



# **Grow the Crop**

## **Handout 18**

### **Example of Maintenance Schedule for Irrigation**

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<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Task and Action</i>
Daily	Pressures	Check that pump and block pressures are within prescribed limits.
	Emitter operation	Check for clogged, broken or misplaced emitters. Repair, replace, unclog or reposition emitters.
	Leaks	Check for water wastage and leaks in pipes and other equipment and repair immediately.
	Primary filter	Flush primary filters as prescribed.
	Fertigation application	Check that fertigation applications are within specifications.
Weekly	Lateral lines	Flush lateral lines as prescribed.
	Exposed joints	Check and repair if needed, e.g. quick coupling rubbers
	Secondary filters	Flush secondary filters as prescribed
	System pressure and flow	Check that system pressure and flow are as per irrigation design plan.
	Pump operation	Check that pump operation is within prescribed parameters.
	Block pressures for automated valves	Check that block pressures are as prescribed where automated valves are used.
	Pump oil levels	Check pump oil levels as prescribed.
	Fertigation plant	Inspect fertigation plant.
	Pipes (above and below ground)	Check for leaks and repair
Monthly	Valves, water meters, and gauges	Visually check valves, water meters and gauges and look for damage and / or vandalism.
	Filters	Open and inspect filters as prescribed.
	Pump pipe work	Check for leaks at pump station that causes water losses and air locks.
	Pump motor	Pump motor must be greased as prescribed.
Annually	Valves	Service valves and physically check correct operation.
	Filters	Clean filters thoroughly and replace sand in sand filters annually or biennially.
	Pump	Change oil in pump.
	Water sampling	Take a water sample at the end of lateral lines and send it in for analysis.

<i>Frequency</i>	<i>Item</i>	<i>Task and Action</i>
	Emitter delivery tests	Test specific emitters for discharge and pressure.
	Sprinkler parts	Replace nozzles annually and other parts when needed.
2-10 years	Pump	Replace bearings and other wearing parts on pump and motor every five years.
	Hydraulic valves	Replace diaphragms on hydraulic valves every three years.
	Poly pipe and emitters	Replace poly pipe and emitters every seven to ten years.