

Script for August 29, 2011 Irrigation Management Podcast

With Gary Zoubek, UNL Extension Educator

Hello, this is Gary Zoubek, UNL Extension Educator from York, Nebraska. Today is Monday August 29. As a result of the cooler temperatures the past couple of weeks, crops in eastern Nebraska have slowed their rate of maturing. The corn fields being monitored are in full dent stage with the milk line at $1/3$ to $1/2$. Soybeans are in the full seed or R6 stage or beyond.

This past week the ETgages at York and at the Agricultural Research Development Center near Mead dropped 1 inch. High temperatures for the week here in York varied from 83° F to 95° F and averaged 87° F. The humidity was down from last week, ranging from 78% to 86% and averaging 82% for the week! Things were similar at the ARDC with the average temperature 84° F and the humidity slightly less at 78%.

The ETgages dropped 1 inch for the week so that's a crop ET of 1.1 inches or .16 inches per day for both corn and soybeans.

That Last Irrigation

The soil sensors in one of the corn fields being monitored had readings of 70, 74 and 68 for a depletion of 1.8 inches. The corn is at $1/2$ milk line, so the 2.2 inches of water remaining in the soil profile should be adequate to complete the season. One field was irrigated last week, so irrigation is complete on that field. The corn grower plot sensor readings were 73, 59, 125 and 33 for a depletion of 2.10 inches. This field also is at $1/2$ milk line so the 1.9 inches of water remaining in the soil profile will be a little short. The forecast calls for some rain Monday evening, so the decision to apply $1/2$ to $3/4$ inch of water will be made Tuesday or Wednesday.

The soybean field being monitored was irrigated today; we'll monitor the sensors next Tuesday and see what the water status is at that time. Soybeans at R6 or end of seed enlargement will need 3.5 inches of water. For assessing the situation in your fields, see the Extension NebGuide, [Predicting the Last Irrigation of the Season](#) (G1871).

For more information about these and other irrigation management tools, go to our [CropWatch](#) or [Nebraska Ag Water Management Network](#) web pages!

Until next week, thanks for listening. This has been Gary Zoubek, UNL Extension Educator.