Irrigation Research and Extension at Edisto REC

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Pee Dee River Basin Council Meeting Florence, SC March 28, 2022







Outline

- 1. Center Pivot Mapping Software
- 2. Drip Fertigation Calculator
- 3. Center Pivot Fertigation Calculator
- 4. Watermark Soil Moisture Calculator
- 5. Center Pivot Irrigation Testing Extension Program
- 6. Other Edisto REC Water/Irrigation Work







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Center Pivot Mapper – Overview

https://www.clemson.edu/extension/agronomy/PrecisionAgriculture/Software/center_pivot_mapper.html

- Windows desktop software
- GIS mapping tool for center pivot irrigation systems



- Layout, planning, management
- Exports: ESRI shapefile, Google Earth KML, and PDF
- Published February 2021







Center Pivot Mapper – Mark Center and End









Center Pivot Mapper – Mark Center and End









<u>Center Pivot Mapper – Add Endgun Radius</u>









<u>Center Pivot Mapper – Pivot Info</u>









<u>Center Pivot Mapper – PDF Export</u>



Report generated using Center Pivot Mapper Software (v.1.1.1.1)

User Inputs

Pivot center position: 33.4671324086174°, -81.1433632671833° End/Endgun position: 33.4682880722117°, -81.1454728245735° Forward stop position: 33.4660835718331°, -81.1414340883493° Reverse stop position: 33.4681650109938°, -81.1453058570623° Endgun or last sprinkler radius: 100.0 ft

Calculated Outputs

Machine length: 768.9 ft Wetted radius: 868.9 ft Angle between stops: 180.6° Machine travel between stops (at end): 2423.6 ft Area inside end/endgun position: 21.39 ac Area outside end/endgun position: 5.93 ac Total wetted area: 27.32 ac 24/7 flow required for 1 in. per week: 74 gpm 24/7 flow required for 2 in. per week: 147 gpm Date of report generation: May 25, 2021







<u>Center Pivot Mapper – SHP/KML Export</u>









Center Pivot Mapper – Future Work

- Manage/view multiple pivots
- Record keeping
 - Application depths
 - Sprinkler charts
 - Service history



- Endgun shutoff recommendations
- Output irrigation management plans
 - Irrigation scheduling by crop/soil/region
 - Depth per application recommendations







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Drip Fertigation Calculator - Overview

https://precisionag.sites.clemson.edu/Calculators/Fertigation/Drip/

- App for calculating proper drip fertigation rates
- Inputs
 - Fertilizer Product
 - N Rate or Crop/Growth Stage
 - Area fertigated
- Outputs
 - Gallons per acre per day and per week
- Benefits
 - Encourages use of fertigation
 - Eliminates "guess-timates"
 - Cited recommendations
 - Encourages leaf tissue sampling









Drip Fertigation Calculator Select Nominal Fertilizer Fertigation Event Description: ERBC Example (Optional) For reference if email sent below. Fertilizer Product: Use nominal fertilizer data 💌 7-0-7 Fertilizer Product: 4-0-8 7-0-7 4 - 0 - 8ensity: 10.4 7-0-7 7-0-7 7-1-7 Liberty Acres n density, 8-0-8 7-1-7 Liberty Acres ter data" entry 10-0-10 8-0-8 Manually enter N rate • Nitrogen Rate (lb/ac/day): 10-0-10 1 Area Fertigated (ac): 1 ÷ **PRECISION AGRICULTURE**

Drip Fertigation Calculator Input Custom Fertilizer	Fertigation Event Description: ERBC Example (Optional) For reference if email sent below. Use custom fertilizer data
Percent Nitrogen: 10 :: Product Density, 1b/gal: 10 ::	Percent Nitrogen: 10 Product Density, lb/gal: 10 iually enter N rate Nitrogen Rate (lb/ac/day): 1 Area Fertigated (ac): 1 Custom Fertilizer rate: 1.00 gal/day
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Drip Fertigation Calculator Input Manual N-Rate



