

**OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE PLAN
IRRIGATION SYSTEM, MICROIRRIGATION
CODE 441**

Landowner/Operator _____

Job Location _____

Prepared By _____ Date _____

OPERATION AND MAINTENANCE ITEMS

This irrigation system was designed and installed to apply irrigation water to meet the water requirements of the crops. The life of this system can be assured and usually increased by developing and carrying out an effective operation and maintenance program. An effective operation and maintenance program includes:

- Only operate the system when needed to furnish water for plant growth, salt management or to store moisture within the rooting depth of the plant.
- Inspect flow meter, if applicable, and monitor water application.
- Clean or backflush filters, as needed.
- Flush lateral lines at least annually.
- Perform visual inspection of crop performance and emission device flows if visible and replace applicators, as necessary.
- Measure pressure often on installed gauges or at Schrader valves with a handheld gauge to ensure proper system operation. A pressure drop (or rise) may indicate a problem.
- Check pressure gauges to ensure proper operation, Repair or replace damaged gauges.
- Follow proper maintenance and water treatment to prevent clogging based upon dripper and water quality characteristics.
- Inject chemicals as required to prevent precipitate buildup and algae growth.
- Check chemical injection equipment regularly to ensure it is operating properly.
- Check and assure proper operation of backflow protection devices.
- Make provisions for the complete removal of water from the pipeline by gravity or other means when:
 - Freezing temperatures are a hazard,
 - The pipe manufacturer requires draining,
 - Draining of the pipeline is otherwise specified.
- The water drained from pipelines shall not cause water quality, soil erosion, or safety problems upon release.

Other: