

Water conservation to be focus of Irrigation Exposition

SAN ANTONIO, Texas — Water conservation — a critical issue of global concern — is the focus of the 1991 International Irrigation Exposition and Technical Conference being sponsored by the Irrigation Association.

The conference, entitled "Water: Enough for Tomorrow," is being held Nov. 10-13 at the San Antonio Convention Center.

The exposition, which opens at 4 p.m. Sunday, Nov. 10, will host more than 200 exhibitors from the irrigation industry, displaying and demonstrating state-of-the-art water man-

agement products and services, and revealing their 1992 new-product lines.

More than 30 technical presentations and seminars, experts from industry, government and academia will talk on water conservation — addressing the ways in which water management techniques can help preserve water resources and maximize the quality of agricultural, recreational, commercial and residential lands.

In addition to the technical sessions, the conference will feature industry leaders and management spe-

cialists speaking to the bottom-line concerns of the irrigation industry.

A session on chemigation will offer the most current information on chemigation practices, research and safety issues.

In a concurrent session, attendees will get a comprehensive picture of the current product liability issues from LaVerne Stetson of the U.S. Department of Agriculture, Richard Freidrick of Alfa Engineering, and attorney Dale Hicks of Plunkett, Gibson & Allen.

Sessions on agricultural technol-

ogy will include information on "What To Look for When Selecting a Filtration System for Irrigation Water," to be presented by Barbara Lovett of Yardney Water Management System in Riverside, Calif.; and the "Impact of Higher Energy Prices on Irrigated Agriculture," by Dr. Les Sheffield of the University of Nebraska.

Joe Henggeler of the Texas Extension Service in Fort Stockton, will discuss ways of "Managing Automatic Systems for Better Uniformity" during the session on management of turf/landscape systems.

Bill Smith, vice president and senior quality assurance manager for Motorola's Land Mobile Products sector, will give the keynote address, sharing the planning behind Motorola's commitment to zero defects and the strategies for quality and excellence that earned Motorola the Malcolm Baldrige National Quality Award.

Guest speaker Dr. Don A. Rice, director of the Thomas A. Read Center for Distribution Research and Education and coordinator of the Industrial Distribution Program at Texas A&M University, will discuss profit improvement strategies in his presentation, "Planning and Managing for Greater Profit."

In his presentation, "Outlook for the U.S. Economy," David S. Hefter, manager of Economic Studies for DuPont in Wilmington, Del., will share his thoughts on current and predicted economic trends, and their effect on the irrigation industry.

Hefter, who directs the analyses of domestic and international economic data for DuPont and its customers, has worked in the DuPont economist's office for 25 years and has extensive experience in forecasting economic trends.

In addition to the sessions and exposition events, the IA will convene the School of Irrigation as well as a Landscape Irrigation Auditor Training Course, and certification exams prior to the start of the conference.

Burning

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Under the agreement, growers in both states have a 45-day window — Aug. 1 to Sept. 15 — during which to burn. And they can only burn on 14 days.

"We gave up Fridays, weekends and holidays," Jacklin said, "so it's actually down to a 24-day window."

But, within this window, growers "can pick better days to have maximum smoke dispersion — so we can send the smoke in the direction of farming areas instead of residential areas," he said.

The question now is what will come out of the renegotiations. The last year saw "some hot and heated debate — times when people got up and left," Jacklin said. "But people simmered down and came back together, under the guidance of the Agriculture Bureau division of the Spokane Chamber of Commerce, which controls the burning in Spokane County.

While burning opponents will likely ask for further reductions in burning days, Jacklin said: "We don't know if we can give more days because weather factors change from year to year. This year was an optimal year to burn. The weather was absolutely super for us. In a year that we have a rainy season, we may end up using the whole 14 days we're allocated.

"If we give up anything, it will probably be in the form of days. I suspect we could give up two days, but I would be very reluctant to give up any more than that."



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Pictured above: The world's largest bunker — adjacent to the 13th hole on the Valley of Giza Country Club.



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