

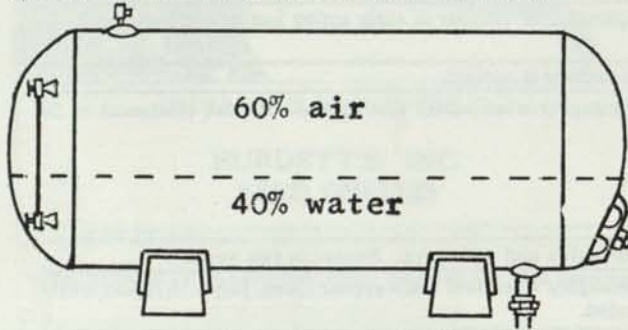
MOISTURE IN FIELD CONTROLLERS

Some trouble has been experienced with field controllers on an automatic irrigation system by condensation forming over the winter months and corroding the contacts and wires. Some installations use a thermostatically controlled electrical heater to overcome this condition but probably the best and cheapest method is to allow the time switch clock to operate all winter and of course be sure and put all of the station switches in the off position. The slight heat given off from the clock winding seems to keep the condensation in check similar to the pilot light in a gas or oil furnace operating all summer to keep the interior of the furnace dry.

C. E. (Scotty) Stewart

PRESSURE TANK SYSTEM CONTROL

The time will soon be with us again when it will be necessary to put pumping plants and irrigation systems into operation. For those who have automatic pumping plants incorporating a pressure tank it is suggested that an operating air-water ratio in the tank be 60% air and 40% water is indicated on the drawing below. This ratio permits the pump to operate within the desirable pressure limits.



To obtain the above water ratio the air-compressor should be started **while the tank is still empty** and the air pressure raised in the tank to 60% of the operating water pressure in the irrigation system, i.e. if the irrigation system pressure is 100 lbs. then the air pressure should be raised to 60 lbs., or if the irrigation system pressure is 150 lbs. then the air pressure should be raised to 90 lbs. (150×0.60). After the pressure tank is charged with air as stated above the pump can then be started and it will be found that when the tank becomes 40% filled with water the high operating system pressure will have been reached. In other words the original air in the tank has been compressed into 60% of its former volume with the water entering the tank and the pressure increases accordingly.

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