

## Regulatory Precipitation Rate Limits

Water Saver or Waster?

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The Intelligent Use of Water.™

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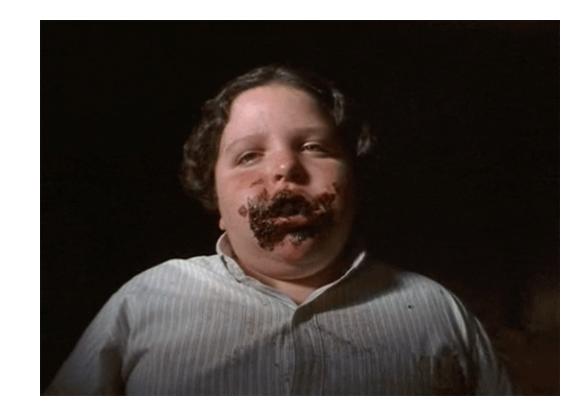
#### **Do You Like Chocolate?**

- Tastes Great!
   Makes Me Happy
- Easy to FindInexpensive



## **Chocolate For Every Meal?**

- Doesn't taste THAT great!
- Makes me sick now.
- Makes me fatter.
- I hate Chocolate!



#### What is Precipitation Rate?

#### PR =

#### **GPM X 96.3**

Head Spacing X Row Spacing

 Rate at which irrigation applies water to the landscape



## Is Low PR Good or Bad?

- That is not the Question!
- Good Sometimes
- Not Good Others
- Real Question:
- All the Time Or Not?



# What Is 'Good' About It? (Regulator POV)

 More Closely Matches the Soak-In Rate

Reduces Runoff

- Easier to Inspect/Plan Check
- Forces the "Right" Behavior



## What Is Not Good? (Real World POV)

#### University of Arizona

- Wind Drift &
   Evaporation Losses
- California State
   Polytechnic
   University Pomona
  - 2/3 of Total Losses
  - No Runoff With Cycle+Soak



# Should Low Precipitation Rate be Required ... At All Times?

- Some Regulators Want This!
- Believe It Saves Water!
- Don't See the Potential Water Losses



#### **Does It Save Water?**

Show Me The Science!

- California State Polytechnic University – Pomona
  - 2/3 of Loss = Wind Drift & Evaporation;
  - No Run-off with Cycle+Soak Programming
- Eugene Water and Electric Board
   No Savings
- Inland Empire Utilities Agency
   2% Greater Water Use
- Municipal Water District of Orange County
   10% Savinge
  - 10% Savings
- Southern Nevada Water Authority
  - No Savings
- University of Arizona

   12% More Wind Drift & Evaporation Loss
   With Low PR



#### Conclusions

- Reduces Some Runoff
- Can be Wasteful
- Does Not Reduce
   Water Use
- MSMT May Mitigate Some Losses
- Don't Ban More Efficient Products



#### Conclusions

- Like Chocolate, Low PRs Are Good in Moderation
- Low PRs Should Not Be Required by Law
- Industry Should Oppose PR Limit Regulation





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