

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE
Irrigation System, Microirrigation (441)
Tennessee

Landowner/Operator: _____

Practice Location: _____

County: _____ Farm/Tract Number: _____

Prepared By: _____ Date: _____

Inspections and maintenance are required to achieve the intended function, benefits, and life of the practice. The landowner/operator is responsible to establish and implement an inspection and maintenance program. Items to inspect and maintain during the 15-year design life of the practice include, but are not limited to, the following:

1. Inspect after significant storm events and at least annually to identify repair and maintenance needs.
2. Operate the system at the pressure, discharge rate, duration and frequency as designed.
3. Follow your irrigation water management plan.
4. Regularly test pressures and flow rates to assure proper operation.
5. Inspect or test all pipeline, filters and pumping plant components and appurtenances, as applicable. Clean or backwash filters when needed and flush lateral lines regularly.
6. Check to ensure that all connections are watertight and all valves are working properly. Promptly repair all leaks, by replacing gaskets broken pipes, or worn parts.
7. Check applicator discharge often; replace applicators as necessary. Also check for proper operation of backflow prevention devices.
8. During non-seasonal use, drain and place the removable part of the system in an area where it will not be damaged.
9. Do not allow livestock near equipment or in area during operation.
10. Immediately repair any vandalism, vehicular or livestock damage to the system.
11. Perform routine maintenance of all mechanical components in accordance with the manufacturer's recommendations.
12. Prior to retrofitting any electrically powered irrigation equipment, electrical service must be disconnected and the absence of stray electrical current verified.
13. Check chemical injection equipment regularly to ensure it is operating properly. Wear skin and eye protection when checking equipment. Inject chemicals as required to prevent precipitate buildup and algae growth.
14. Maintain records of:
 - crop type and location for each crop irrigated
 - source of the water used
 - date and amount of each irrigation water application
 - system inspections and repairs that influence uniformity and leaks
 - calibration or fertigation and chemigation equipment, if used
 - results of sprinkler system uniformity evaluations

Signatures

Landowner/Operator: _____ Reviewer: _____ Date: _____

February 2016

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