Pressures on Irrigation in the High Plains -West/Impediments to Expansion of Irrigation in the East



Steve Melvin Irrigation Applications Specialist

Lindsay Corp. Omaha, NE







Impediments to expansion of irrigation in the east if adding irrigation to farmer's current crop mix



- Economic-Irrigation may not pay every year on many crops in the east were it rains more
- Water supply-wells or surface water development will be required
- Field size, shape, and terrain
- Land ownership-who pays for development
- Irrigation equipment dealerships

Lindsay Dealerships in the US





Impediments to expansion of irrigation in the east if adding irrigation and new crops to farmer's current operation



- Climate-days of full sun, temperature, humidity level
- Farmer skill set
- Farmer's current equipment set
- Infrastructure and equipment
- Farmers and others in the local ag industry willingness to change
- Competition-getting farmers in west to stop producing
- Labor
- Access to markets
- Processing plants
- Financing-bankers without experience with the new crops