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Working Paper 96-WP 162
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A Conceptual Framework for Evaluating Agricultural Economic and Environmental Tradeoffs in the Central Nebraska Basins Using Field-Level Area Study Data

Introduction

The high plains aquifer system, which underlies nearly 85 percent of the state of Nebraska, supplies about 95 percent of all groundwater used in Nebraska. Agricultural activities in the state use most of the groundwater (94 percent), while domestic and commercial users also depend heavily on this groundwater source. About 84 percent of the state's public drinking water supplies are from groundwater (Comfort, Shea, and Roeth 1994; Exner and Spalding 1990). With such high dependence on groundwater, preserving groundwater quality is of crucial importance.

Intensive agriculture characterizes this region, especially in the Central Nebraska Basin (CNB), in part because of the good irrigation supplies provided by the Middle Platte alluvial aquifer system. Nearly one-third of the cropland in the CNB is irrigated and 50 percent of all cropland is planted to corn. About 729,000 tons of nitrogen, 184,000 tons of phosphorus, and 33 million pounds of pesticides (45 percent of which is atrazine) are applied annually on Nebraska's cropland. The intensive application of nutrients and chemicals every year creates the potential for nonpoint source contamination, which is a major concern for communities. Exner and Spalding (1990) analyzed 5,826 groundwater samples from the Nebraska basins for nitrates and 2,260 samples for pesticides, and found that about 20 percent of the samples had nitrate-nitrogen concentrations exceeding the drinking water Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL) of 10 parts per million (ppm) and 13.4 percent of the samples had detectable levels of atrazine.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region VII, is working with the Nebraska Department of Environmental Quality, Nebraska's Natural Resource Districts (NRDs), and other partners to develop a comprehensive ecosystem approach to manage the Platte River Basin, which is one of the five national case study sites for multiple-

stressor-based ecological risk assessments. One of the objectives of the Platte River Basin program is to evaluate agricultural economic and environmental tradeoffs resulting from commonly adopted crop production systems and their contributions to nonpoint source nutrient and chemical pollution.

The research team at the Center for Agricultural and Rural Development (CARD), Iowa State University, initiated an effort to develop a comprehensive economic and environmental modeling system to study the effects of alternative crop production systems on edge-of-field nonpoint source loadings of agricultural nutrients and chemicals using the field-level survey data collected under the CNB Area Study project.¹ The CNB is also one of the U.S. Geological Survey's National Water Quality Assessment Program (NAWQA) sites. NAWQA is designed to assess historical, current, and future water quality conditions in representative river basins and aquifers nationwide.

This report describes the integrated modeling system that addresses the economic and environmental tradeoffs associated with agricultural nonpoint source pollution management in the CNB study area and provides a brief description and summary of the field-level Area Study survey data that will operationalize this system. A brief description of policy, economic, and environmental models that make up the integrated system is also provided. Use of an integrated modeling system for evaluating the environmental effects of alternative agricultural production systems, for a given set of resource and other site-specific environmental conditions, is a widely used procedure. Studies by Wossink et al. (1992) and Teague, Bernardo, and Mapp (1995) at the farm level; by Gardner and Young (1988), Setia and Piper (1992), and Lakshminarayan, Johnson, and Bouzaher (1995) at the watershed level; and by Bouzaher et al. (1995), Lakshminarayan, Bouzaher, and Shogren (1996), and Lakshminarayan and Babcock (1995) at the regional level have used integrated modeling systems to assess such tradeoffs resulting from agricultural practices.

¹ The Area Study project is a comprehensive agricultural production and resource use data collection and modeling effort to assess national policy impacts. This is a multi-agency effort involving the U.S. Department of Agriculture's Economic Research Service, Natural Resource Conservation Service, and National Agricultural Statistics Service, and the U.S. Geological Survey.

Conceptual Framework

Three major modules— environmental, economic, and policy— constitute the overall integrated framework conceptualized for this study (Figure 1). The framework developed here draws from the Comprehensive Economic and Environmental Policy Evaluation System (CEEPES)² developed by CARD, Iowa State University. The CEEPES framework is widely accepted as a meaningful framework for such assessments and is the core of the Resource and Agricultural Policy System (RAPS) used by CARD to assess the economic, resource, and environmental effects of the new farm legislation passed in 1996 (RAPS 1996).

