

PROGRAM INFORMATION

EQIP, CSP, Etc.

EQIP -

2016 EQIP TIMELINE

* OCTOBER 16, 2015: CUTOFF DEADLINE TO BE SIGNED UP FOR 2016 FUNDS. STOP BY YOUR LOCAL NRCS OFFICE TO SIGN-UP.

* JANUARY 29, 2016: DEADLINE FOR RANKING APPLICATIONS FOR 2016 FUNDS.

NOTE: WORK CANNOT BE STARTED UNTIL A CONTRACT HAS BEEN OBLIGATED. WORK STARTED PRIOR TO AN OBLIGATED CONTRACT WILL NO LONGER BE ELIGIBLE FOR EQIP FUNDS.

NSWCP: THE NEXT SIGN-UP DEADLINE FOR ELIGIBLE IRRIGATION PRACTICES IS NOVEMBER 25, 2015, BASICALLY PRIOR TO THANKSGIVING, IN ORDER TO BE REVIEWED FOR APPROVAL AT THE DECEMBER TRI-BASIN NRD BOARD MEETING.

ENERGY EFFICIENCY GRANT: YOU CAN SIGN-UP ANYTIME FOR 2016 FUNDS AT YOUR LOCAL RURAL DEVELOPMENT OFFICE. CONTACT RURAL DEVELOPMENT IN KEARNEY AT 308-237-3118, EXT. 4.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

SEPT 15-17: HUSKER HARVEST DAYS: FOR MORE INFO, GO TO [HTTP://HUSKERHARVESTDAYS.COM/](http://huskerharvestdays.com/).

OCT 5: CNPPID BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING 9 AM

OCT 13: TBNRD BOARD MEETING 7:30 PM

JAN 26-27 (CONFERENCE) & JAN 28 (AIM SYMPOSIUM): NO-TILL ON THE PLAINS WINTER CONFERENCE IN SALINA, KS: EARLY BIRD REGISTRATION DUE SEPT. 30TH. FOR MORE INFO, GO TO [HTTP://WWW.NOTILL.ORG/](http://www.notill.org/).

Harvest Stover, 6 Factors to Weigh!

Corn stover is anything but trash. It's a source of nutrients, cover to protect the soil, fall & winter grazing, etc. But off-farm interest is growing such as roughage to be mixed with wet distillers grain or ethanol production. Here are six factors to weigh before deciding to harvest stover.

1. Removing residue will violate a carbon sequestration contract.
2. The amount of residue needed to be retained in order to break even on preserving soil organic carbon depends on crop rotation and tillage. In a corn-soybean rotation, need to retain 5.6 tons of stalks per acre if plowing and 3.5 tons per acre if no-tilling.
3. Crop productivity. Up to half the stover can be removed from irrigated fields without destroying soil. Dryland may need to retain all of it to preserve moisture, especially this year.
4. Nutrient value. About half of the nitrogen tied up in corn residue is available for next years crop.
5. Highly Erodible Land. Removing residue could put the producer in noncompliance with farm programs.
6. Producers cost of harvest vs. payments received.

CURTIS'S COLUMN



EQIP Information:

* **Sign-up Cutoff Deadline:** On the left hand side of this page, you will notice the sign-up cutoff date of October 16, 2015 in order to have an application reviewed for 2016 funds. An application signed after this date will not be reviewed for another year. Also note for 2016 funds that January 29, 2016 is the date rankings need to be completed. Thus 2016 pre-approvals and contracts will not be obligated til probably mid to late February at the earliest. With that in mind, any work started prior to contract obligation will not be eligible for EQIP funds.

