

Irrigator's Workshop

When Do I Turn My Pumps On in 2025?

March 31, 2025

5:00 to 7:30 pm

5:00 to 5:15 pm -

Recent 2024-2025 Soil Moisture and Climate Data

Data collected since last year will be presented to show the relationship between seasons, rainfall, and soil moisture. The purpose of these datasets is to show how irrigation practices and winter precipitation affect soil reservoir storage, and how to apply that knowledge to the upcoming irrigation season.

5:15 to 5:45 pm -

Application of Soil Moisture and Climate Data to the 2025 Growing Season

Improvements in irrigation efficiency can be achieved by better knowing when and how much water needs to be applied. The questions that will be answered include 1) When should I start irrigating at the beginning of the season; and 2) How much and what rate do I irrigate? These questions will be answered by knowing how to interpret locally available soil moisture and climate data and knowing your system's application rate.

5:45 to 6:15 pm -

Dinner Break

6:15 to 7:30 pm -

Real-World Application and Use of data

DRI will present a new crop ET forecast web application to help Sierra Valley growers decide when to irrigate throughout the season. DRI and Stetson will be available to load phone applications and specific websites on phones, tablets, and laptops that can be used by individuals to track soil moisture and climate data in Sierra Valley.

Open Discussion Topics

Representatives from DRI and Stetson will be available to have one-on-one discussions with the public and board regarding improved irrigation efficiencies in Sierra Valley. Specific topics may include:

Available online OpenET data and how to interpret it

How to adjust irrigation after each cutting

How to get application rate data from your pivot dealer