

TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS.....	ii
PREFACE.....	iii
LIMITATION OF LIABILITY AND USER'S RESPONSIBILITY.....	iv
HOW TO USE THIS PUBLICATION.....	xi

1	INTRODUCTION TO AN IRRIGATION SYSTEM ASSESSMENT.....	1
1.1.	What is an Irrigation System Assessment?.....	1
1.2.	Benefits of an Irrigation System Assessment.....	2
1.3.	Irrigation Management Plan.....	3
1.4.	Protecting the Environment while Improving Farm Protection.....	3

2	CLIMATE.....	5
2.1.	Climate Information.....	5
	Evapotranspiration.....	5
	Effective Precipitation.....	6
	Dry Periods.....	6
	Wet Periods.....	6
	Large Amounts of Precipitation.....	6
2.2.	Historical Climate Information for Irrigation Planning.....	7
	Peak Flow Rate and Annual Crop Water Requirements.....	7
	Peak Flow Rate.....	8
	Annual Crop Water Requirement.....	11

3	BASIC IRRIGATION SYSTEM ASSESSMENT.....	13
3.1.	Preparation of An Irrigation Farm Plan.....	13
3.2.	Irrigation System Audit.....	21
3.3.	System Peak Flow Rate Check.....	24
	Pre-Assessment – Total Irrigated Area.....	24
	Step 1. Calculated Peak Flow Rate.....	27

Step 2. Actual System Flow Rate	27
Water Meter.....	28
Water Purveyor.....	28
Pump Curve.....	28
Sprinkler System Output Flow Rate.....	28
Trickle System Output Flow Rate.....	29
Step 3. Calculated Versus Actual Irrigated System Flow Rates	29
3.4. Annual Water Use Check	33
Step 1. Calculated Annual Water Requirement	33
Sprinkler Systems.....	33
Trickle Systems.....	35
Step 2. Actual Annual Water Use	35
Water Meter.....	35
Pump Operation.....	36
Irrigation System Operation.....	36
Conversion of Inches of Water to Acre-Feet	37
3.5. Water Diversion and Conveyance Loss Checks	43
Water Diversion	43
Conveyance Losses	44
3.6. Screen Area Check	50
Fish Screening for Water Intakes	50
3.7. Irrigation Water Quality Check	53
Impacts of Irrigation Water Quality	53
Soil.....	53
Crops.....	54
Human Health.....	55
3.8. Irrigation System Uniformity Check	57
System Uniformity	58
Sprinkler System.....	58
Trickle/Drip System.....	58
4 IRRIGATION SYSTEM OPERATIONAL ASSESSMENT	63
4.1. Soil Moisture Monitoring	64
Soil Moisture Monitoring Devices	64
Irrigation Scheduling Using Soil Moisture Monitoring Devices	65
Drip/Trickle and Micro-Jet Systems.....	65
Sprinkler System.....	66
Micro-Sprinkler System.....	67
4.2. Climate Monitoring	69
4.3. Irrigation Scheduling Using Evapotranspiration Data	70
Sprinkler Systems	70

Soil Water Capacity and Deficit.....	70
Effective Precipitation (EP).....	71
Net Depth of Irrigation Water Applied (IRR).....	71
Crop Evapotranspiration (ET _c).....	71
Trickle Systems	73
Plant Water Requirement Method.....	74
Water Budget Method.....	75

APPENDICES

A. UNIT CONVERSIONS	A1
B. SPRINKLER AND GUN NOZZLE SPECIFICATIONS	B1
Table B.1 Sprinkler Nozzle Specifications – 30' x 30' Spacing.....	B2
Table B.2 Sprinkler Nozzle Specifications – 30' x 40' Spacing.....	B3
Table B.3 Sprinkler Nozzle Specifications – 30' x 60' Spacing.....	B4
Table B.4 Sprinkler Nozzle Specifications – 40' x 40' Spacing.....	B5
Table B.5 Sprinkler Nozzle Specifications – 40' x 50' Spacing.....	B6
Table B.6 Sprinkler Nozzle Specifications – 40' x 60' Spacing.....	B7
Table B.7 Sprinkler Nozzle Specifications – 60' x 60' Spacing.....	B8
Table B.8 Gun Nozzle Specifications – Series 100 guns 24° Trajectory.....	B9
Table B.9 Gun Nozzle Specifications – Series 150 guns 24° Trajectory.....	B10
Table B.10 Gun Nozzle Specifications – Series 200 guns 24° Trajectory.....	B11
C. BLANK WORKSHEETS	C1
D. PUBLICATIONS AND WEBSITES	D1
E. GLOSSARY	E1

LIST OF FIGURES

Figure 2.1 Elements of Evapotranspiration.....	5
Figure 2.2 Estimated Peak Irrigation Flow Rate Requirements in B.C. [US gpm/acre].....	9
Figure 2.3 Estimated Annual Crop Water Requirements in B.C. [inches or cm].....	11
Figure 3.1 Sample Sprinkler Irrigation Plan – Wheelmove System.....	15
Figure 3.2 Sample Trickle Irrigation Plan – Spray and Point Source Emitter System.....	18
Figure 3.3 Conveyance Loss Example.....	45
Figure 4.1 Tensiometer.....	64

