

GLOBAL PARTNERSHIP ON NUTRIENT MANAGEMENT

BMP Case Study

Overview

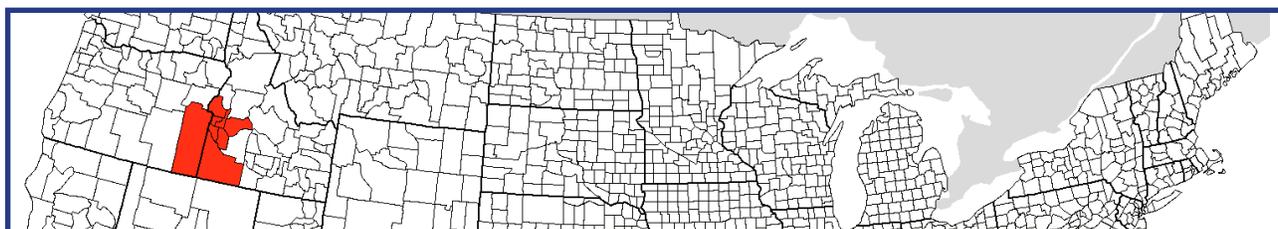
Name: Improving Nitrogen Management and Irrigation Practices Results in Efficiency and Yield

Location/Terrain: US SE Oregon and SW Idaho (Treasure Valley)

Crop(s): Onions, corn wheat, sugar beets, potatos, beans

Nutrient(s): Nitrogen and water (irrigation)

Rationale: Improve nitrogen use and increase yield output



Issue(s) of Concern/Challenges:

Irrigation methods and nitrogen application was inefficient and as a result, crop yields were not maximized.

Practice Description:

Previously, nitrogen was applied twice a year and furrow irrigation was used. In order to change the nitrogen application and irrigation system, intense educational programs were implemented.

Practice Objectives:

Through the implementation of intense educational programs, nitrogen application and irrigation methods were altered. Irrigation improvements include the use of drip irrigation and changes in land practices. Nitrogen application was altered in ways to reduce nitrate leaching, such as applying nitrogen after irrigation.

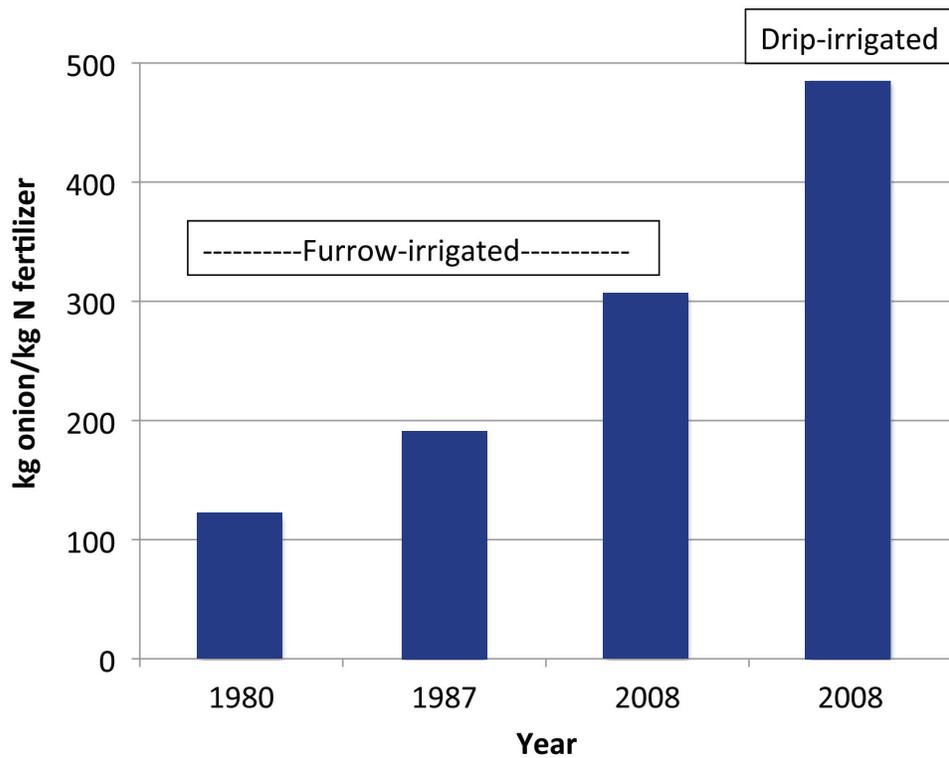
Outcomes:

Yields increased and nitrogen use was more efficient.

Significance:

Results show that educational programs can have a significant difference on farming methods and farm revenue.

Data/Graphs:



For more information, please contact Chuck Chaitovitz at chuck.chaitovitz@gef.org or visit www.gpa.unep.org/index.php/global-partnership-on-nutrient-management.