* **DUNS Numbers and SAM Registrations:** If you have an entity that will be receiving EQIP, CSP, etc. payments, that entity needs to get a DUNS number and be registered with SAM. This does not include individual social security numbers. So, if you already have an EQIP application or will be signing up for 2016 EQIP funds and an entity will be paid in the contract, that entity will need to get a DUNS number and SAM registration prior to the end of 2015. For DUNS, goto <http://fedgov.dnb.com/webform/displayHomePage.do>. For SAM, goto <https://www.sam.gov/index.html/#1#1>. Or stop by your local NRCS office for information. **NOTE: You do not need to pay for DUNS or SAM.**

* **SAM Registration Renewal:** SAM registrations need to be renewed annually. You should get an email indicating such. **NOTE: You do not need to pay for SAM renewal.**

* **Ogallala Aquifer Initiative:** An application for the Tri-Basin NRD area has been submitted to receive additional EQIP dollars for 4 years. At this time we are not sure when and if this will get funded. Sign-up cutoff is October 16, 2015. If you already have an EQIP application, you do not need to resign up.

* **Irrigation Records:** 2015 irrigation records need to be submitted to NRCS. Payments forms can be signed once all records are received. See box below for more information. A good to do this is after irrigation and before harvest.

NOW DUE!!!

2015 Certification, Records, & Reporting

- **CSP:** This fall, all CSP contract holders will need to certify contract obligations and choose payment for 2015 or 2016. If wanting paid in 2015, all contract obligations need to be certified prior to Thanksgiving. Reminder, if you have Pumping Plant Evaluations that need completed, get these completed prior to winterizing wells. Contact your local NRCS offices for more information.
- **EQIP/AWEP Irrigation Water Management (IWM) Records:**
 - All EQIP contract holders with irrigation practices need to submit their 2015 irrigation records to their local NRCS office. 2013, 2014, and 2015 contract holders will get paid after complete records have been submitted. Records include crop grown, soil moisture levels, flow meter readings, crop ET's, and rainfall.
 - All CNPPID AWEP contract holders need to submit their 2015 irrigation records to CNPPID. Contact Marcia Trompke at CNPPID for more information.
- **Water Use Reports:** The NRD requires your tillage info on these reports (acres of no-till, conventional till, etc). **Deadline for submitting these reports to the Tri-Basin NRD is November 20, 2015.**
- **Nitrogen Management Reports:** See tillage info requirements under Water Use Reports above. **Deadline for submitting these reports to the Tri-Basin NRD is December 31, 2015.**

Flowmeters as a management tool:

Some Platte Basin groundwater users have flowmeters on their wells because they have an EQIP pivot or are in an over-appropriated area, but many do not have and do not want to have flowmeters; probably stemming from the fear of NRD or State regulation once total pumping volume is known. Nevertheless, the benefits of having a meter on every field is more than worthy of consideration. Central fields have been metered or measured since 1942 and our producers have learned to make meters work for them like an extra hired hand.

As one example, declining flow through a Central pivot is picked up immediately by a meter and the patrolman. Maybe a pivot screen or sprinkler heads have started to plug, a pump is beginning to fail or an upstream water user started on the wrong day. Rarely, an upstream underground pipe or canal bank may have been compromised. The patrolmen can most often identify the cause quickly, pinpoint the exact location of the problem and in very short order he or the producer can resolve the issue.

In contrast, declining flow from a groundwater well without a meter can go undetected until a yield loss is identified at harvest. Even then, it may be difficult to identify the problem as a water issue; especially if it is an aquifer issue. Our local and/or regional cones of depression are set up by the very nature of pumping, but as more pumping occurs from more wells, these cones will intersect and pumping levels decline. A pivot that is set to apply 0.80" at the panel may actually be applying less and needs to slow down to meet actual crop water needs. But first, the problem and amount of the irrigation deficit must be known. It is food for thought for the 2016 irrigation season that will be here before we know it.

Central wishes everyone a safe and bountiful harvest.



