

O&M Plan prepared for:
Date:

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN **IRRIGATION SYSTEM, MICROIRRIGATION**

Microirrigation systems distribute water directly to the root zone. The estimated life span of the installation is at least 15 years. The life of this conservation practice can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out a good inspection and maintenance program including the following requirements:

GENERAL REQUIREMENTS

OPERATION

- Operate the system and maintain records as specified in the Irrigation Water Management Plan.
- Only operate the system when needed to furnish water for plant growth, or to store moisture within the rooting depth of the plant. Monitor crops regularly noting areas of moisture stress and repair or adjust system operation as needed.
- Operate the system at the pressure, discharge rate, speed, duration and frequency as designed.

INSPECTION AND MAINTENANCE

- Periodically examine emitters and plant appearance for proper functioning.
- Frequently check operation pressure and uniformity of distribution.
- Check to make sure that all connections are watertight and all valves are working properly.
- Promptly repair all leaks in delivery facilities, by replacing valves, fittings, gaskets, worn or damaged parts.
- During non-seasonal use, place appurtenances in an area where they will not be damaged but are secure, if necessary.
- Maintain all pumps, agitators, chemigation equipment, backflow prevention devices, piping, valves and other electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition following the manufacturer's recommendations.
- Maintain all screens, filters, valves, timers and other electrical and mechanical equipment in good operating condition following manufacturer's recommendations. Drain and protect from freezing, as necessary.
- Inspect for damage from rodents or burrowing animals. Repair any damage. Take appropriate corrective actions to alleviate further damage.
- Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage. Do not allow livestock near equipment during operation.