

As planning decisions are being made for the 2009 growing season, irrigated corn growers can participate in workshops focusing on the fundamentals.

University of Nebraska-Lincoln Extension is offering a series of agriculture water management and irrigation system management programs at several locations across Nebraska in February.

The Irrigation and Energy Conservation Workshops for Corn Growers are sponsored by the Nebraska Corn Board and the Nebraska Corn Growers Association in partnership with UNL Extension.

Registration begins at 9 a.m. local time followed by the program from 9:20 a.m.-4 p.m.

Dates and locations include:

Feb. 17—Curtis Community Center, Curtis.

Feb. 18—American Legion Club, Alliance.

Feb. 19—Valley County Ag Complex, Ord.

Feb. 20—Wunderlich's, Columbus.

By participating in the workshop, irrigated corn growers will learn how to apply less water and maximize the value of irrigation water, reduce irrigation pumping costs, further protect and enhance the environment, be aware of new technological advances in water management and use information relative to their farming operation that when implemented will enhance profitability.

Topics include: Nebraska Irrigation—Past Trends and Future Challenges, Managing Nitrogen to Protect Water Quality, Estimating Pumping Plant Energy Costs, Irrigation Basics and Soil Physical Properties, Soil Water Monitoring, Effect of Crop Residues on Soil Water Evaporation Loss, System Net Capacities in Nebraska and In-Season Water Management.

UNL Extension faculty will present the information.

The complementary registration fee is provided in part through funding by the Nebraska Corn Board and the Nebraska Corn Growers Association. Certified Crop Advisor credits are pending.

Limited seating is available. Growers are encouraged to register by Feb. 13, by contacting the Extension offices in the following counties: Box Butte (308) 762-5616, Frontier (308) 367-4424, Platte (402) 563-4901 or Valley (308) 728-5071.