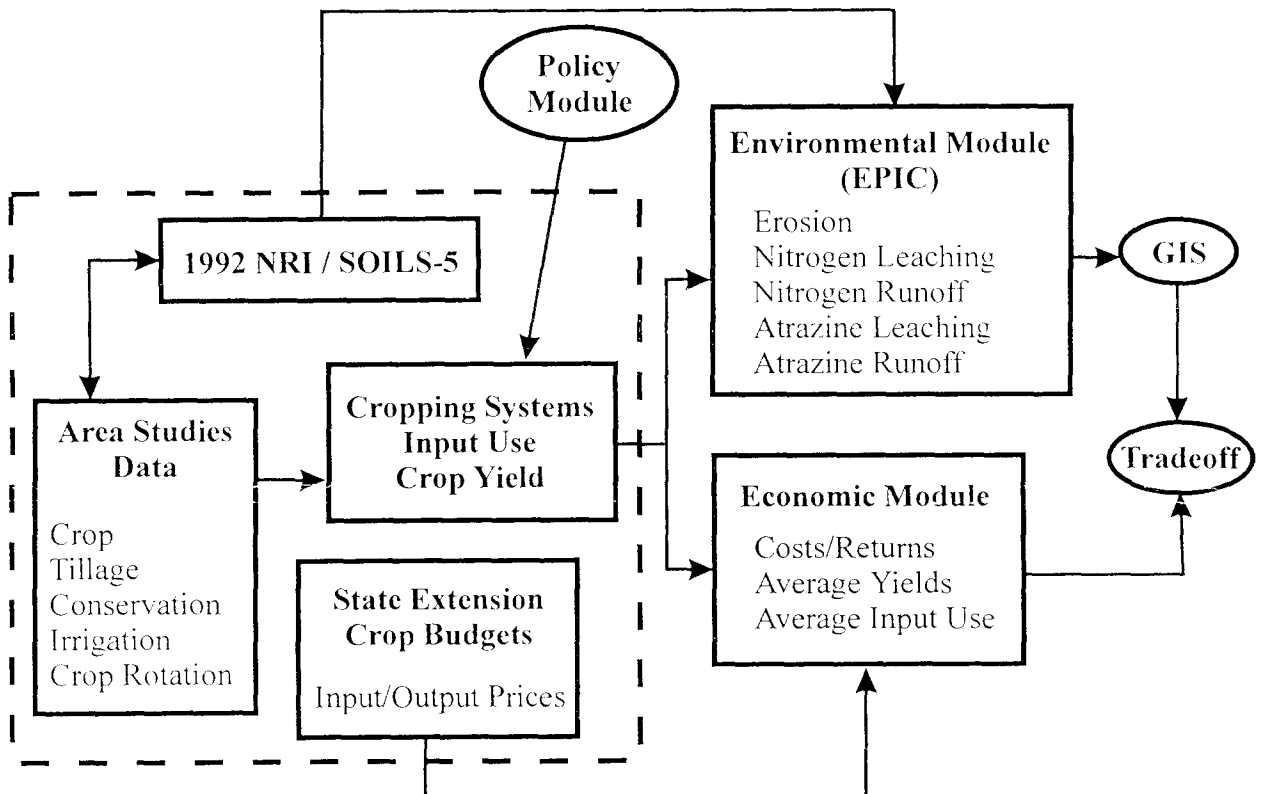


Figure 1. Integrated Modeling Framework

The policy module dictates alternative policies and best management practices (BMPs) for evaluation. The framework developed here allows evaluation of both uniform

² CEEPES integrates a watershed-level linear programming model of agricultural decision making with site-specific biogeophysical process (environmental) models, allocates resources, selects alternative production systems, and predicts site-specific environmental effects of choosing those systems.

and targeted policies. A uniform policy is one that is applied to all the producers in the region/watershed whether or not they are potential polluters. A targeted policy, on the other hand, will apply only to those producers who are potential polluters. Environmental benchmarks such as drinking water MCLs for nitrate-nitrogen and atrazine, soil loss tolerance, and aquatic benchmarks are used to determine the sites for targeting. A Geographical Information System (GIS) framework is developed to locate those sites. The economic module evaluates the costs and returns of current cropping systems (reported in the Area Study survey) as well as for alternative best management practices (BMPs) suited for the region.

The environmental component of the proposed integrated system is a biogeophysical process model, which is a mathematical model simulating the interaction of complex crop growth, soil erosion, and nutrient and chemical runoff and leaching processes at the field-level. Because it is prohibitive in terms of cost and time to conduct field experiments covering a large area, models simulating the crop growth process and its impact on physical processes such as soil degradation and chemical fate and transport are frequently used to assess multimedia (soil, groundwater, surface water, and atmosphere) environmental impacts (Wagenet and Hutson 1991).

Agricultural nonpoint source pollution is a significant cause of soil and water quality problems. Alternative best management practices are being developed to combat the nonpoint source pollution threat. Proper management of any system requires estimates of the impacts of alternatives being considered. To adequately address soil and water quality, several resource quality constituents have to be measured simultaneously. Therefore, the data requirements for comprehensive resource quality assessments are extensive. An effective plan can be developed only from good data. However, the environmental data representing a larger geographic scale are not readily available. These data gaps are filled by outputs from mathematical simulation models, where the simulation experiment is performed according to a well-designed statistical sampling plan similar to agronomic field experiments. The plan starts at the homogenous spatial unit, soil. At present, mathematical simulation models

are the only hope for a timely evaluation of alternative policies, *ex ante*. These models consider site-specific attributes including land use patterns and management practices.

