

APPENDIX M - MINIMUM DEPTH OF RAIN AT WHICH RUNOFF BEGINS

This appendix provides a methodology for estimating the minimum depth of precipitation required to produce runoff for a given field with a given runoff curve number.

Step 1: Estimate the runoff curve for the field or land area of concern. Table 3 in Appendix L provides curve numbers for various combinations of land uses (e.g., row crops), cover treatment or practices (e.g., contoured), and hydrologic conditions (e.g., poor). The runoff curve numbers in this table represent Antecedent Moisture Condition III (e.g., saturated soils). To identify corresponding runoff curve numbers for Antecedent Moisture Condition II (i.e., average conditions) use either Appendix L-3 above or Tables 2-2b and 2-2c in Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds, USDA-NRCS, 1986 (see Appendix M-2). To predict the possibility of runoff where rainfall is forecast in a season other than winter, it may be reasonable to use runoff curves for Antecedent Moisture Condition II.

Step 2: Using Table 10.1 on page 10.7 of the USDA-NRCS National Engineering Handbook Part 630, Hydrology (see Appendix M-1); select the curve number (CN) for the field being investigated.

Step 3: For the selected curve number in Table 10.1, identify the minimum depth of precipitation in inches required to produce runoff for a given runoff curve number (Column 5, designated with the column header of Curve* starts where P =).

Appendix M-1
National Engineering Handbook Table 10.1
Curve numbers (CN) and Constants for the Case Ia = 0.2 S

Table 10.1. Curve numbers (CN) and constants for the case $I_a = 0.2 S$

1	2	3	4	5	1	2	3	4	5
CN for condi- tion II	CN for conditions I III		S values*	Curve* starts where P =	CN for condi- tion II	CN for conditions I III		S values*	Curve* starts where P =
			(inches)	(inches)				(inches)	(inches)
100	100	100	0	0	60	40	78	6.67	1.33
99	97	100	.101	.02	59	39	77	6.95	1.39
98	94	99	.204	.04	58	38	76	7.24	1.45
97	91	99	.309	.06	57	37	75	7.54	1.51
96	89	99	.417	.08	56	36	75	7.86	1.57
95	87	98	.526	.11	55	35	74	8.18	1.64
94	85	98	.638	.13	54	34	73	8.52	1.70
93	83	98	.753	.15	53	33	72	8.87	1.77
92	81	97	.870	.17	52	32	71	9.23	1.85
91	80	97	.989	.20	51	31	70	9.61	1.92
90	78	96	1.11	.22	50	31	70	10.0	2.00
89	76	96	1.24	.25	49	30	69	10.4	2.08
88	75	95	1.36	.27	48	29	68	10.8	2.16
87	73	95	1.49	.30	47	28	67	11.3	2.26
86	72	94	1.63	.33	46	27	66	11.7	2.34
85	70	94	1.76	.35	45	26	65	12.2	2.44
84	68	93	1.90	.38	44	25	64	12.7	2.54
83	67	93	2.05	.41	43	25	63	13.2	2.64
82	66	92	2.20	.44	42	24	62	13.8	2.76
81	64	92	2.34	.47	41	23	61	14.4	2.88
80	63	91	2.50	.50	40	22	60	15.0	3.00
79	62	91	2.66	.53	39	21	59	15.6	3.12
78	60	90	2.82	.56	38	21	58	16.3	3.26
77	59	89	2.99	.60	37	20	57	17.0	3.40
76	58	89	3.16	.63	36	19	56	17.8	3.56
75	57	88	3.33	.67	35	18	55	18.6	3.72
74	55	88	3.51	.70	34	18	54	19.4	3.88
73	54	87	3.70	.74	33	17	53	20.3	4.06
72	53	86	3.89	.78	32	16	52	21.2	4.24
71	52	86	4.08	.82	31	16	51	22.2	4.44
70	51	85	4.28	.86	30	15	50	23.3	4.66
69	50	84	4.49	.90					
68	48	84	4.70	.94	25	12	43	30.0	6.00
67	47	83	4.92	.98	20	9	37	40.0	8.00
66	46	82	5.15	1.03	15	6	30	56.7	11.34
65	45	82	5.38	1.08	10	4	22	90.0	18.00
64	44	81	5.62	1.12	5	2	13	190.0	38.00
63	43	80	5.87	1.17	0	0	0	infinity	infinity
62	42	79	6.13	1.23					
61	41	78	6.39	1.28					

*For CN in column 1.

