline: dial 1-800-993-2507  
 CropWatch: [cropwatch.unl.edu](http://cropwatch.unl.edu)  
 Central Irrigation District: [www.cnppid.com](http://www.cnppid.com)

### 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 [tribasinrnr.org](http://tribasinrnr.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.ksre.ksu.edu/sdi](http://www.ksre.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)



Residue Protecting Soil



Weeds in tilled pivot track



Collecting off-season moisture



Tilled Runoff



No-till Runoff

*It's important that we focus more on what we need to be than on what we need to do.*

- Mary Depree

\*\*\* 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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