In EPIC-WQ, the proposed framework uses the calibrated, field-based physical process model called the Erosion Productivity Impact Calculator and Water Quality (EPIC-WQ) developed by the Blackland Research Center, U.S. Department of Agriculture (Williams, Jones, and Dyke 1988; Kiniry et al. 1995). The design objectives of EPIC are consistent with the objectives of current research, and it is clearly the most comprehensive tool to assess simultaneously the impacts of physical, hydrological, and management factors on crop production and soil and water resources. EPIC is a time-tested model that is useful, economical, and realistic in several applications, including evaluating impacts on water quality and soil erosion, both in the United States and around the world. The current version of EPIC includes a water quality component, called GLEAMS (Groundwater Leaching Effects on Agricultural Management Systems), which allows simulation of pesticide degradation and movement in the soil. EPIC-WQ can simulate the movement of pesticides and nutrients toward ground and surface waters, both in solute, and as applicable, sediment phases.

EPIC-WQ will be used to simulate the impacts of crop rotation, irrigation, tillage, conservation, N-management, and corn and sorghum weed management on crop yield, nitrate-N and atrazine leaching, nitrate-N and atrazine runoff, sheet and rill erosion, and wind erosion. EPIC simulations will be performed with “site-specific” physical, crop, crop rotation, irrigation, and conservation management data from the Area Study survey to generate input-output relationships characterizing various biogeophysical processes of crop production.

Each observation in the Area Study data represents a physical site, which is a geographically-based random sample drawn from the National Resources Inventory (NRI). In other words, each observation in the Area Study database is a sampling point of the 1992 NRI (USDA 1995). A layered soil record from the SOILS-5 database is associated with each Area Study observation, which provides information on site-specific soil texture, slope and slope length, and other soil physical properties. A combination of historical climate data from the neighboring weather and wind station and an EPIC-

generated daily weather array, over a 30-year period (length of the simulation), will be used to simulate site-specific weather effects for each of the sites.

GIS is used to map resource and environmental indicators. GIS coverage defined by the intersection of an 8-digit hydrologic unit code (HUC), Major Land Resource Area (MLRA), and the county is the basic geographical unit for mapping. A unique characteristic of this coverage is that the HUCs provide watershed homogeneity, MLRAs provide land resource homogeneity, and the county provides production and economic homogeneity. Both the long-term average (30-year average) and average annual edge-of-field loads and concentrations of nitrate-N and atrazine and average annual soil loss from wind and water erosion will be recorded for each simulation run. An index constructed from these environmental indicators and the economic returns associated with the simulated cropping system provide the necessary information for constructing the risk-benefit tradeoff curves.

Central Nebraska Basin Area Study Survey

The Area Study project is a comprehensive agricultural production and resource use data collection and modeling effort to assess national policy impacts. The sites chosen for the Area Study were primarily selected from those included in the USGS's NAWQA program. The primary focus of Area Study is to gather multiyear, farm-level data that link production activities to resource and environmental characteristics. The survey collected information on crop production technologies, cropping systems, irrigation practices, soil, nutrient, and chemical management practices, and livestock manure management practices at both the field and whole farm levels. A unique feature of this survey is that its sample points were chosen to correspond with National Resource Inventory sample points, thus establishing a link between site-specific production practices and resource characteristics.

The Central Nebraska Basin Area Study surveyed 1,433 sites over an area of about 19 million acres of total farmland, of which cropland is 42 percent and pasture and range land is 58 percent (Table 1). Nearly 46 percent of the cropland is corn land and 21 percent is soybean land. The study area is approximately 30,000 square miles, and serves as a major drainage basin for the Platte River and its tributaries. Figure 2 shows the study

Table 1. Crop Acreage and Average Yield, 1991

| Crop | Acreage | Crop acreage as percent of | | Yield/acre | Units |
|---------------|------------|----------------------------|-----------------|------------|-------|
| | | Total Land | Crop/Past. Land | | |
| Cropland | | | | | |
| ALFALFA | 633,400 | 3.39 | 8.07 | 3.5 | tons |
| CORN SILAGE | 127,800 | 0.68 | 1.63 | 10.9 | tons |
| FIELD CORN | 3,623,900 | 19.41 | 46.16 | 127.9 | bu. |
| FORAGE | 77,700 | 0.42 | 0.99 | 3.3 | tons |
| HAY | 618,100 | 3.31 | 7.87 | 2.0 | tons |
| OATS | 58,300 | 0.31 | 0.74 | 30.7 | bu. |
| SORGHUM-SLG | 19,900 | 0.11 | 0.25 | 15.7 | tons |
| SORGHUM | 317,400 | 1.70 | 4.04 | 90.3 | bu. |
| SOYBEANS | 1,659,100 | 8.89 | 21.13 | 33.3 | bu. |
| WHEAT | 154,400 | 0.83 | 1.97 | 30.3 | bu. |
| SOD | 20,200 | 0.11 | 0.26 | | |
| FALLOW LAND | 12,600 | 0.07 | 0.16 | | |
| CRP | 327,500 | 1.75 | 4.17 | | |
| SET ASIDE | 158,000 | 0.85 | 2.01 | | |
| IDLE CROPLAND | 42,300 | 0.23 | 0.54 | | |
| Total | 7,850,600 | | 100.00 | | |
| Range/Pasture | | | | | |
| PASTURE | 10,149,000 | 54.37 | 93.82 | | |
| WOODLAND | 6,800 | 0.04 | 0.06 | | |
| RANGELAND | 661,300 | 3.54 | 6.11 | | |
| Total | 10,817,100 | | 100.00 | | |
| Total Land | 18,667,700 | 100.00 | | | |

area and the distribution of cropland, pasture and rangeland, irrigated cropland, and cropland with conservation tillage. Nearly 35 percent of the cropland is irrigated, of which 78 percent is in corn (Table 2). And 60 percent of total corn acreage in this area is irrigated, producing an average of 146 bushels per acre (about 69 bushels more than nonirrigated corn yield). Appendix A summarizes total cropland acres by crop rotations for irrigated and nonirrigated cropping systems.

