

NATIONAL WEATHER SERVICE PRODUCT DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT (PDD)

TYPE: Experimental Forecast Product (Extension)

DATE: May 1, 2012

Experimental Product – Digital Forecast of Evapotranspiration for Short Canopy Vegetation

Feedback Period: May 1, 2012 – May 31, 2013

Part I - Mission Connection

A. Product Description – The evapotranspiration (ET) forecast is displayed as a graphic of gridded data within a WFO's county warning area. The ET forecasts are the expected amount of daily reference evapotranspiration in hundredths of an inch for the next 7 days and a total reference of evapotranspiration for the 7 day period.

This product will be issued at varying times on a daily basis during the growing season. This product is experimental with support and presentation for these forecasts subject to change.

B. Product Type – Regional (optional)

C. Purpose – The purpose of this product is to provide our customers and partners with enhanced detail on the amount of evapotranspiration to make better water usage decisions.

D. Audience – Water management, agricultural, academia, media and the general public.

E. Presentation Format – All displays are via a web page interface. Examples are at the following URLs.

<http://www.crh.noaa.gov/fsd/?n=etforecasts>

http://www.crh.noaa.gov/fqf/climate/farm_info.php

F. Feedback Method – Feedback is encouraged and may be sent through an online survey at

<http://www.weather.gov/survey/nws-survey.php?code=etf>

The period of evaluation has been extended through May 31, 2013. At the end of the comment period, the product will be evaluated for national implementation.

For assistance, please contact:

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Part II – Technical Description

- A. **Format and Science Basis** – The evapotranspiration is calculated by standardizing on the Penman-Monteith Reference Evapotranspiration equation (50 cm full cover alfalfa). NWS gridded forecasts of temperature, dewpoint, wind, and cloud cover are used in the calculations.
- B. **Product Availability** – The graphics will be available 24/7 and updated daily at varying times during the growing season.
- C. **Additional Information** – None.