Greg Hueftle's Breakthrough:

18% Yield Increase and 52% Energy Savings with N-Drip

At a Glance

Grower
Greg Hueftle R&G Partnership

Location
Cozad NE

Field size
28 acres

Crop
Soybean

Water source
Well

	N-Drip	Flood	%
Irrigation (AF/acre)	3.14	4.53	-31%
Yield (Bu/acre)	93	79	+18%
Energy* (kWh/acre)	1,023	2,119	-52%

* Energy usage is estimated based on the University of Nebraska calculator, https://water.unl.edu/documents/dollar%20savings%20from%20irrigating%20lessV02.xls

Background

Greg Hueftle owns a farm in Cozad, Nebraska, and has been a farmer for 40 years.
He farms over 2,600 acres of soybean, alfalfa, and corn. He is also a Frito Lay grower.

Challenge

Greg faced high pumping costs of around $200 per acre from deep irrigation wells, making the fields cost-prohibitive. He considered switching them to dryland farming before discovering N-Drip's energy and water-saving technology.

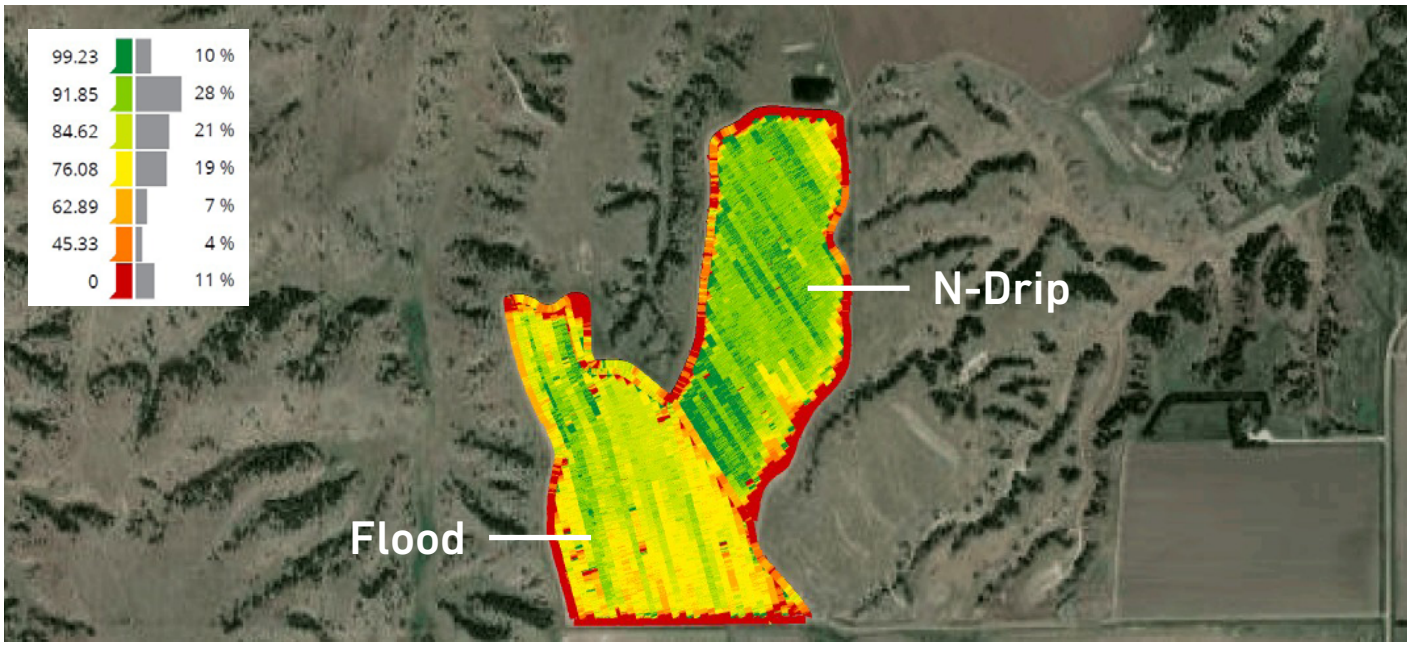
Solution

In 2023, Greg converted two gravity-irrigated fields to N-Drip with funding from the USDA REAP grant. After seeing significant energy savings and increased yield, Greg decided to convert an additional field in 2024, bringing his total N-Drip acreage to 82 acres.

Results

Overall with N-Drip, Greg Hueftle reduced his water usage by 31%, his energy consumption by 52% and increased his yields by 18%. Greg appreciated N-Drip's dedicated service and support team, and found the system overall easy to learn and operate.

> "I highly recommend N-Drip, it turned some acres that were getting so high in energy costs that we were almost going to make it dryland and through N-Drip, it saved us energy and water and created a productive field out of it again...Because of the service and support we got from N-Drip---for me it was very easy to operate. All we did was turn the well on twice a week and shut it off." - Greg Hueftle



Harvest yield map, October 2023

Looking Forward

After a successful year with N-Drip, the farm reinstalled 52 acres of corn and recently installed N-Drip on an additional 30 acres of corn. The farm is entering its second season with the N-Drip system this year.

Why flood, when you can N-Drip!