Table 3 reports total acres of cropland with conservation tillage. Nearly 55 percent of the total cropland is under conservation tillage and 81 percent of soybean and 61 percent of corn acres are under conservation tillage. Appendix B shows tillage-specific crop acreage and yield. Frequently used tillage practices in this region are conventional tillage with moldboard plowing, other conventional tillage, mulch and ridge till (reduced tillage), and no-till. About 5 percent of corn and 9 percent of soybeans are grown under no-till. Table 4 reports total fertilizer treated acres, average acre-treatments, and average rates of nitrogen (N) and phosphorus (P) applied per acre. Nearly 90 percent of corn and 18 percent of soybean acres are treated with fertilizers with an average acre-treatment of 1.7 for corn and 0.85 for soybeans. On average, 114 pounds of N are applied per acre of corn and 42 pounds of N is applied per acre of soybeans. Appendix C summarizes total N, P, and K (potassium) use and methods of fertilizer application.

Concluding Remarks

To determine how alternative management practices affect water quality requires estimating the sensitivity of sediment, nutrient, and chemical loadings to these alternative practices. How these alternative management practices affect the economic performance of agriculture will be determined from the farm-level Area Study data applying the commodity and input price information from the state agricultural extension service. The research provides information to farmers, policymakers, and water and soil resource planners for better management of these resources.

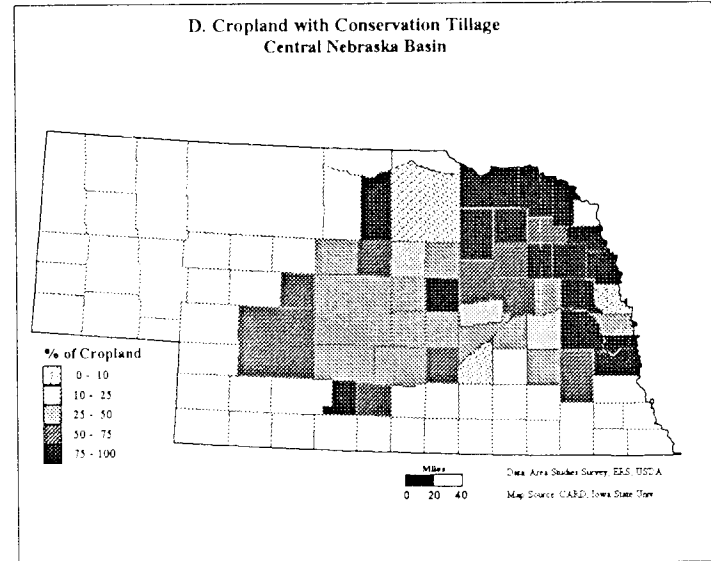
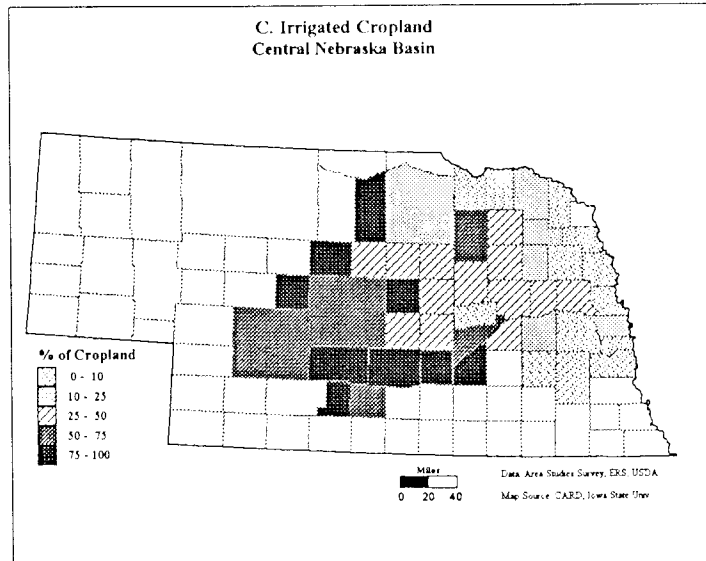
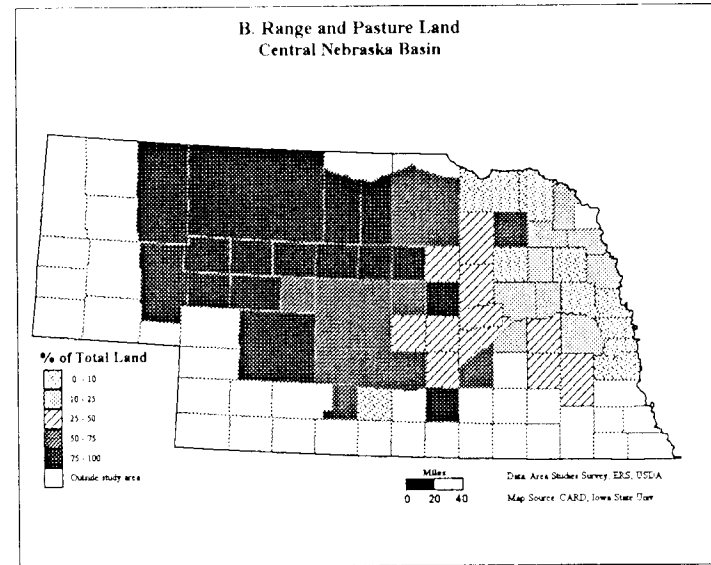
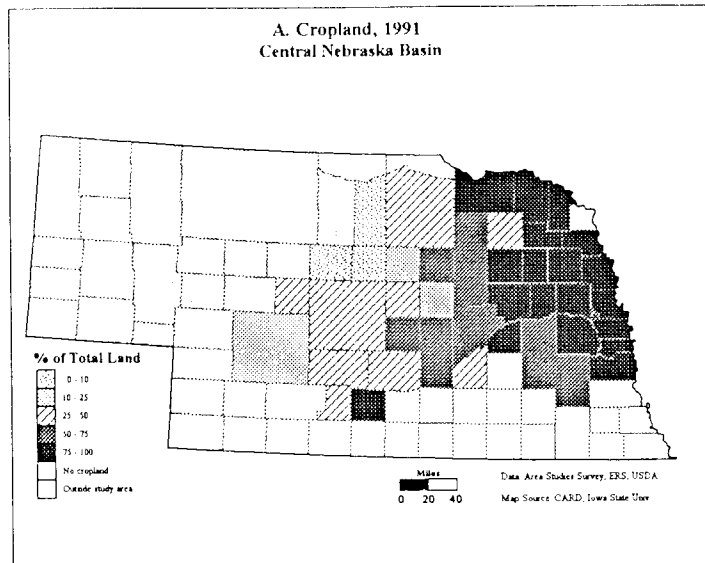


