

Monday, December 10, 2007

IA07-1055

Reclaimed Irrigation Practices to Move Salts Out of the Root Zone for Turf

Jenny Fifita, City of Westminster (Colorado), 4800 W 92nd Ave, Westminster, CO 80031

The application of reclaimed water to urban landscapes can cause salt build up in the turf root zone. Preliminary results will be provided on a study designed to develop a method for applying reclaimed water that will include 'flushing cycles.' Flushing cycles are periods where water is applied in excess (of plant needs) to push the wetting front deeper in the soil profile and facilitate the redistribution of salts below the turf root zone. The primary equipment used in the study is an irrigation controller that gathers data from a soil moisture and conductivity sensors located at different levels in the soil profile in order to monitor the movement of salts and water. This information is used to schedule irrigation and flushing cycles. During the study, turf quality will be evaluated and correlated with conductivity in the root zone.

This presentation will be of interest to anyone using reclaimed water or other water sources with higher salinity levels for irrigation.

See more of [Turf/Landscape: Climate-based Irrigation Scheduling](#)

See more of [The 28th Annual International Irrigation Show \(December 9-11, 2007\)](#)