

Drainage Water Management Fact Sheet

ADMC
Agricultural Drainage Management
Coalition

About

Drainage Water Management, commonly known as controlled drainage, uses a control structure to manage a drainage system's outlet height. Managing the outlet height allows the manager to control the timing and volume of water drained. Reducing the drainage volume can store water in the soil profile to increase crop yields while reducing the amount discharged nutrients. There are automated and manual control structures available.



5 - 10% yield
increase



\$150 - \$350
per acre
depending on
level of
automation



- Water storage
- Resiliency
- Nutrient reduction

Basics

Site requirements

Works in fields where there are management zones with slopes < 1%

- Soils with seasonal high water tables
- Management zones of at least 15 acres
- Laterals that follow the contours

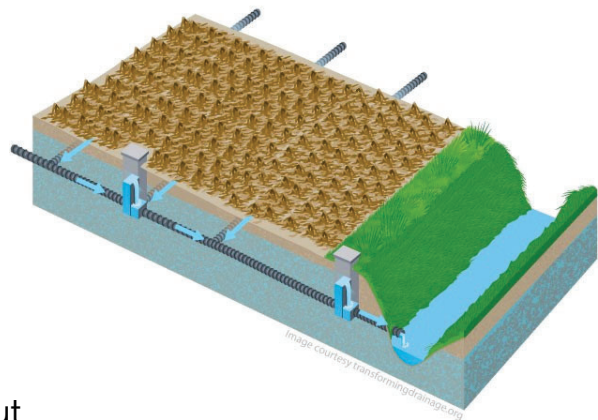
Footprint

A control structure will be installed on the main which will be above ground but often can be located at the field edge. Below ground water valves can be used to extend the management zone of the control structure

Maintenance

Managers should follow a drainage water management plan prepared for their system. Generally there will be a recommended outlet height for spring planting, the growing season, and the fallow season.

Drainage Water Management Schematic



Interact with ADMC



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For more information visit us at
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