Appendix M-2
USDA Urban Hydrology for Small Watersheds (TR-55)

Table 2-2a Runoff curve numbers for urban areas ^{1/}

Cover description	Average percent impervious area ^{2/}	Curve numbers for hydrologic soil group			
		A	B	C	D
<i>Fully developed urban areas (vegetation established)</i>					
Open space (lawns, parks, golf courses, cemeteries, etc.) ^{3/} :					
Poor condition (grass cover < 50%)		68	79	86	89
Fair condition (grass cover 50% to 75%)		49	69	79	84
Good condition (grass cover > 75%)		39	61	74	80
Impervious areas:					
Paved parking lots, roofs, driveways, etc. (excluding right-of-way)					
		98	98	98	98
Streets and roads:					
Paved; curbs and storm sewers (excluding right-of-way)					
		98	98	98	98
Paved; open ditches (including right-of-way)					
		83	89	92	93
Gravel (including right-of-way)					
		76	85	89	91
Dirt (including right-of-way)					
		72	82	87	89
Western desert urban areas:					
Natural desert landscaping (pervious areas only) ^{4/}					
		63	77	85	88
Artificial desert landscaping (impervious weed barrier, desert shrub with 1- to 2-inch sand or gravel mulch and basin borders)					
		96	96	96	96
Urban districts:					
Commercial and business					
	85	89	92	94	95
Industrial					
	72	81	88	91	93
Residential districts by average lot size:					
1/8 acre or less (town houses)					
	65	77	85	90	92
1/4 acre					
	38	61	75	83	87
1/3 acre					
	30	57	72	81	86
1/2 acre					
	25	54	70	80	85
1 acre					
	20	51	68	79	84
2 acres					
	12	46	65	77	82
<i>Developing urban areas</i>					
Newly graded areas (pervious areas only, no vegetation) ^{5/}					
		77	86	91	94
Idle lands (CN's are determined using cover types similar to those in table 2-2c).					

¹ Average runoff condition, and I_a= 0.2S.
² The average percent impervious area shown was used to develop the composite CN's. Other assumptions are as follows: impervious areas are directly connected to the drainage system, impervious areas have a CN of 98, and pervious areas are considered equivalent to open space in good hydrologic condition. CN's for other combinations of conditions may be computed using figure 2-3 or 2-4.
³ CN's shown are equivalent to those of pasture. Composite CN's may be computed for other combinations of open space cover type.
⁴ Composite CN's for natural desert landscaping should be computed using figures 2-3 or 2-4 based on the impervious area percentage (CN = 98) and the pervious area CN. The pervious area CN's are assumed equivalent to desert shrub in poor hydrologic condition.
⁵ Composite CN's to use for the design of temporary measures during grading and construction should be computed using figure 2-3 or 2-4 based on the degree of development (impervious area percentage) and the CN's for the newly graded pervious areas.

Table 2-2b Runoff curve numbers for cultivated agricultural lands ^{1/}

Cover type	Cover description Treatment ^{2/}	Hydrologic condition ^{3/}	Curve numbers for hydrologic soil group			
			A	B	C	D
Fallow	Bare soil	—	77	86	91	94
	Crop residue cover (CR)	Poor	76	85	90	93
		Good	74	83	88	90
Row crops	Straight row (SR)	Poor	72	81	88	91
		Good	67	78	85	89
	SR + CR	Poor	71	80	87	90
		Good	64	75	82	85
	Contoured (C)	Poor	70	79	84	88
		Good	65	75	82	86
	C + CR	Poor	69	78	83	87
		Good	64	74	81	85
	Contoured & terraced (C&T)	Poor	66	74	80	82
		Good	62	71	78	81
	C&T+ CR	Poor	65	73	79	81
		Good	61	70	77	80
Small grain	SR	Poor	65	76	84	88
		Good	63	75	83	87
	SR + CR	Poor	64	75	83	86
		Good	60	72	80	84
	C	Poor	63	74	82	85
		Good	61	73	81	84
	C + CR	Poor	62	73	81	84
		Good	60	72	80	83
	C&T	Poor	61	72	79	82
		Good	59	70	78	81
	C&T+ CR	Poor	60	71	78	81
		Good	58	69	77	80
Close-seeded or broadcast legumes or rotation meadow	SR	Poor	66	77	85	89
		Good	58	72	81	85
	C	Poor	64	75	83	85
		Good	55	69	78	83
	C&T	Poor	63	73	80	83
		Good	51	67	76	80

¹ Average runoff condition, and $I_a=0.2S$

² Crop residue cover applies only if residue is on at least 5% of the surface throughout the year.

