

Crop Files DB Update notes

12/30/10

This file contains the notes that define the changes being made to the .crop files used in WEPS. The date indicates the day that the NRCS Crop XX-XX-XX.zip was issued. All computers using WEPS should always be using the newest version of the crop files, and always do a recursive Update WEPS Management Files (from the MCCREW Mgt editor) as a new set of crops is published. CMZ template managements will be updated and posted as crop files are published. Users can then download the new CMZ template file without doing the update step locally. **ALL LOCAL MANAGEMNT MUST BE UPDATED LOCALLY after the new set of files are downloaded.**

New posted files will be downloaded to the **C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\USDA\WEPS\Databases\NRCS\crops** directory. Leave the file zipped. Then, delete the older dated crop zip file. Lastly, do an Update WEPS Management Files process in the MCCREW editor on all files that will be used again in the future, usually in a local directory such as *C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\USDA\WEPS\Databases\NRCS\crops\local* **OR** *C:\Documents and Settings\All Users\Application Data\USDA\WEPS\Databases\db\man\NRCS\local*.

NRCS Crop 1-18-11:

Weed growth - There are 9 Weed growth records that have been changed to have them grow better in the warm states in the south. The old record used a winter pea file as the root, now we use collard greens. Weed now grow correctly in the south.

Cover Issue - There are a group of crops that had an incorrect ground cover factor. Buckwheat, Alfalfa (all files), Mustard, greens, Mustard seed, spring, Taro, Turfgrass, Timothy, Switchgrass, Tall fescue, Mint, Lettuce, Legume Cover, all of the grasses, Crambe, Celery, Cabbage, and Asparagus. These factors were changed from the high cover factor that ARS gave NRCS to the Small Grain, Soybean, Peanut, and everything else curve listed in Ag Handbook 703. This has shown to slightly increase some runs using these crops.

Stem Diameter Issue – All cotton records have been changed to correct a leaf to stem ratio issue that caused the stems to be the size of corn stalks. They now are 3/8 to 1/2 inch in size. This has caused a slight increase to all managements that use cotton.

Roses, bud stalk to bag market: This crop was added by request from AZ.

Carrots, processing and Carrots, fresh market: The Biomass Adjustment factors were moved back to 1.0 and the Biomass Conversion Eff. factor was changed from 20 to 45 to boost the yields up. They still under produce in two places where they were tested. They will likely need to be calibrated any place where they are used