Reminder of Tri-Basin NRD Meter Requirements:

Tri-Basin NRD rules require irrigation flowmeters on:

- All active wells in the Republican Basin portion of Tri-Basin NRD
- All well permits for non-replacement wells in the Platte Basin and Little Blue Basin portions of Tri-Basin NRD
- All wells associated with a Groundwater Transfer
- All wells associated with irrigation-related cost-share practices

Additional meter requirements:

- All meters installed in Tri-Basin NRD must read in gallons or acre-inches. If cost-share funds are received on the flowmeter, the totalizer must read in acre-inches.
- All meters in Tri-Basin NRD must be installed according to the meter manufacturer's specifications.
- Annual Irrigation Water Management (Water Use) Forms must be completed and submitted to Tri-Basin NRD for all required flowmeters.

Drain Your Chemigation Check Valve:

When you are preparing your irrigation systems for colder weather, remember to drain your main line check valve to prevent freezing. This will extend the life of the check valve and may help prevent check valve failure.

Climate Outlook:

Two weeks ago we were talking about unseasonably cold weather and in typical Nebraska fashion we are coming off one of the warmest starts to September on record. From September 1-7, average temperatures were around 10 °F above normal for the Tri Basin. High temperatures reached the mid to upper 90s a number of days and precipitation was basically non-existent. This rapidly sped up the maturity of crops and may have added some stress to dryland crops. Most of the precipitation has been towards eastern Nebraska, but some of that came with some tennis ball sized hail. I think we all can agree that we would rather not have rain at this point in the season, if there is that chance of large hail coming with it.

Table: Precipitation and Temperature from 8/25-9/7

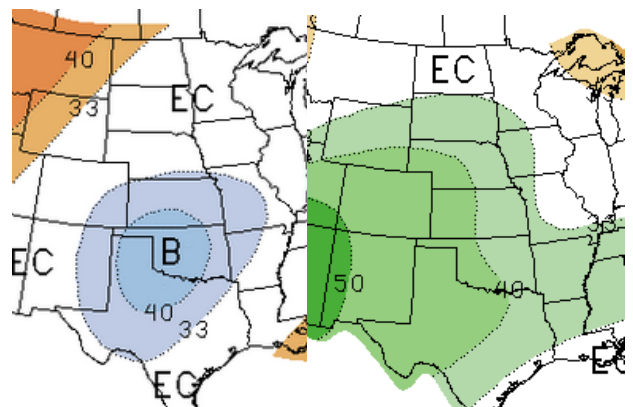
Station	8/25-9/7 Precip		8/25-9/7 Temp				
	Total (in)	% of normal	Avg. Max Temp	Avg. Min Temp	Avg. Temp (°F)	Depart. (°F)	Range (Hi:Lo) (°F)
Holdrege	0.00	0%	89.0	60.1	74.6	5.1	98 : 50
Holdrege 4N	0.13	13%	87.0	60.6	73.8	4.5	94 : 50
Minden	0.04	4%	88.4	60.7	74.6	5.0	95 : 50
Smithfield	0.01	1%	86.8	59.6	73.2	4.0	93 : 52

Temperatures have been cooler and more reasonable this week and it should continue through the weekend. Small chances for precipitation are in the forecast for the end of this week and will decrease towards the end of the weekend and diminish next week. Temperatures will really start to warm back up next week ahead of another deep trough that is expected to build over the Northern Rockies. One model is currently predicting this to be a strong system that will move through our area towards the end of next week. This could significantly drop temperatures (again) and bring in some precipitation. Right now, the first couple days of Husker Harvest Days look to be warm and dry, but it gets questionable next Thursday. Not all of the models agree and the timing and strength are still uncertain, but we will know more as it gets closer.

The longer term forecast for the rest of the month is still quite uncertain. The weather pattern has been very turbulent, so I would expect that to be the trend for a while. The outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center are still expecting above normal precipitation for September through November.