Figure 4.2	Electrical Resistance Block.....	64
Figure 4.3	Moisture Point® Meter.....	64
Figure 4.4	Gro-Point® Sensor.....	64
Figure 4.5	Soil Moisture Profile – Tensiometer Drying Curve.....	65
Figure 4.6	Soil Moisture Tension and Available Water.....	65

LIST OF TABLES

Table 1.1	Impacts of Over- and Under-Irrigation.....	4
Table 2.1	Peak Evapotranspiration Rates for B.C. Locations with Average (3 in or 7.5 cm) Maximum Soil Water Deficit.....	8
Table 2.2	Estimated Peak Irrigation System Flow Rate Requirements Based on Peak ET Rates (with 10% risk factor).....	10
Table 2.3	Estimated Peak Irrigation Flow Rate Requirements for B.C. Locations.....	10
Table 2.4	Estimated Annual Crop Water Requirements for B.C. Locations with Average (3 in or 7.5 cm) Maximum Soil Water Deficit.....	12
Table 3.1	Irrigation System Audit Checklist.....	21
Table 3.2	Application Efficiencies of Irrigation Systems.....	34
Table 3.3	Crop Adjustment Factors for Trickle Systems.....	35
Table 3.4	Screen Mesh Open Area.....	50
Table 3.5	Guidelines on SAR and EC for Irrigation Water Infiltration in Sprinkler Systems.....	54
Table 3.6	Guidelines on SAR _{adj} Use for Irrigation Water for Trickle Systems.....	54
Table 3.7	Irrigation Water Quality Guidelines.....	55
Table 4.1	Range of Soil Moisture for Drip/Trickle and Micro-Jet Systems.....	66
Table 4.2	Soil Moisture Trigger Levels for Sprinkler Systems.....	66
Table 4.3	Summary of Irrigation Scheduling.....	69
Table 4.4	Crop Coefficients for Tree Fruits and Grapes.....	72

LIST OF WORKSHEETS

Worksheet 1(a)	Information from Farm Plan – Sprinkler.....	16
Worksheet 1(b)	Information from Farm Plan – Trickle.....	19
Worksheet 2(a)	Irrigation System Audit – Sprinkler.....	22
Worksheet 2(b)	Irrigation System Audit – Trickle.....	22

Worksheet 3(a)	Total Irrigated Area Using System Information	26
Worksheet 3(b)	Total Irrigated Area Using Field Information	27
Worksheet 4(a)	System Peak Flow Rate Check – Sprinkler	31
Worksheet 4(b)	System Peak Flow Rate Check – Trickle	32
Worksheet 5(a)	Annual Water Use Check – Sprinkler	39
Worksheet 5(b)	Annual Water Use Check – Trickle	41
Worksheet 6	Water Diversion and Conveyance Loss Checks	47
Worksheet 7	Intake Screen Area Check	52
Worksheet 8	Irrigation Water Quality Check	56
Worksheet 9	Irrigation System Uniformity Check	60
Worksheet 10	Sprinkler Irrigation Scheduling Using Water Budget Method	73
Worksheet 11	Trickle Irrigation Scheduling Using Plant Water Requirement Method	75
Worksheet 12	Trickle Irrigation Scheduling Using Water Budget Method	76

LIST OF EQUATIONS

Equation 2.1	Effective Precipitation (EP)	6
Equation 3.1	Total Irrigated Area	24
Equation 3.2	Calculated Peak Flow Rate	27
Equation 3.3	Sprinkler System Output Flow Rate	29
Equation 3.4	Trickle System Output Flow Rate	29
Equation 3.5	Percentage Difference in Flow Rate	30
Equation 3.6	Calculated Annual Water Requirement for Sprinkler Systems	34
Equation 3.7	Calculated Annual Water Requirement for Trickle Systems	35
Equation 3.8	Annual Water Use – Metered Water Use	36
Equation 3.9	Annual Water Use – Pump Water Use	36
Equation 3.10	Annual Water Use for Sprinkler Systems	37
Equation 3.11	Annual Water Use for Trickle Systems	37
Equation 3.12	Annual Acre-Feet of Irrigation Water Use	38
Equation 3.13	Annual Water Diverted – Water Diversion Check	44
Equation 3.14	Conveyance Losses	45

Equation 3.15	Suggested Screen Surface Area for Fish.....	51
Equation 3.16	Actual Screen Surface Area.....	51
Equation 3.17	Distribution Uniformity.....	58
Equation 4.1	Current Soil Water Content.....	70
Equation 4.2	Net Depth of Irrigation Water Applied (IRR).....	71
Equation 4.3	Crop Evapotranspiration (ET _c).....	72
Equation 4.4	Zone Operating Time – Plant Water Requirement.....	74
Equation 4.5	Zone Operating Time – Water Budget Requirement	76