

# More Crop Per Drop

## Conservation Irrigation Is Worth It

It works! Conservation Irrigation means doing a better job of getting the correct amount of water to the precise location in your field at the perfect time. These techniques help you meet crop demands, increase profitability, ensure quality of your yields and save you time and labor. Some options even allow you to manage your irrigation remotely from your phone.

Every farm in Southwest Georgia is different. With this in mind, the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership (SARP) has partnered with the experts at the Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District (FRSWCD) and other regional partners to provide technical assistance through education materials and potential on-farm consultations. These experts are standing by to discuss the unique irrigation needs of farmers across the region and to help each explore which options are best for them and their operations.

### INFORMATION TO POWER YOUR OPERATION—AND THRIVE

As a sixth-generation Georgia farmer, Casey Cox—who's also Executive Director of FRSWCD—knows her way around an irrigation system. When it comes to conservation irrigation, Cox says: "The most effective way to ensure you're getting the most out of each time you water your crops is through irrigation scheduling, supplemented through use of soil moisture sensors. It truly is one of the simplest tools for optimizing your water usage."

The more information you can access, the better decisions you can make. In fact, having additional data can provide a measurable return on investment. Having an effective watering schedule results in the best growing conditions, and that means an increase in yield.

Timing of your water isn't the only area of opportunity that can arise with irrigation. Distribution of water across fields can be another. Because of varying soil types, water holding capacity and slope, it is natural for certain areas

of a field to receive and retain more or less water than others. A few simple changes to your irrigation system can address this and ensure optimal growth across your fields.

### LOCAL EXPERTS TO HELP YOU DECIDE.

There are truckloads of information about conservation irrigation and other tools and technology that can help your farm business. But trying to understand it all can be a daunting and time-consuming task.

Don't sweat it – you can rely on local experts at the Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District and the Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership. They are at your service and are ready to provide their expertise, help you sort through the information, and guide you in making decisions that are best for you and your farm.

The bottom line is that when it comes to water conservation, a little can go a long way. And that long way can lead to healthier crops and yields, which also benefits our local streams and rivers.

**"WE HAVE THE TOOLS TODAY TO ENABLE YOU TO DISTRIBUTE THE WATER YOU USE BETTER – TO PUT IT EXACTLY WHERE IT BELONGS, OR WHERE IT CAN DO THE MOST GOOD, IN TERMS OF PRODUCING CROP YIELD."** – George Vellidis, professor, University of Georgia Department of Crop and Soil Sciences

Visit [www.trustinfood.com/irrigationstation](http://www.trustinfood.com/irrigationstation) where you can learn more about conservation irrigation practices and request a free on-farm consultation from the conservation irrigation experts at The Southeast Aquatic Resources Partnership and the Flint River Soil and Water District.



SARP is a regional collaboration of natural resource and science agencies, conservation organizations and corporations working together to strengthen the management and conservation of aquatic resources in the southeastern United States.

The Flint River Soil and Water Conservation District is a state agency based in southwest Georgia dedicated to the stewardship of natural resources for future generations and the exploration of conservation-driven technologies and strategic partnerships that enhance agricultural sustainability.

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SOIL AND WATER  
CONSERVATION DISTRICT

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