-Tyler Williams, Extension Educator

Figure: Sept. – Nov. Temperature (left) and Precipitation (right) outlooks from the Climate Prediction Center



NAWMN CROP ET INFORMATION

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

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

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

Site	Aug 24 – Aug 30		Aug 31 – Sept 6	
	Evaporation	Rain	Evaporation	Rain
1	1.50	0.00	2.20	0.00
2	1.00	0.00	1.80	0.30
3	1.30	0.02	2.10	0.05
4	1.20	0.00	1.60	0.03
5	1.10	0.00	1.50	0.00
6	0.90	0.03	1.50	0.05
7	1.00	0.00	1.80	0.00
8	1.20	0.00	1.60	0.00
9	1.00	0.00	2.10	0.00
10	1.00	0.00	2.15	0.04
11	1.10	0.00	1.80	0.00
12	0.90	0.00	1.50	0.06
13	0.90	0.00	1.90	0.00
14	1.05	0.00	1.90	0.00
15	1.60	0.02	1.90	0.08
16	1.40	0.00	1.90	0.40
17	1.10	0.00	2.20	0.00

CROP STAGE INFORMATION

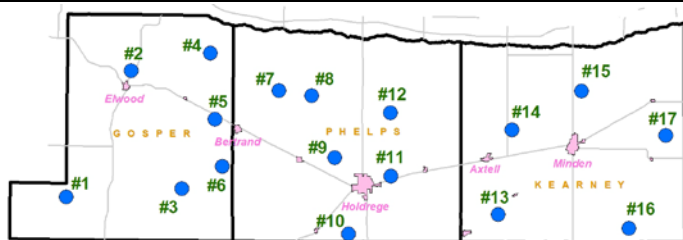
Corn (R5.5-Full Dent ½ Milk Line to R6-Black Layer stage): At R5.5, ½ Milk Line, you need 2.25 inches to maturity. Average moisture to 4 feet is 85% (all Silt Loam). If your field matches this, you are done irrigating.

Avg. daily water use from Aug. 31 – Sept. 7 was 0.17"-0.27".

Soybeans (R6.5-Full Seed/yellow leaf to R7-Beginning Maturity stage): At R6.5, Full Seed/yellow leaf, you need 1.9 inches to maturity. Average moisture to 4 feet is 87% (all Silt Loam). If your field matches this, you are done irrigating.

Avg. daily water use from Aug. 31 – Sept. 7 was 0.19"-0.28".

Aug. 31-Sept. 6 (17 of 17 NAWMN sites reporting): Average weekly rainfall was 0.06 (range 0.00 to 0.40). Average weekly ET for corn was 1.60 and for soybeans was 1.74.



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
R5.8	3/4 Milk Line	The starch line is 3/4 way down the kernel.
R-6	Black Layer	The starch line has advanced to the cob. Physiological Maturity. Black layer formed, kernel moisture is between 25%-35% moisture. 0.0 inches needed for yield.
R-6	Full Maturity	Husks and leaves are no longer green.
Soybean Stage		DESCRIPTION
R6.5	Full seed - yellow leaf	Leaves begin to yellow, beginning in the lower canopy and progressing upwards.
R7	Beginning Maturity	At least one (normal) pod that has attained its final mature color (tan or brown, depending on variety) is present on any main stem node. 0.0 inches needed for yield.
R8	Full Maturity	95% of the pods have reached their mature pod color.

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/>.

	Sept. 9, 2015, 8:00 AM	1 Year Ago
Capacity of Lake McConaughy	88.0%	59.2%
Inflows to Lake McConaughy	1,032 cfs	1,844 cfs
Flows on the North Platte River at North Platte	1,557 cfs	308 cfs
Flows on the South Platte River at North Platte	N/A cfs	419 cfs

The pessimist complains about the wind; the optimist expects it to change; the realist adjusts the sails.

- William Arthur Ward

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:	Aug 27 – Sept 8	May 1 – Sept 8
Arapahoe 6.9 NW:	0.00	13.69
Bertrand 6.1 mi. SE:	0.00	17.64
Funk 4.1 mi. NNE:	N/A	12.90
Minden 0.855 mi. W:	0.04	12.82
Minden 8.8 mi. ESE:	0.20	13.34

Average Rain for May-August in Holdrege = 14.21 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
 PO Box 798
 Holdrege, NE 68949-0798
 308-995-6121, Ext. 3

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



1005 South Brown 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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