Manually enter N rate

Nitrogen H	Rate (lb/ac/day):
1	•

Area Fertigated (ac): 1 ÷

•

Custom Fertilizer rate: 1.00 gal/day



Drip Fertigation Calculator Get N-Rec by Crop/Stage Percent Nitrogen: ÷ 10 Cucumber Product Density, lb/gal: 10 Cucumber Jse recommended N rate by crop 💌 Crop: Cucumber Eggplant Cucumber Fertili SEVCI Eggplant Melon Melon Days Okra Ŧ Recon Pepper Okra 1b/ac/d Strawberry Recon Summer Squash = 1:2Note: P Tomato 5 lb/ac of nitroget Watermelon are recommencea. Strawberry Source: Southeastern Vegetable Extension Workers Vegetable Crop Handbook 2020

Drip Fertigation Calculator Get N-Rec by Crop/Stage Use recommended N rate by crop 💌 Crop: Pepper Crop: | Pepper rtility Program: EVCH Low Soil K 💌 Fertility Program: ays After Planting: 0-14 💌 SEVCH Low Soil K ecommended N Rate: 0.5 b/ac/day Recommended N:K Ratio = 1:1 Days After Planting: 0-14 Note: Before mulching, adjust soil pH to 6.5, and in the absence of a soil test, apply enough fertilizer to supply 50 Recommended N Rate: 0.5 pounds per acre of N, P2O5 and K2O, (some soils will require 100 pounds per lb/ac/day acre of K2O) then thoroughly Recommended N:K Ratio = 1: incorpotrate into the soil. On soils testing low-medium for boron, also include 0.5 pound per acre of actual boron. The first soluble fertilizer application should be applied through the drip irrigation system within a week after transplanting the

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Drip Fertigation Calculator Input Area Fertigated

Days After Planting: 0-14 💌

Recommended N Rate: 0.5 lb/ac/day Recommended N:K Ratio = 1:1

Note: Before mulching, adjust soil pH to 6.5, and in the absence of a soil test, apply enough fertilizer to supply 50 pounds per acre of N, P2O5 and K2O, (some soils will require 100 pounds per acre of K2O) then thoroughly incorpotrate into the soil. On soils testing low-medium for boron, also include 0.5 pound per acre of actual boron. The first soluble fertilizer application should be

Area Fertigated (ac): |1

Extension workers vegetated Handbook 2020

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Area Fertigated (ac): 1



Drip Fertigation Calculator	• •	
	Custom Fertilizer rate: 0.50 gal/day	
Custom Fertilizer rate: 0.50 Custom Fertilizer rate: 3.50	gal/day gal/week gal/week	:d
	Hyperlink to This Setup Recipient email: Multiple? Separate multiple emails by commas.	
	I'm not a robot	
	EMAIL THESE OUTPUTS	///
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Pivot Fertigation Calculator - Overview

https://precisionag.sites.clemson.edu/Calculators/Fertigation/Pivot/

- App for calculating proper center pivot fertigation rates
- Inputs
 - Fertilizer Product
 - Pivot Size/Travel Time
 - Nutrient Rate (lb/ac)
 - Injection Pump Model
- Outputs
 - Product Rate
 (lb/ac, gpm)
 - Injection Pump Setting
 - Fertigation Schedule



- Benefits
 - Encourages use of fertigation
 - Eliminates "guesstimates"
 - Reduces over-fertilization







Pivot Fertigation Calculator Select Nominal Fertilizer

UAN 25-0-0-35

AN 20-0-0

APP 10-34-0

APP 11-37-0

S 12-0-0-26S

APP 7-21-0

APP 7-21-7

APP 8-24-0

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Fertilizer Formulation Use nominal fertilizer data

Fertilizer Product: UAN 25-0-0-3S AN 20-0-0 Urea-ammonium n tion APP 10-34-0 Formulation: 25-0-Assumed density: APP 11-37-0 Products may vary in a abel: APP 7-21-0 select 'Use custom fert APP 7-21-7 necessary. APP 8-24-0 Product Notes: Corros m nitrate solutions are combined ATS 12-0-0-26S hick. milky-white insoluble ing a CAN 17-0-0-8.8Ca serious potential plugg Citation(s): [Yara web KTS 0-0-25-17S PA 0-54-0 UAN 25-0-0-3S Pivot Size UAN 28-0-0 Pivot Name: ERBC UAN 28-0-0-5S Why? UAN 30-0-0 Define nivet size v UAN 32-0-0

Pivot Fertigation Calculator Nominal Fertilizer Info

PRE



<u>Urea-ammonium nitrate plus sulfur solution</u> Formulation: 25-0-0-3 S Assumed density: 10.52 lb/gal

	Pivot Size
	Pivot Name: ERBC Example Why?
	Define airest aire annine. Martin d De dans 🔲
/SON	







Pivot Fertigation Calculator Input Component Rate Fertilizer Rate Component for setting rate: N Desired N rate, lb/ac: 15 ÷ Fertilizer Rate per Unit Area 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Rate: 5.941 gal/ac N Rate: 15.00 lb/ac Component for setting rate: Desired N rate, 1b/ac: 15 1 24 seconds per 5 gal 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Flow Rate: 1 hours and 4 minutes per 50 gal

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Pivot Fertigation Calculator Output: Fertilizer Rate

Component for setting rate: N

Desired N rate, 1b/ac: 15

te: 5.941 gal/ac

er Unit Area

r Unit Time

low Rate: 0.78 gpm

lent rate expressions are

to assist in calibration. low Rate: 46.9 gal/hr

Flow Rate: 100.0 oz/min

Flow Rate: 1 hours and 4

Flow Rate: 1 minutes and 17

Flow Rate: 6 minutes and 24

b/ac

/ac

gal

gal

50 gal

er Required

S Required: 326.7 gal

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Fertilizer Rate per Unit Time 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Flow Rate: 0.78 gpm * Several equivalent rate expressions are provided below to assist in calibration. 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Flow Rate: 46.9 gal/hr 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Flow Rate: 100.0 oz/min 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Flow Rate: 1 minutes and 17 seconds per 1 gal 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Flow Rate: 6 minutes and 24 seconds per 5 gal 25-0-0-3 S Flow Rate: 1 hours and 4 minutes per 50 gal

Total Fertilizer Required 25 - 0 - 0 - 3 S Required: 326.7 gal





Pivot Fertigation Calculator

Output: Injection Pump Setting

Injection Pump Setting(s)

* Note: Pump performance can be affected by a number of factors. It is <u>critical</u> to confirm flow for a given setting.

Pump: John Blue IN-31310 Target Flow: 46.9 gal/hr

Settings are provided below for each of the four possible pump configurations.

Config: Low Range / Simplex Stroke Setting: n/a (> 10)

Note: Below is factory standard config. Config: Low Range / Duplex

Note: Below is factory standard config. Config: Low Range / Duplex Stroke Setting: 5.5





Pivot Fertigation Calculator				
Output: Fertigation Schedule	Time	Pivot Angle	Tank Level	
	Mon 12:45PM	0°	500 gal	
	Mon 1:00PM	10°	488 gal	
	Mon 1:15PM	19°	477 gal	
	Mon 1:30PM	29°	465 gal	
	Mon 1:45PM	39°	453 gal	
	Mon 2:00PM	48°	441 gal	
	Mon 2:15PM	58°	430 gal	
	Mon 2-30PM	<u>68°</u>	418 gal	
I imePivot Angle	Tank	Leve	6 gal	
Mon 12:45PM 0°	500	gal	gal	
Mon 1:00PM 10°	488	gal) gal	
Mon 1:15PM 19°	477	 gal	8 gal 6 gal	
Mon 1:30PM 29°	465		4 gal .3 gal	
Mon 1:45PM 39°	453		01 gal 89 gal	h
CLEMSON PRECISION AGRICULTURE	455 g	al		5.00

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Watermark Soil Moisture Calculator - Overview

https://precisionag.sites.clemson.edu/Calculators/Irrigation/WatermarkCalculator/

- App for recommending when to irrigate based on Watermark sensor readings
- Inputs
 - Soil tension at multiple depths
 - Irrigation threshold
- Outputs

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- Weighted soil tension
- Irrigation recommendation





Watermark Calculator

Select Number of Sensors

View all Clemson Precision Ag Calculators



Clemson Watermark Calculator

The Clemson Watermark Calculator is a tool that can be used to assist with determining the weighted average of multiple Watermark 200SS sensors at given depths to determine irrigation thresholds. ... (click for more)







Watermark Calculate	or 🥤	٢	4	9	Le el
Manual Irrigation Threshold		Number of Sensors: 3 Click for Note			
	1	Sensor #	Depth	in	Reading]
		1	6	•	40
	- 1	2	12	•	35
		3	24	÷	20
		Select on Calcu Manu	e of the follow lated Irrigation ally Entered Ir	ing: <i>(cl</i> 1 Thresho rigation T 📑 kPa	<i>lick for info)</i> ld: Threshold:
• Manually Entered In	rigation T	hres	hold:	n: 29 l	xPa
30	🕂 kPa			on't Ir	rigate
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Watermark Calculator

Output: Irrigation Recommendation	Number of Sensors: 3 Click for Note				
	Ser	nsor #	Depth in	Reading 1	
		1	6	40	
		2	12 🗧	35	
Weighted Soil Tension: 29 kPa		3	24	20	
Recommendation: Don't Irrigate	ele	ect on Calcu	e of the following: <i>(cl</i> lated Irrigation Thresho	lick for info) Id:	
	0	Manu	ally Entered Irrigation	Threshold:	
		30	📑 kPa		
	Weighted Soil Tension: 29 kPa Recommendation: Don't Irrigate				
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Watermark Calculator

Output: Irrigation Recommendation

Weighted Soil Tension: 34 kPa

Recommendation: Irrigate

Number of Sensors: 3 Click for Note Sensor Depth in Reading l # ÷ 1 6 40 ÷ 2 12 35 ÷ 24 30 3 elect one of the following: ... (click for info) Calculated Irrigation Threshold: \odot Manually Entered Irrigation Threshold: ÷ kPa 30 Weighted Soil Tension: 34 kPa Recommendation: Irrigate



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Irrigation System Assessment – Why???

- Components wear and malfunction with time
- Demonstrate cost-benefit of repairs
- Improve irrigation water use efficiency by 17% (SWFWMD)

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Cotton Yield Maps: Tools for Increasing Efficiency and Profitability Cotton Inc.: Vellidis, Barnes, and Brannen, 2012





Center Pivot Irrigation Testing (CPIT) Program

- What is it?
 - Service for center pivot efficiency assessments
 - Similar programs in Florida, Georgia, others
- Short-Term: MIL Pilot Program funded by NRCS
 - Aiken SWCD, NRCS, SCDNR, SCFB, Clemson University, and Ag South
 - Pre- and post-retrofit audits on 24 pivots in S.C.
 - Retrofits to quantify water savings potential
- Long-Term: Extension Service to S.C. growers
 - Clemson Extension: Water Resources and Agronomic Crops Teams
 - Software development by Clemson Precision Ag







Center Pivot Irrigation Testing Pilot Program

- Provides S.C. growers with a "health checkup" on their center pivots (~2/3 of ag irrigation in S.C.)
- Information for better water management
 - Calibrated application depths
 - Endgun shutoff recommendations
 - Soil moisture sensor placement
 - Cost of irrigating a particular depth
 - Cost of under- and over-irrigation
- Information to drive improvements
 - Increased profitability
 - Increased irrigation water use efficiency
 - Support for cost-share programs







Clemson Center Pivot Irrigation Test (CPIT) program









CPIT Screenshot: Data Collection Screen











General System Information

WATEREE PRISON FARM | DURAI | DURAI 1 | 3/30/2021

Pivot Description Pivot Make: VALLEY Controller Make: VALLEY Sprinkler Make: NELSON Sprinkler Model: ROTATOR Pivot Age: 8 yr Sprinkler Age: 8 yr Number of Spans: 4 Sprinkler Height: 6 ft

<u>Pivot Options</u> Chemigation/Fertigation: No Endgun: Yes Regulators: Yes, bottom of drops Swing Arm: No Variable Frequency Drive: No





Pump Description Water Source: Groundwater/Well Booster Pump: Yes Phase Converter: No Variable Frequency Drive: No

Energy Consumption Energy Source: Electricity - Three Phase Assumed Energy Cost: \$0.057/kWh Metered Rate: 22.0 kWh/hr Irrigation Cost: \$1.954/acre-inch Irrigation Cost: \$85.28/inch @ 44 ac

COOPERATIVE EXTENSION



General System Information

WATEREE PRISON FARM | DURAI | DURAI 1 | 3/30/2021

System Dimensions Wetted Area: 43.6 ac Machine Area: 36.6 ac Machine Travel: 360 deg Endgun Area: 7 ac @100% Machine Length: 711.9 ft Endgun Throw: 66.0 ft Wetted Radius: 777.9 ft Endgun Centerline: 0 deg Endgun Sweep: 180 deg

Flow Rate

Design Flow: 400 gpm Meter Flow: N/A Caught Flow: 290.4 gpm App. Rate: 6.65 gpm/ac App. Rate: 0.35 in./day App. Rate: 2.5 in./wk App. Depth: 0.060 in.@100%

Pressure

Design: 65 psi @ pivot Observed: 40 psi @ pivot Observed: N/A @ end







Irrigation Uniformity

WATEREE PRISON FARM | DURAI | DURAI 2 | 3/30/2021





















Calibrated Timer Chart

WATEREE PRISON FARM | DURAI | DURAI 2 | 3/30/2021

Timer	Inches	Acres Per	
Setting %	App.	360 Deg	Min
100	0.07	5.3	0.157
95	0.07	5.6	0.149
90	0.07	5.9	0.141
85	0.08	6.3	0.133
80	0.08	6.7	0.126
 75	0.09	7.1	0.118
70	0.09	7.6	0.110
65	0.10	8.2	0.102
60	0.11	8.9	0.094
55	0.12	9.7	0.086
50	0.13	10.7	0.078
45	0.14	11.9	0.071
40	0.16	13.4	0.063
35	0.19	15.3	0.055
30	0.22	17.8	0.047
25	0.26	21.4	0.039
20	0.33	26.7	0.031
15	0.43	35.6	0.024
10	0.65	53.4	0.016
5	1.30	106.8	0.008



Percent Timer Setting







Hours Per 360 Degrees



Estimated Cost of Suboptimal Irrigation

Estimates below are as compared to a system with CU_HH = 93%. Estimates do not consider uniformity beyond the last tower. Assumed irrigation cost: \$7.00 / ac-in. Estimated cost to retrofit sprinkler package for this pivot at \$5/ft is \$3,622. Costs to retrofit are dependent on a number of factors...consult your supplier. Estimated payoff period for retrofitting: 13.0 years.

	Crop Name	Assumed Yield Benefit from Irrigation	Assumed Crop Value	Assumed Annual Irrigation, Inches	Annual Cost of Under-Irrigation	Annual Cost of Over-Irrigation	Total Sub-Optimal Irrigation Cost	Total Sub-Optimal Irrigation Cost	ĺ
Þ.	Corn for grain	67.7 bu/ac	\$3.98 / bu	7.6	\$236	\$42	\$278	\$6.54 / ac	
	Full Crop Rotation			7.6	\$236	\$42	\$ 278	\$6 .54 / ac	

















CPIT Program Update

- Launched in February 2022
- Water Resources and Agronomic Crops agents trained in every (relevant) S.C. county
- Test kits distributed throughout the state
- >140 center pivots tested to-date
- NRCS-EQIP cost share for sprinkler package retrofits
- P.A.T. software may be made publicly available
- Anonymized, aggregated database from test results







Aggregated CPIT Data: Uniformity vs. Age



Aggregated Data: Nonuniformity Cost vs. Age



Aggregated Data: Over-application vs. CU_{HH}



Aggregated Data: Threshold CU_{HH} & Pivot Size



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Edisto REC Irrigation Research

- Jose Payero, Irrigation Specialist
 - Sensor/weather telemetry
 - Irrigation scheduling
 - Evapotranspiration
 - Drip Irrigation
 - Variable Rate Irrigation
- Michael Plumblee, Corn & Soybean Specialist
 - Soil moisture sensor thresholds for irrigation scheduling
- Gilbert Miller
 - Drip irrigation and fertigation
 - Soil moisture sensing
- Multiple Researchers
 - Cover crop research







Questions?

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