



Applying knowledge to improve water quality

Southern Regional Water Program

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Agri-Agua

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Think you're a Water Whiz? Take the Water Quiz!

Agri-Agua

You won't need pen or paper to take this quiz about water use in agriculture. Just start at #1, and follow the directions to the next station. Even a wizard might learn a thing or two about our most precious resource. Good Luck!



1 Which crop uses more water per pound of dry matter produced?

Alfalfa. Go to 3

Corn. Go to 5

7 How much water does a dairy cow need to drink to produce a gallon of milk?

4 gallons. Go to 6

9 gallons. Go to 2

2 No, but water used for washing and drinking totals almost 9 gallons for every gallon of milk produced

Go to 6

8 Which soil type contains more water at saturation?

Sand. Go to 10

Clay. Go to 12

3 Alfalfa uses more water, but requires little or no nitrogen fertilizer and, as livestock feed, provides twice as much protein as corn.

Go to 7

9 That's right. Proper management practices greatly reduce pollution risks from manure.

Go to 8

4. Water pollution will always occur where excess livestock manure is generated.

Yes. Go to 11

No. Go to 9

10 Sorry, Sand has large pore spaces, but less total pore space than clay, so it holds less water when saturated and drains easily.

Go to 17

5 Nope. Corn has fewer stomata (pores) in its leaves, and uses water more efficiently than alfalfa.

Go to 3

11. Not always. Risks posed by manure are minimized with good facilities and sound management.

Go to 8

6 A cow drinks three to four gallons of water for every gallon of milk produced. More water is needed to process her feed.

Go to 4

12 Right. Clay has smaller pores, but more total pore space than sand, so it holds more water at saturation and resists draining.

Go to 17

13 Not true. Poor quality water can reduce pesticide effectiveness, damage spray equipment, and contaminate food crops.

[Go to 14](#)

14 If hay is selling for \$100 per ton, how much is the water in the hay worth?

[\\$10-\\$15. Go to 18](#)

[\\$20-\\$25. Go to 15](#)

15 No, with that much moisture it is likely to spoil, but you could put it in a bag and make haylage.

[Go to 18](#)

16 Good answer. Poor quality water can reduce pesticide effectiveness, damage spray equipment, and contaminate food crops.

[Go to 14](#)

17 Is ditch or pond water as good as well water for mixing and applying pesticides?

[Yes. Go to 13](#)

[No. Go to 16](#)

18 Good quality hay contains 10%-15% moisture. Higher moisture content reduces quality and may increase spoilage.

[Go to 19](#)

19 **Congratulations!** You made it through. And hopefully learned something in the process. Now take what you've learned and do your part to conserve and protect our water resources.



