

Crop Water Use by Growth Stage – Alfalfa

UNIVERSITY OF
Nebraska[®]
Lincoln

EXTENSION



Weekly ETgage® Change in Inches

Crop Stage	Kc	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00
Stage 1	0.10	0.10	0.11	0.12	0.13	0.14	0.15	0.16	0.17	0.18	0.19	0.20	0.21	0.22	0.23	0.24	0.25	0.26	0.27	0.28	0.29	0.30
Stage 2	0.50	0.50	0.55	0.60	0.65	0.70	0.75	0.80	0.85	0.90	0.95	1.00	1.05	1.10	1.15	1.20	1.25	1.30	1.35	1.40	1.45	1.50
Stage 3	0.90	0.90	0.99	1.08	1.17	1.26	1.35	1.44	1.53	1.62	1.71	1.80	1.89	1.98	2.07	2.16	2.25	2.34	2.43	2.52	2.61	2.70
Stage 4	1.03	1.03	1.13	1.24	1.34	1.44	1.55	1.65	1.75	1.85	1.96	2.06	2.16	2.27	2.37	2.47	2.58	2.68	2.78	2.88	2.99	3.09
Maturity	1.10	1.10	1.21	1.32	1.43	1.54	1.65	1.76	1.87	1.98	2.09	2.20	2.31	2.42	2.53	2.64	2.75	2.86	2.97	3.08	3.19	3.30
Full Cover	1.00	1.00	1.10	1.20	1.30	1.40	1.50	1.60	1.70	1.80	1.90	2.00	2.10	2.20	2.30	2.40	2.50	2.60	2.70	2.80	2.90	3.00

This chart can be used with readings from an ETgage® or other ET reference. First, identify the change in the ET rate across the horizontal row and then identify the current growth stage in the left column. Follow the two columns to the point where they intersect to identify the ET rate to use in your irrigation scheduling. When planning irrigation, account for soil moisture, precipitation, weather conditions, and the ET rate for growth stage of your crop.

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