

# **Irrigation Training Toolbox Irrigation System Evaluation**

## **Lesson Plan Evaluating Data Obtained From a Furrow or Corrugation Irrigation**

National Employee Development Center  
Natural Resources Conservation Service  
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# **Irrigation Training Toolbox**

## **Irrigation Systems Evaluation**

**COURSE:** Irrigation Systems Evaluation

**LESSON TITLE:** Evaluating Data Obtained From a Furrow or Corrugation Irrigation

**OBJECTIVES:** Give each participant field experience in plotting and evaluating data obtained from a furrow or corrugation irrigation.

**TRAINING AIDS:** Projector and slides

**METHOD:** Classroom discussion and supervision.

**DEVELOPED BY:** West National Technical Center

**IRRIGATION SYSTEMS EVALUATION**  
**EVALUATING DATA OBTAINED FROM A FURROW OR CORRUGATION IRRIGATION**

**INTRODUCTION**

**BODY**

- A. Soil Moisture
1. Determine the amount of moisture that was in the soil profile before irrigation. Total the amount of moisture determined to be in each significant layer of the root zone by both the estimating and computation procedure,  $D_1$  (on EXHIBIT - IWM - 1 and 4.)
  2. Determine the total moisture holding capacity of the soil profile in the root zone:  $D_2$ .
    - a. Estimating - on EXHIBIT - IWM - 4.
    - b. From the physical properties of the soil and the use of feel chart, determine the available moisture holding capacity of each significant layer of the soil profile.
    - c. Record information.
    - d. Total the available moisture for the root zone of the soil profile.
  3. Measuring - on EXHIBIT - IWM - 1.
    - a. From Speedy Moisture Tester measurements of soil at field capacity, compute moisture holding capacity of each layer of soil profile.
    - b. Total the water holding capacity for the root zone of the soil profile.
  4. Determine the depth of application needed from the irrigation,  $D_n$ . (from data on EXHIBIT - IWM - 1 and 4 and record results on EXHIBIT - IWM - 8.)
  5. Determine intake rate (instantaneous) of the furrow during the last 1/4 irrigation:  $i_i$ .
  6. Determine the equivalent intake rate in  $"/hr$   $I_e$ .
  7. Determine Soil Factor;  $K_s$ .
  8. Determine the average intake rate for the irrigation;  $I_a$
  9. Determine depth in inches delivered to the area;  $D_d$
  10. Determine depth infiltrated at top of field;  $F_t$
  11. Determine depth infiltrated at bottom of field;  $F_b$
  12. Determine average depth infiltrated in field;  $F_o$
  13. Determine uniformity of infiltrated;  $U_i$
  14. Determine time required to complete the irrigation;  $T$ .
  15. Determine field application efficiency;  $E$ .
  16. Determine irrigation frequency (minimum);  $I.F.$
  17. Recommendations.

**SUMMARY**

FURROW IRRIGATION EVALUATION

1. Farm \_\_\_\_\_ Field \_\_\_\_\_ Crop \_\_\_\_\_ Last Irrig. \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_  
 Soil \_\_\_\_\_ WHC \_\_\_\_\_" IR \_\_\_\_\_ Stream Size/Furrow \_\_\_\_\_ Set \_\_\_\_\_  
 Furrow Spacing \_\_\_\_\_ Length \_\_\_\_\_ Time of Set \_\_\_\_\_ Advance Time \_\_\_\_\_ Slope \_\_\_\_\_  
 Depth of Appl. needed  $D_n = \text{Moisture at FC} \text{ " } - \text{Moisture before Irrig.} \text{ " } = \text{ "}$

2. Depth of water delivered or applied  $D_d - \frac{Q \text{ gpm} \times 96.3 \times T \text{ hrs.}}{L \times W} = \frac{x \ 96.3 \ x}{x} = \text{ "}$

3. Instantaneous intake rate  $I_i = \frac{\text{gpm in} \text{ " } - \text{gpm out} \text{ "}}{\text{Length in 100s of feet}} = \frac{\text{gpm}}{\text{gpm}/100'}$   
 (during last 1/4 of set)

4. Intake rate equivalent  $I_e = \frac{I_i \text{ (Inst. intake rate)}}{\text{(furrow spacing in feet)}} = \text{ " } = \text{ " } / \text{hr.}$

5. Soil factor  $K_s$  from page 15-36 - Engr. Field Manual  $K_s = \text{ "}$

6. Average intake rate  $I_a = I_e \times K_s = \text{ " } / \text{hr.} \times \text{ " } = \text{ " } / \text{hr.}$

7. Depth infiltrated (top of field)  $F_t = (\text{Ave. Intake } I_a) \times (\text{Time at Top } T_t)$   
 $F_t = \text{ " } / \text{hr.} \times \text{ " } \text{ hrs.} = \text{ "}$

8. Depth infiltrated (bottom of field)  $F_b = (\text{Ave. intake } I_a \times (\text{time at Bottom } T_b))$   
 $F_b = \text{ " } / \text{hr.} \times \text{ " } \text{ hrs.} = \text{ "}$

9. Ave. depth infiltrated  $F_o = \frac{F_t + F_b}{2} = \frac{\text{ " } + \text{ "}}{2} = \text{ "}$

10. Uniformity of application  $U_i = \frac{b}{F_o} \times 100 = \frac{\text{ "}}{\text{ "}} \times 100 = \text{ " } \%$

11. Irrigation efficiency  $E = \frac{\text{Depth needed } D_n}{\text{Depth applied } D_d} = \frac{\text{ "}}{\text{ "}} \times 100 = \text{ " } \%$

12. Required application time  $T = \frac{\text{Depth needed } D_n}{\text{Ave. intake rate } I_a} + \text{Advance Time} = \frac{\text{ "}}{\text{ "}} + \text{ " } = \text{ " } + \text{ " } / \text{hr.}$

13. Irrig. frequency = I.F. =  $\frac{\text{Depth needed } D_n}{\text{Peak daily use } U_p} = \frac{\text{ "}}{\text{ "}} = \text{ " } \text{ days}$   
 \_\_\_\_\_ hrs. = \_\_\_\_\_ hrs.

14. Recommendations: