

Irrigation Systems, Microirrigation (441) Requirement Sheet

2016 Environmental Quality Incentives Program (EQIP)

Eligibility: Crop and Nursery Operations with adequate irrigation history on file.

Purpose: To provide planning guidance for using Irrigation System, Microirrigation scenario in arriving at least cost alternative to address resource concern. This practice may be applied as part of a conservation management system to support one or more of the following purposes.

- To efficiently and uniformly apply irrigation water and maintain soil moisture for optimum plant growth.
- To apply chemicals.

Requirements: Resource concerns exist such that application of irrigation water is inefficient and not uniformly applied. Irrigation water is typically over applied and causing erosion. Meet Conservation Practice Standard Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441).

Requirements for Irrigation System Design Practices:

- Using the Farm Irrigation Rating Index spreadsheet (TN EFOTG), the present verses future condition index must show a minimum of 25% water saved.
- Payment requires an Irrigation Water Management Plan (IWMP) – Refer to the 2016 Requirement Clarification for IWMP's for further information.
- When designed outside of NRCS, the design of the irrigation system and conveyance must be sealed by someone meeting certification requirements of: 1) USDA NRCS TechReg Technical Service Provider; 2) Irrigation Association (IA) Certification as a Certified Irrigation Designer (CID) – Agriculture: Drip/Micro, Sprinkler, or Surface; or, 3) Irrigation Association (IA) as a Certified Agricultural Irrigation Specialist (CAIS).
- Producer must have irrigation history 2 of the last 5 years or an approved waiver for the all the previous acreage under irrigation.
- CPS 587 Structure for Water Control, Flow Meter is required under EQIP if one does not exist. Installation guidance is contained in NE-ENG-83.
- CPS 449 Irrigation Water Management is required under EQIP.
- Pump flow testing for performance check.

Note: For "Hoop House" scenario under CPS 441 for Seasonal High Tunnels – an IWMP, FIRI, flow meter and CPS 449 are not required.

Producer Requirements for Payment:

Install practice according NRCS plans and specifications. Payment is made following certification by appropriate NRCS staff with engineering job approval authority that system was installed in accordance with the above requirements.