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## AMOUNT OF WATER NEEDED FOR CROPS

Alex McPerson of Twin Falls, Ida.  
ho, who has charge of the experimental farm at that place, delivered an address at the Boise Irrigation con-  
gress on the subject "The Duty of Water and the Best Methods of Applying it." He said: "The soil on the Twin Falls tract is commonly considered to be of volcanic origin, varying from two feet to an unknown depth, consisting of very fine particles.

When we began work on the Twin Falls experimental farm in 1905, we did prospect holes to determine the character of the soil, and found no lack of moisture content. The only difference we observed in the soil was that the first foot was somewhat darker in color. With regard to moisture the first 18 inches contained some moisture, but below it was perfectly dry, consequently we irrigated after planting. It required 24 to 30 hours to saturate to a depth varying from seven to 10 inches. No effort was made to determine the quantity of water used during the season after that. This year (1906) it was determined to measure the amount of water used on the farm, and the amount running off as waste, as well as the evaporation, with a view to determine the quantity of water necessary to keep the soil in proper condition.

The miner's inch was used in measuring half a cubic foot per second for the farm, and a device was employed in connection to obviate any fluctuation in the head. A weir with an automatic register attached was used as a check on the miner's inch measurement in order that we might be sure that just the amount of water desired was supplied.

At the lower end of the farm a weir register was installed for measuring the waste. Ellis Nelson, of the bureau of irrigation and drainage investigation, added an evaporating tank.

We began irrigating May 2, with the amount of water allowed under the contract between the settlers and the Twin Falls Land & Water company—that is, 15.5 inches per second per acre, continuous flow.

The amount of water supplied during each month up to the first of September, 1906, is given below, as well as the waste and evaporation:

Total amount applied, 36.10 inches; total percentage, 100 plus.

Total amount precipitation, 0; total percentage, 12.4.

Total amount wasted, 4.9; total percentage, 7.4.

Total per cent wasted, 7.7.

Total evaporation, or water retained by the soil, 15.50 inches, or 15.50 plus.

The waste during the month of July is greater than any other month. This occurred while we were irrigating the lower tier of plots, and no opportunity was afforded whereby we could again use the waste. The farm consists of 40 acres, and being an experimental farm, there are great many different crops grown, requiring water at different times and in various quantities.

The evaporation almost equaled the amount of water applied during this month, less the waste and evaporation as shown by the evaporating tank.

Assuming that the evaporation from the water-free surface in the tank was equal to the amount evaporated from the ground, plus the amount used by the crops, we can have some idea of the amount of water actually required.

No doubt if less water had been applied, the results, as far as the crop production is concerned, would have been the same or greater, as was indicated by some tests made by Mr. Nelson, showing that the third foot of soil lost much less moisture in a given time than the first or second foot. The roots of certain crops penetrate

to a depth where they would be able to draw upon the moisture to a greater depth than the shallow rooted ones. If all the crops grown had been of the kind that could have been cultivated, thus conserving the moisture, I am sure much less water would have been required.

Taking the four months, or 122 days at the irrigating season, we used water 21 days, 9 hours in May, 26 days in June, 22 days, 9 hours in July, and 23 days and 2 hours in August, leaving 36½ days during the irrigating season when water was not used.

These results show that 1.80 of a cubic foot per second continuous flow is more than necessary at Twin Falls, where the soil is very deep.

I believe if the land were given a thorough irrigation late in the fall, thus storing the moisture in the soil for use the following year, it would be a great saving of time and labor, and materially lessen the amount of water used during the irrigating season, besides being more economical, and as the surrounding areas become accustomed through irrigation, with open cultural methods, less and less water will be necessary each year until half the amount used this year will be sufficient.

No one would buy a sailboat which that could not be refitted. There is always that possibility of a little too much wind that makes a cautious man afraid to go unprovided. The thinking man, whose stomach sometimes goes back on him, provides for his stomach by keeping a bottle of Kodol for Dyspepsia within reach. Kodol digests what you eat and restores the stomach to its condition again after its functions. So it will and "Purifies."

Visited Rev. Gilmore.  
Rev. J. Morgan Lewis, of White Salmon, Wash., visited Monday with Rev. Gilmore. Mrs. Lewis, with her

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promised you some interesting Real Estate news in last week's Glacier. Here it is:

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No. 3. Another 4-room house, with some improvements as above for \$450.

No. 4. House of 4 rooms. Hard finished. Size of lot, 10x140'. Woods in addition. Price \$700.

No. 5. A new 6-room house, near the business portion of town. Modern in every respect, beautiful yard. Size of lot 75x100 feet. Investigate this proposition. The price will interest you if you are interested in a perfect home.

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No. 8. Forty acres situated out. Will divide. South 20 has 8 acres 2 year old orchard in splendid condition, 10 acres meadow and plenty of fine water. Price \$2,000.

No. 9. Fourteen acres 7 miles out, 52 total boundaries and a young orchard of 100 trees just planted, 2 acres berries, will be in full bearing next year. Small house. This place is in perfect condition, and the best buy in the Valley today for the money. Price, \$2,000.

No. 10. Forty acres unimproved land. Price for a few days, \$200.

No. 11. Ten acres 3 miles out. House, barn and out buildings. Fully improved. Price for short time, \$300.

No. 12. Ten acre, same distance out. Fully improved, and in first class condition. Is a pleasure to look at. New house and outbuildings. Six inches of water. Price, \$300.

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