Figure 2. Distribution of cropland, range land, and cropland with irrigation and conservation tillage in the CNB Area Study region

Table 2. Irrigated Cropland and Yield per Acre

| Crop | Total acreage | Irrigated acreage | Percent irrigated | Percent share | Crop Yield | |
|-------------|---------------|-------------------|-------------------|---------------|------------|-----------|
| | | | | | Irrig. | Nonirrig. |
| ALFALFA | 633,400 | 175,535 | 27.7 | 6.3 | na | 4.3 |
| HAY-NOT ALF | 618,100 | 60,500 | 9.8 | 2.2 | 5.2 | 2.1 |
| CORN SILAGE | 127,800 | 77,807 | 60.9 | 2.8 | 10.5 | 11.6 |
| FIELD CORN | 3,623,900 | 2,174,324 | 60.0 | 78.1 | 146.0 | 76.8 |
| OATS | 58,300 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | na | 30.7 |
| SORGHUM-SLG | 19,900 | 3,673 | 18.5 | 0.1 | 22.0 | 15.7 |
| SORGHUM | 317,400 | 10,460 | 3.3 | 0.4 | 95.0 | 89.8 |
| SOYBEANS | 1,659,100 | 253,790 | 15.3 | 9.1 | 44.4 | 29.7 |
| WHEAT | 154,400 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.0 | na | 30.3 |
| OTHERS | 657,800 | 29,500 | 4.5 | 1.1 | na | na |
| Total | 7,870,100 | 2,785,589 | 35.4 | 100.0 | | |

Table 3. Cropland with Conservation Tillage and Yield per Acre

| Crop | Total acreage | Conservation tillage (CST) ac. | Percent CST | Percent share | Crop Yield | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------------|-------------|---------------|------------|-------------|
| | | | | | With CST | Without CST |
| CORN SILAGE | 127,800 | 80,800 | 63.2 | 1.9 | 11.6 | 9.3 |
| FIELD CORN | 3,623,900 | 2,291,700 | 63.2 | 52.9 | 125.0 | 133.0 |
| OATS | 58,300 | 44,900 | 77.0 | 1.0 | 28.3 | 30.7 |
| SORGHUM-SLG | 19,900 | 19,900 | 100.0 | 0.5 | 15.7 | na |
| SORGHUM | 317,400 | 187,100 | 58.9 | 4.3 | 92.2 | 87.0 |
| SOYBEANS | 1,659,100 | 1,348,000 | 81.2 | 31.1 | 33.5 | 33.0 |
| WHEAT | 154,400 | 101,500 | 65.7 | 2.3 | 29.9 | 31.3 |
| OTHERS | 657,800 | 261,800 | 13.7 | 6.0 | na | na |
| Total | 7,870,100 | 4,335,700 | 55.1 | 100.0 | | |

