

## **Item 6 – Follow up Discussion of Estimated Agricultural Irrigation Usage**

Bill Harris, just prior to the last Board meeting, had asked Craig Pate, NRCS Resource Manager, and David Baltensperger, Professor and Head of Soil & Crop Sciences at Texas A&M, to review the estimated agricultural irrigation usage numbers compiled by David Stratta for both Brazos and Robertson counties. Attached are copies of the email responses received addressing the adopted estimates.

## Alan Day

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**From:** Bill Harris <Bill.Harris@ag.tamu.edu>  
**Sent:** Wednesday, October 19, 2016 9:57 AM  
**To:** David Stratta; Alan Day; Mark J. Carraba  
**Cc:** David Baltensperger  
**Subject:** Fwd: BVGCD Agricultural Irrigation Estimates - 2015

Attached is the review of BVGCD estimated irrigation numbers that was done by TAMU Soil and Crop Sciences faculty and reported by Dept head Dr. David Baltensperger.

Sent from my iPhone

Begin forwarded message:

**From:** "Baltensperger, David D" <[dbaltensperger@tamu.edu](mailto:dbaltensperger@tamu.edu)>  
**Date:** October 19, 2016 at 7:42:32 AM CDT  
**To:** "Harris, Billy L" <[Bill.Harris@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Bill.Harris@ag.tamu.edu)>  
**Subject:** Re: BVGCD Agricultural Irrigation Estimates - 2015

Bill

The difference in water for forage seems a bit extreme. From 50 inches to 7 inches. I would think there was a very rare occasion that we would be a 50 inches. That is nearly an inch a week for the whole year plus rainfall.

The small number of acres on soybean and rice probably make any modification less relevant. The numbers on corn and cotton are within our estimates. We would probably be a bit higher on late planted corn in Brazos at the high end. Wheat also seems appropriate, but some high production scenarios probably are using up to 15 inches.

Wheat is probably on the low end if irrigation to establish is included.

David D. Baltensperger  
Professor and Head  
Soil and Crop Sciences  
Texas A&M University  
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On Oct 18, 2016, at 9:01 PM, Bill Harris <[Bill.Harris@ag.tamu.edu](mailto:Bill.Harris@ag.tamu.edu)> wrote:

Yes. Send the suggestions for revision to me. Thanks.

Sent from my iPhone

## Alan Day

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**From:** Pate, Craig - NRCS, Bryan, TX <Craig.Pate@tx.usda.gov>  
**Sent:** Monday, October 31, 2016 2:19 PM  
**To:** Bill.Harris@ag.tamu.edu  
**Cc:** Alan Day  
**Subject:** Irrigation requirements for Brazos County

**Bill,**

**I reviewed the figures from the BVGWD with the Brazos County SWCD. The SWCD thought those numbers where ok, a bit high, but not out of line.**

**We don't really have a irrigation specialist.**

**If you're interested, we do have some old irrigation studies that SCS (our old name) did back in the 80s. I have no clue whats in them. It's always been something I had hoped to look at one rainy day and never gotten around to it.**

**Thanks,**

**Craig Pate  
Natural Resources Manager  
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