³ Hydraulic condition is based on combination factors that affect infiltration and runoff, including (a) density and canopy of vegetative areas, (b) amount of year-round cover, (c) amount of grass or close-seeded legumes, (d) percent of residue cover on the land surface (good $\geq 20\%$), and (e) degree of surface roughness.

Poor: Factors impair infiltration and tend to increase runoff.

Good: Factors encourage average and better than average infiltration and tend to decrease runoff.

**Instructions for
Determining Precipitation Forecasts for CAFO Permits
using the
National Weather Service website**

WARNING: Do not be intimidated. This is much easier than it may seem at first. Once you learn how to do this and save the results in your Favorites you can check both forecasts in less than a minute (or up to a few minutes depending on your internet connection speed). In fact, you may find these forecast models useful in planning other areas of work on your farm.

Start at this website: <http://www.nws.noaa.gov/mdl/synop/products.shtml>. Once you are there you may wish to save it in your Favorites. If the website has changed or the required forecast models are not longer available, please contact the Michigan Department of Environmental Quality Office listed on your Certificate of coverage or on the cover page of your permit

1. Click on "Forecast Graphics" in the "GFS MOS (MAV)" box (near the center of the page).
2. In the column on the left side, in the drop down box under "Precipitation", click on "24H Prob. >= 0.50 in.". Note: if it has been determined that a smaller precipitation event is capable of producing runoff or erosion then use a smaller precipitation probability such as "24H Prob. >= 0.25 in.".
3. This will bring up a map of the U.S. showing precipitation probabilities as colored bands or areas for the upcoming 24 hour period. Precision is not ideal because it covers all of the U.S. but estimate the color for the proposed land application area. If the precipitation probability is 70% or greater (blue shades) then you may not land apply. You can save the map in your favorites.
4. Underneath the map are day & time boxes such as "Tuesday" and "00" and "12". That would be Tuesday midnight and noon, GMT (Greenwich Mean Time) which is 5 hours ahead of EST (Eastern Standard Time) and 4 hours ahead of EDT (Eastern Daylight Time). So "Tuesday 00" would be 7 p.m. EST or 8 p.m. EDT Monday. The map forecast is for the 24 hour period ending at the highlighted time. The first box, which will be highlighted when you bring up the map, will give the map for the upcoming 24 hour period. You can click on subsequent time periods to see future forecasts. You should always check the immediate upcoming 24 hour forecast just prior to a planned land application event.

After you have finished checking the maps use your back button or go to your Favorites to return to the above website.

1. Click on "Text Message By Station List" in the "GFS MOS (MEX)" box (toward the right side on the page).
2. In the list of states on the left side click on "Michigan".
3. In the list that comes up on the right side click in the box for the station closest to the land application location. You may need to select 2 or 3 stations if none are close to the land application area. If selecting more than one station, note the 4-letter station designation after each station name so you know which chart is for which station.

4. Once you have selected the station(s) scroll to the bottom of the Michigan station list and click on "Go to the bottom to submit now". Then click on the "Submit Query" box.
5. You will now have a very confusing chart for each selected station (you can save this page in your Favorites). Look down the left hand column for "Q24" and read across the first number. It will be one digit from 0 to 6. This is the only number you need to be concerned with. This number is the quantity precipitation forecast for the upcoming 24 to 48 hour period. 0 = no precipitation, 1 = 0.01" to 0.09", 2 = 0.1" to 0.24", 3 = 0.25" to 0.49", 4 = 0.5" to 0.99", 5 = 1.0" to 1.99" and 6 = > 2.0". If it is 4 or greater you may not land apply. Note: if it has been determined that a smaller precipitation event is capable of producing runoff or erosion then use a smaller precipitation quantity forecast number. For example, if 0.35" of precipitation in 24 hours on a particular field will produce runoff or erosion then you may not land apply if the number is 3 or greater.
6. You may need to check the charts 2 or 3 times in advance of a planned land application event to determine the precipitation amount forecasted for the land application time frame.

In the event that you are immensely curious as to what all the rest of the data on these charts mean, then go back to the website at the top on these instructions and in the left hand column click on "GFS Description" to get to an explanation page.

Once you have saved the map and charts in your Favorites, you can click on those links and get to the current map or chart(s) with just one click!