Table 4. Fertilizer Use: Acres Treated and Average Rate per Acre

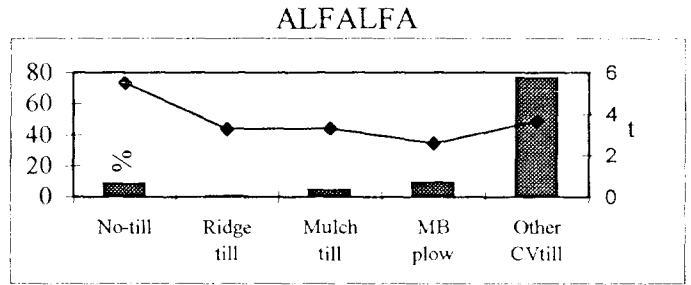
| Crop | Total acreage | Fertilizer treated acres | Percent treated | Average acre-treatment | Average rate, lb/acre | |
|-------------|---------------|--------------------------|-----------------|------------------------|-----------------------|----|
| | | | | | N | P |
| ALFALFA | 633,400 | 133,944 | 21.1 | 0.65 | 33 | |
| HAY | 618,100 | 142,294 | 23.0 | 0.31 | 32 | |
| CORN SILAGE | 127,800 | 124,824 | 97.7 | 2.18 | 100 | 56 |
| FIELD CORN | 3,623,900 | 3,263,269 | 90.0 | 1.70 | 114 | 56 |
| OATS | 58,300 | 20,572 | 35.3 | 1.25 | 78 | |
| SORGHUM-SLG | 19,900 | 0 | 0.0 | 0.00 | na | na |
| SORGHUM | 317,400 | 274,154 | 86.4 | 1.38 | 95 | 28 |
| SOYBEANS | 1,659,100 | 303,630 | 18.3 | 0.85 | 42 | 36 |
| WHEAT | 154,400 | 95,805 | 62.0 | 0.83 | 40 | |
| Total | 7,212,300 | 4,358,492 | 60.4 | | | |

Appendix A. Crop Rotation Systems of Central Nebraska Basin

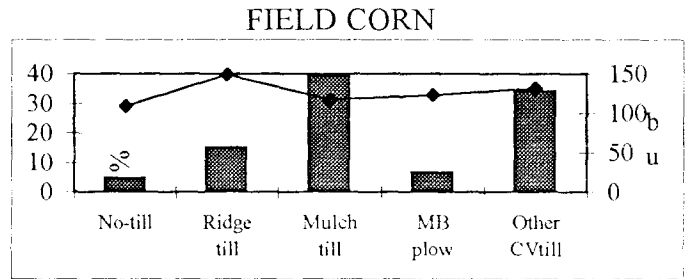
| Crop Rotation | Acreage | % Share | Crop Rotation | Acreage | % Share |
|------------------------------------|-----------|---------|-------------------|-----------|---------|
| Nonirrigated and Irrigated Systems | | | Irrigated Systems | | |
| CRN-CRN-CRN | 2,224,900 | 29.34 | CRN-CRN-CRN | 1,839,400 | 60.46 |
| CRN-SOY | 1,760,200 | 23.21 | CRN-SOY | 262,200 | 8.62 |
| HAY-HAY-HAY | 617,800 | 8.15 | CRN-CRN-SOY | 242,700 | 7.98 |
| ALF-ALF-ALF | 460,600 | 6.07 | CRN-CRN-ALF | 134,400 | 4.42 |
| CRN-CRN-SOY | 315,300 | 4.16 | HAY-HAY-HAY | 122,200 | 4.02 |
| CRN-CRN-ALF | 187,600 | 2.47 | ALF-ALF-ALF | 100,400 | 3.30 |
| SOY-SRG | 155,800 | 2.05 | CRN-CRN-FAL | 70,700 | 2.32 |
| CRN-CRN-FAL | 121,500 | 1.60 | SOY-SOY-SOY | 61,600 | 2.02 |
| SOY-SOY-SOY | 99,400 | 1.31 | CRN-CRN-CSL | 58,700 | 1.93 |
| WHT-SRG | 91,900 | 1.21 | OTS-OTS-ALF | 14,900 | 0.49 |
| CRN-CRN-HAY | 90,500 | 1.19 | FAL-FAL-FAL | 14,500 | 0.48 |
| PST-PST-PST | 82,800 | 1.09 | SOY-CSL | 14,400 | 0.47 |
| SRG-SRG-SRG | 76,000 | 1.00 | OTS-OTS-FRG | 14,400 | 0.47 |
| SOY-WHT | 70,700 | 0.93 | SSL-SSL-SSL | 13,600 | 0.45 |
| CRN-CRN-CSL | 65,500 | 0.86 | CRN-OTS | 6,900 | 0.23 |
| CRN-WHT-FAL | 62,200 | 0.82 | CRN-SOY-FAL | 6,800 | 0.22 |
| CRN-SRG | 61,900 | 0.82 | CRN-HAY-SSL | 6,800 | 0.22 |
| CRN-FAL | 61,400 | 0.81 | SOY-SOY-ALF | 6,800 | 0.22 |
| CRN-OTS-SOY | 58,500 | 0.77 | CRN-CRN-HAY | 6,400 | 0.21 |
| FAL-FAL-FAL | 57,100 | 0.75 | SOY-OTS-SRG | 6,400 | 0.21 |
| CRN-SOY-FAL | 52,700 | 0.69 | CRN-OTS-SOY | 6,400 | 0.21 |
| SRG-SRG-SOY | 52,600 | 0.69 | CRN-FAL | 6,300 | 0.21 |
| SOY-SOY-ALF | 51,000 | 0.67 | CRN-CRN-SRG | 6,300 | 0.21 |
| SOY-SOY-SRG | 46,200 | 0.61 | SOY-HAY | 6,300 | 0.21 |
| WHT-FAL | 44,600 | 0.59 | SRG-SRG-CRN | 6,300 | 0.21 |
| WHT-SRG-FAL | 42,000 | 0.55 | SRG-SRG-SOY | 6,300 | 0.21 |
| SOY-FAL | 37,700 | 0.50 | Total | 3,042,100 | 100.00 |
| CRN-SRG-SOY | 37,200 | 0.49 | | | |
| SRG-SRG-CRN | 37,200 | 0.49 | | | |
| CRN-SOY-ALF | 37,000 | 0.49 | | | |
| CRN-HAY | 30,800 | 0.41 | | | |
| SRG-ALF | 30,600 | 0.40 | | | |
| WHT-WHT-WHT | 30,000 | 0.40 | | | |
| SOY-CSL | 29,700 | 0.39 | | | |
| CRN-HAY-CSL | 25,800 | 0.34 | | | |
| CRN-CRN-WHT | 25,300 | 0.33 | | | |
| WHT-WHT-CRN | 24,100 | 0.32 | | | |
| CRN-OTS | 22,200 | 0.29 | | | |
| SOY-OTS-SRG | 21,700 | 0.29 | | | |
| SOY-HAY | 21,700 | 0.29 | | | |
| WHT-ALF | 20,400 | 0.27 | | | |
| SOY-SSL-CSL | 15,400 | 0.20 | | | |
| CRN CRN-OTS | 15,400 | 0.20 | | | |
| OTS-OTS-ALF | 14,900 | 0.20 | | | |
| Others | 95,300 | 1.26 | | | |
| Total | 7,583,100 | 100.00 | | | |

