

Irrigation Practices And Costs In North Dakota

Prospects for constructing the Garrison Diversion Unit have intensified interest in irrigation development in North Dakota. While the traditional gravity flow methods of applying water are well known in the western states, they are the subject of much discussion in the area to be served by the Garrison Unit. Several types of sprinkler systems are beginning to attract attention as alternate ways to apply water. NDSU Experiment Station Bulletin No. 474, "Irrigation Practices and Costs in North Dakota," summarizes the first of a series of research studies on the economics of agricultural water management. The studies are a joint effort

of the North Dakota Agricultural Experiment Station and the Natural Resource Economics Division, Economic Research Service, USDA. This study of sprinkler irrigation systems is designed to give farmers information they need about the economics of different irrigation methods: Capital investment and labor requirements, operating costs, and advantages and disadvantages. Other significant irrigation studies are in progress at NDSU. Bulletin No. 474 is now ready for distribution. Copies can be obtained from county agricultural extension agents or from the Agricultural Information Department, NDSU, Fargo.

Agricultural Experiment Station
NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
of Agriculture and Applied Science
University Station
Fargo, North Dakota 58102
Publication



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ENGINEERING DEPARTMENT