

Contents

List of Figures.....	iv
List of Tables	vi
Preface	vii
Introduction	1
Sprinkle Irrigation.....	1
Types of Sprinkle Irrigation Systems.....	2
Uniformity and Efficiency of Sprinkle Irrigation Systems: General Considerations.....	4
Management Considerations	7
Evapotranspiration, Crop Growth, and Yield.....	7
When Should Irrigations Occur?.....	8
How Much Water Should Be Applied?	11
Monitoring Soil Moisture	12
Periodic-Move and Portable Solid-Set Sprinkle Irrigation Systems.....	17
Periodic-Move Sprinkle Irrigation Systems.....	17
General Design Considerations	20
Uniformity of Periodic-Move Sprinkle Systems	21
Pressure	22
Determining the Flow Rate	24
Selecting Sprinkler Heads and Nozzles.....	25
Determining Application Rates Using Sprinkler Discharge Rates	26
Pressure Losses in Sprinkler Irrigation Laterals.....	28
Calculating Pressure Changes Due to Elevation Differences	30
Calculating Head and Pressure Losses Due to Friction Losses.....	31
Sprinkle Irrigation System Lateral Design	37
Flow-Control Nozzles.....	40
Patterns of Applied Water	41
Spacing Guidelines	44
Coping with Wind Effects on Uniformity	46
Evaluating and Improving Sprinkle System Performance.....	48
Measuring the Catch-Can Distribution Uniformity.....	53
Continuous-Move Sprinkle Irrigation Systems	57
Center-Pivot and Linear-Move Sprinkle Irrigation Systems	57
Traveling Sprinkle Irrigation Systems.....	60
Evaporation and Wind Drift Considerations	63
Losses from Evaporation and Wind Drift.....	63
Night and Day Sprinkle Irrigation.....	64
Energy Considerations.....	67
Pump Selection	67
Variable Speed Drives for Irrigation Pumping Plants.....	70
Reducing Energy Use of Sprinkle Irrigation Systems.....	71

Appendices 73
 Appendix A: Historical Reference Crop Evapotranspiration and Typical Root Depths 73
 Appendix B: Crop Coefficients of Various Row Crops 75
 Metric Conversions 83
 References 85

Figures

Figure 1. Evapotranspiration and canopy growth for the various growth stages of processing tomatoes 7
 Figure 2. Example of proper irrigation scheduling 15
 Figure 3. Example of over-irrigation 16
 Figure 4. Example of under-irrigation 16
 Figure 5. Hand-move sprinkle irrigation system 17
 Figure 6. Wheel-line sprinkle irrigation system irrigating alfalfa and wheel-line sprinkle system with trailers
 irrigating tomatoes 18
 Figure 7. Portable solid-set sprinkle irrigation system 19
 Figure 8. Cross-sections of applied water distributions for high pressure, low pressure,
 and adequate pressure 23
 Figure 9. Wetted diameter of a single sprinkler for different nozzle diameters and different pressures 23
 Figure 10. Pressure along a 1,300-foot sprinkler lateral 29
 Figure 11. Pressure along a 1,300-foot lateral length with water flowing uphill 29
 Figure 12. Pressure along a 2,600-foot lateral with water flowing downhill 30
 Figure 13. Diagram of a flow-control nozzle under high and low pressure 40
 Figure 14. Sprinkler discharge rate along a lateral for a flow-control nozzle and a standard circular nozzle 40
 Figure 15. Water application pattern of a 1/8-inch sprinkler operating at 30 psi under a wind speed of
 2.5 mph for a single sprinkler and an overlapped pattern for a 30-by-40-foot spacing 41
 Figure 16. Water application pattern of a 1/8-inch sprinkler operating at 30 psi under a wind speed of
 5.7 mph for a single sprinkler and an overlapped pattern for a 30-by-40-foot spacing 41
 Figure 17. Water application pattern of a 1/8-inch sprinkler operating at 50 psi under a wind speed of
 3.6 mph for a single sprinkler and an overlapped pattern for a 30-by-40-foot spacing 42
 Figure 18. Water application pattern of a 1/8-inch sprinkler operating at 60 psi under a wind speed of
 7.4 mph for a single sprinkler and an overlapped pattern for a 30-by-40-foot spacing 42
 Figure 19. Water application pattern of an 1 1/64-inch sprinkler operating at 40 psi under a wind speed of
 2.7 mph for a single sprinkler and an overlapped pattern for a 40-by-60-foot spacing 42
 Figure 20. Water application pattern of an 1 1/64-inch sprinkler operating at 55 psi under a wind speed of
 1.9 mph for a single sprinkler and an overlapped pattern for a 40-by-60-foot spacing 43
 Figure 21. Water application pattern of an 1 1/64-inch sprinkler operating at 50 psi under a wind speed of
 12.7 mph for a single sprinkler and an overlapped pattern for a 40-by-60-foot spacing 43
 Figure 22. Relationship between distribution uniformity and sprinkler spacings for a 1/8-inch nozzle
 operating at 50 psi under a wind speed of 3.6 mph 45
 Figure 23. Relationship between distribution uniformity and sprinkler spacings for a 1/8-inch nozzle
 operating at 50 psi under a wind speed of 11.6 mph 45
 Figure 24. Relationship between distribution uniformity and sprinkler spacings for an 1 1/64-inch nozzle operating at
 55 psi under a wind speed of 2 mph 45

Figure 25. Relationship between distribution uniformity and sprinkler spacings for an 1¹/₆₄-inch nozzle operating at 50 psi under a wind speed of 10 mph 45

Figure 26. Effect of high wind conditions on the distribution of water..... 46

Figure 27. Relationship between distribution uniformity and wind speed, developed from field catch-can data 46

Figure 28. Water application pattern of an 1¹/₆₄-inch sprinkler operating at 55 psi under a wind speed of 10 mph for a wind direction perpendicular to the sprinkler lateral and a wind direction parallel to the sprinkler lateral..... 47

Figure 29. Measuring the sprinkler nozzle discharge rate using a hose and a 5-gallon bucket 48

Figure 30. Pitot gauge used for measuring sprinkler nozzle pressure 49

Figure 31. Flow rates of leaks in a wheel-line sprinkler lateral..... 50

Figure 32. Effect of mixed nozzle diameters along the lateral length 50

Figure 33. Effect of nonvertical sprinkler riser on the distribution of applied water 50

Figure 34. Layout of catch cans for a 40-by-60-foot sprinkler spacing for a hand-move or wheel-line sprinkle irrigation system 53

Figure 35. Layout of catch cans for a 30-by-40-foot spacing of a portable solid-set sprinkle irrigation system 54

Figure 36. Center-pivot sprinkle irrigation systems..... 57

Figure 37. Ditch supplying water to a linear-move sprinkle irrigation system 58

Figure 38. Water application patterns across middle and end spans of a center-pivot sprinkle irrigation system for low and high wind conditions..... 59

Figure 39. Sprinkler carriage of a continuous-move, hose reel, traveling sprinkler or big gun irrigation system 60

Figure 40. Sprinkler carriage of a small, manually moved, traveling sprinkler 60

Figure 41. Nonoverlapped water application patterns for three traveling big gun sprinkle irrigation systems 61

Figure 42. Distribution uniformity for various lane spacings for three traveling sprinkle irrigation systems..... 61

Figure 43. Nomograph for determining evaporation of water during the travel time of sprinkler droplets 64

Figure 44. Performance curve showing the relationship between total head and pump capacity or flow rate..... 67

Figure 45. Performance curve showing the relationship between pump efficiency and pump capacity or flow rate..... 67

Figure 46. Performance curve showing the relationship between pump brake horsepower demand and pump capacity or flow rate..... 68

Appendix Figure B-1. Crop coefficients of processing tomatoes over time for the various stages of growth..... 75

Appendix Figure B-2. Canopy cover-crop coefficient relationship for processing tomatoes 76

Appendix Figure B-3. Canopy cover-crop coefficient relationship for broccoli..... 77

Appendix Figure B-4. Canopy cover-crop coefficient relationship for cotton 78

Appendix Figure B-5. Canopy cover-crop coefficient relationship for lettuce 79

Appendix Figure B-6. Canopy cover-crop coefficient relationship for onion 80

Appendix Figure B-7. Canopy cover-crop coefficient relationship for pepper 81

Appendix Figure B-8. Crop coefficients of processing tomatoes over time for various planting dates 82

Tables

Table 1. Summary of sprinkler system characteristics	2
Table 2. Average and potential distribution uniformities of sprinkle irrigation systems.....	5
Table 3. Available soil moisture for various soil textures	9
Table 4. Approximate allowable soil moisture depletion for various crops	9
Table 5. Recommended maximum soil moisture tension for various crops.....	15
Table 6. Recommended sprinkler pressures for standard circular nozzles.....	24
Table 7. Sprinkler application rate for different nozzle sizes, spacings, and pressures	27
Table 8. Sprinkler nozzle discharge rates for various nozzle sizes and pressures	27
Table 9. Recommended application rates for sprinklers.....	28
Table 10. Coefficients for the Hazen-Williams equation	31
Table 11. Coefficients for the Scoby equation	31
Table 12. Friction loss in aluminum pipe (20-foot sections, with couplers), determined from the Scoby equation.....	32
Table 13. Friction loss in aluminum pipe (30-foot sections, with couplers), determined from the Scoby equation.....	33
Table 14. Friction loss in aluminum pipe (40-foot sections, with couplers), determined from the Scoby equation.....	34
Table 15. Internal pipe diameters for IPS and PIP plastic pipe for various diameters and classes of pipe	35
Table 16. Multiple outlet factors for pipelines.....	36
Table 17. General recommended sprinkler spacings	44
Table 18. Climate characteristics and evaporation at different times of day for various locations throughout California.....	65
Table 19. Day and night evaporation for various locations in California on July 15, 2008	66
Table 20. Recommended corrective action to improve pumping plant efficiency at various efficiency levels	69
Table 21. Pump test results using the same centrifugal pump to irrigate different-sized fields.....	70
Table 22. Total head, flow rate, overall pumping plant efficiency, and input horsepower before and after impeller adjustment or pump repair	72
Table A-1. Historical reference crop evapotranspiration	73
Table A-2. Typical root depths.....	74
Table B-1. Average crop coefficients for alfalfa in California.....	77
Table B-2. Carrot crop coefficients for planting dates of Feb. 1 and Sept. 1	78
Table B-3. Onion crop coefficients for the high desert of Southern California, the San Joaquin Valley, and the Klamath Basin.....	80
Table B-4. Potato crop coefficients for the southern San Joaquin Valley and the Klamath Basin	81