Appendix B. Tillage Specific Crop Acreage and Yield, 1991 (Central Nebraska Basin)

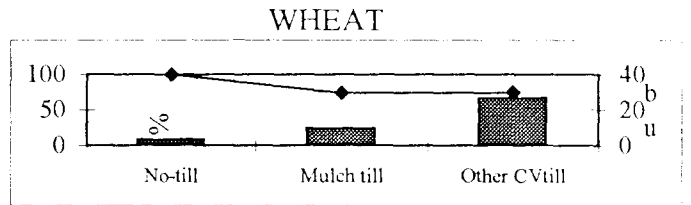
| Crop/Tillage | Acreage | % share | Yield |
|----------------|---------|---------|-------|
| ALFALFA | | | |
| No-till | 53,700 | 8.48 | 5.5 |
| Ridge till | 6,300 | 0.99 | 3.3 |
| Mulch till | 27,100 | 4.28 | 3.3 |
| MB plow | 59,400 | 9.38 | 2.6 |
| Other CVtill | 486,900 | 76.87 | 3.7 |
| Total | 633,400 | 100.00 | |



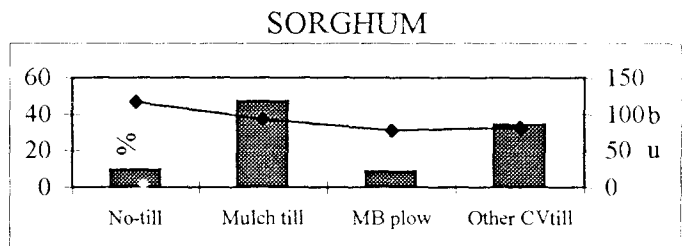
| | | | |
|-------------------|-----------|--------|-------|
| FIELD CORN | | | |
| No-till | 171,000 | 4.72 | 109.4 |
| Ridge till | 546,000 | 15.07 | 149.5 |
| Mulch till | 1,430,900 | 39.49 | 117.5 |
| MB plow | 240,200 | 6.63 | 123.6 |
| Other CVtill | 1,235,800 | 34.10 | 132.2 |
| Total | 3,623,900 | 100.00 | |



