

Effluent Irrigation Quick Calibration

Worksheet for Travelling Effluent Irrigators 0 - 15% overlap Download from: www.pagebloomer.co.nz/resources



Measurement Procedure

What equipment will you need?

This worksheet and the guide

- 22 Collectors of the same diameter (at least 150 mm) 9 Litre plastic buckets are good
- 1 Measuring cylinder (about 2 Litre)
- 1 20 m tape
- 2 Electric fence standards
- 1 Stop watch
- 1 Pen or pencil

Application test

- 1 Set your 22 buckets in a row across the direction of irrigator travel [T1 in Diagram 1]
- 2 Start the irrigator away from (before any water can reach) the line of buckets
- 3 Run the irrigator until it is well past wetting the buckets. Measure the irrigator speed as it passes over the test buckets
- 4 Measure the volume of water caught in each bucket and record on the Record Sheet

Test Details		
Farm Name		
Tester's Name		
Test Date		
Test Machine		
Test Field/Run		
Target Irrig Depth [mm]	
Test distance [m]	
Test time [min]	
Speed [m/min]	
Test Flow [L/min]	
Test Pressure at pump [kPa]	
Test Pressure at irrigator [kPa]	
Wind conditions		
Nutrient test N [kg/m ³ or mg/L]	
Nutrient test K [kg/m³ or mg/L]	

Dealing with overlap

- 1. Place a marker half way between adjacent runs.
- Mark the extent of obvious wetting when the irrigator runs. This is the "Irrigator wetting width".
- 3. If the wetting width is greater than the run spacing width, you need to account for overlap.
- 4. Place one bucket half way between the edge of the lane and the edge of the wetting width.
- 5. Mirror this inside the edge of the lane, setting another bucket at the same spacing from the edge of the lane.
- 6. Arrange nine more buckets at even spacing back to the centre line (the hose or cable).
- 7. Repeat 4, 5 & 6 on the right hand side.

Speed test

- 1 Set two markers (e.g. fence standards) 5.0m apart along the hose or cable
- 2 The markers should cross the line of collectors
- 3 Measure the time for the irrigator to travel between markers.

Field Details		
а	Run spacing (Diag. 1) [m]	
b	Run length (Diag. 1) [m]	
С	Area Irrigated (a x b / 10,000) [ha]	
d	Number of runs	
е	Total Area (c x d) [ha]	
f	Irrigator wetting width (Diag. 1) [m]	
g	Wetting pattern width (Diag. 1) [m]	
h	Wetting area (f x g) [m ²]	
i	Bucket diameter (measure) [mm]	
j	Open area (i / 2000) ² x 3.14 [m ²]	
k	Applied Depth (from next page) [mm]	
m	High Quartile Depth (k x DU _{hq}) [mm]	
n	Speed (from Test Details) [m/min]	
р	Flow Rate (a x k x m) [L/min]	
q	Application Rate (p / h x 60) [mm/hr]	

