

CROP WATER USE REQUIREMENTS

Listed below is data obtained from extension bulletins at both the University of Nebraska and Kansas State University, as well as NRCS irrigation guides and NOAA Climatological data in Colorado regarding crop water use and monthly precipitation that covers the irrigated areas in the state. Table I shows the seasonal water use by crop for the various irrigated areas in Colorado, Kansas, and Nebraska. Table II reflects the average amount of precipitation received during the growing season (April – August) in various locations across the three states.

Table I Seasonal Water Use:

Colorado						
Crop	Location					
	<u>Rocky Ford</u>	<u>Lamar</u>	<u>Monte Vista</u>	<u>Cortez</u>	<u>Greeley</u>	<u>Sterling</u>
	Inches/year					
Alfalfa	37.75	39.06	23.58	29.36	31.58	35.24
Dry beans	-----	-----	-----	-----	18.42	18.75
Corn	27.73	26.81	-----	17.98	21.74	20.09
Grain Sorg.	-----	22.64	-----	-----	19.48	-----
Sugar Beets	32.70	34.27	-----	-----	29.31	29.99
Potatoes	-----	-----	16.49	-----	28.14	-----
Spr. Small Gr.	14.15	11.82	12.66	14.79	-----	14.29
Winter Wht.	-----	19.30	-----	20.13	16.38	12.53
Sweet Corn	20.37	-----	-----	-----	22.75	-----

Kansas	
Crop	Inches/ year
Corn	24 –30
Grain Sorghum	18 –22
Soybeans	18 – 24
Sunflowers	22

Table I **Seasonal Water Use:**
(Con't)

Nebraska			
Crop	Western	Central	Eastern
	Inches/year	Inches/year	Inches/year
Corn	23-26	24-27	25-28
Soybeans	20-22	21-23	22-25
Dry Beans	15-16		
Sorghum	18-20	19-22	20-23
Winter Wheat	16-18	16-18	16-18
Alfalfa	31-33	32-35	34-36
Sugar Beets	24-26		

Table II **April – August Normal Precipitation:**

Colorado	
Location	Precipitation (inches)
Pueblo	7.46
Lamar	9.95
La Junta	7.58
Cortez	4.97
Greeley	8.78
Sterling	11.93
Alamosa	4.11

Nebraska	
Location	Precipitation (inches)
Grand Island NE	15.9
North Platte NE	13.6
Chadron NE	10.7
McCook NE	14.3

Kansas	
Location	Precipitation (inches)
Belleville	19.3

Please contact the Topeka Regional Office if you have any questions:
 USDA / Risk Management Agency
 Topeka Regional Office
 3401 SW Van Buren, Suite 2
 Topeka, KS 66611 Telephone: 785 266-0248