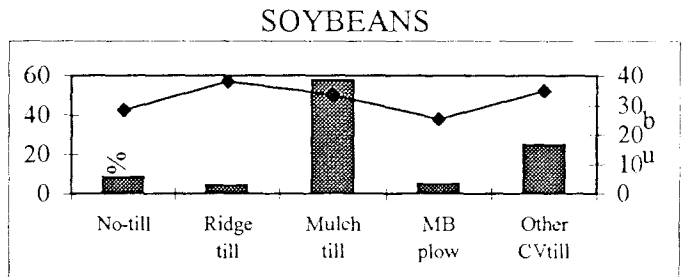
| | | | |
|--------------|---------|--------|------|
| WHEAT | | | |
| No-till | 13,900 | 9.00 | 40.0 |
| Mulch till | 37,300 | 24.16 | 29.7 |
| Other CVtill | 103,200 | 66.84 | 30.0 |
| Total | 154,400 | 100.00 | |



| | | | |
|----------------|---------|--------|-------|
| SORGHUM | | | |
| No-till | 31,000 | 9.77 | 117.0 |
| Mulch till | 149,900 | 47.23 | 93.3 |
| MB plow | 28,000 | 8.82 | 78.3 |
| Other CVtill | 108,500 | 34.18 | 82.6 |
| Total | 317,400 | 100.00 | |



| | | | |
|-----------------|-----------|--------|------|
| SOYBEANS | | | |
| No-till | 141,800 | 8.55 | 28.4 |
| Ridge till | 67,100 | 4.04 | 38.0 |
| Mulch till | 959,300 | 57.82 | 33.6 |
| MB plow | 81,300 | 4.90 | 25.3 |
| Other CVtill | 409,600 | 24.69 | 34.9 |
| Total | 1,659,100 | 100.00 | |



Appendix C. Fertilizer Treatment Methods (Central Nebraska Basin)

| Crop/Method | Total N, lb. | % share | Total P, lb. | % share | Total K, lb. | % share |
|--------------------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|--------------|---------|
| ALFALFA | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 1,125,310 | 25.1 | 3,566,303 | 79.5 | 321,200 | 58.2 |
| Broadcast-Liq | 427,484 | 9.5 | 504,894 | 11.3 | 70,194 | 12.7 |
| Band-Dry | 321,106 | 7.2 | 412,851 | 9.2 | 160,553 | 29.1 |
| Injected | 2,602,549 | 58.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| CORN SILAGE | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 2,436,760 | 19.5 | 1,165,800 | 40.5 | 77,000 | 17.5 |
| Broadcast-Liq | 1,015,200 | 8.1 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Band-Dry | 576,400 | 4.6 | 879,200 | 30.6 | 302,200 | 68.6 |
| Band-Liq | 752,681 | 6.0 | 831,587 | 28.9 | 61,569 | 14.0 |
| Injected | 6,887,197 | 55.0 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Fertigation | 851,544 | 6.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| FIELD CORN | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 30,361,479 | 8.2 | 18,567,016 | 23.9 | 7,357,142 | 40.3 |
| Broadcast-Liq | 47,657,049 | 12.8 | 9,959,538 | 12.8 | 2,468,300 | 13.5 |
| Band-Dry | 7,271,474 | 2.0 | 14,988,395 | 19.3 | 3,468,372 | 19.0 |
| Band-Liq | 22,459,534 | 6.0 | 24,053,714 | 30.9 | 3,616,129 | 19.8 |
| Band-Sol | 1,961,777 | 0.5 | 1,885,634 | 2.4 | 138,588 | 0.8 |
| Injected | 251,748,423 | 67.6 | 8,289,930 | 10.7 | 1,148,003 | 6.3 |
| Fertigation | 8,401,585 | 2.3 | 0 | 0.0 | 34,500 | 0.2 |
| Other | 2,302,526 | 0.6 | 72,756 | 0.1 | 26,928 | 0.1 |
| HAY | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 3,098,273 | 68.1 | 1,108,319 | 23.0 | 109,515 | 100.0 |
| Broadcast-Liq | 1,449,900 | 31.9 | 3,705,300 | 77.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| OATS | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 1,602,790 | 100.0 | 808,945 | 100.0 | 221,970 | 100.0 |
| SORGHUM | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 1,281,600 | 1.9 | 96,000 | 3.9 | 57,600 | 28.1 |
| Broadcast-Liq | 951,060 | 3.7 | 530,400 | 21.7 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Band-Dry | 246,000 | 0.9 | 658,960 | 27.0 | 112,600 | 55.0 |
| Band-Liq | 341,161 | 1.3 | 852,744 | 34.9 | 34,650 | 16.9 |
| Band-Sol | 89,650 | 0.3 | 304,810 | 12.5 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Injected | 23,101,109 | 88.8 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| SOYBEANS | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 6,080,775 | 48.1 | 5,688,863 | 64.3 | 1,738,743 | 97.7 |
| Broadcast-Liq | 3,056,921 | 24.2 | 50,400 | 0.6 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Band-Liq | 650,094 | 5.1 | 2,210,318 | 25.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Band-Sol | 438,115 | 3.5 | 796,572 | 9.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| Injected | 1,978,555 | 15.7 | 103,918 | 1.2 | 41,567 | 2.3 |
| Foliar | 428,400 | 3.4 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | 0.0 |
| WHEAT | | | | | | |
| Broadcast-dry | 1,723,560 | 45.4 | 2,111,320 | 100.0 | 0 | |
| Broadcast-Liq | 2,073,209 | 54.6 | 0 | 0.0 | 0 | |

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