

**OFFICE MEMO**

<b>TO:</b> Ed Morris Jason Harbaugh	<b>DATE:</b> 5 October 2009
	<b>SUBJECT:</b> Webb Tract - Attributes
<b>FROM:</b> Kim Rosmaier	

Throughout this survey, it has been necessary for staff to make some evaluations based on our experience performing land use surveys. The following points are provided to explain the surveyors' evaluations of fields.

- 1) The attributes for the Webb Tract survey are not typical of those we would use in a normal county land use survey. This is because in a county survey, a field would be designated solely as fallow field (F-F), idle (I1) or native vegetation (NV), i.e. there would not be a mixed use of these attributes with each other, FF+I1 for example.
- 2) Fields may have the same attribute but different levels of vegetation.
- 3) The variability of the vegetation in a field requires multiple attributes within a field. We do not have the ability to delineate boundaries for each attribute because (a) the variability changes week to week; and (b) we do not have an overhead view of the field.
- 4) It is important to note we are evaluating the fields based on a ground level view and not a bird's eye view.

Some attributes may be prefaced by lower case **n** to indicate non-irrigation. It is understood all the fields are not actively irrigated so the surveyor may have neglected to incorporate the **n** in the attribute. If no **n** is included in the attribute, it is assumed.

The following are the attributes used in this survey, in order of bare soil to full coverage.

**F-F or nF-F** : Fallow field or non-irrigated fallow field – cleared of all or most vegetation.

**F-F+nC** : Fallow field not cleared – indicating considerable amount of uncut vegetation or residue remains on the field after discing or shortly thereafter. This attribute was first used in the 08/12/09 survey due to the need to indicate poor discing results. Fields identified in previous surveys as F-F may have considerable vegetation or residue but were attributed before the use of FF+nC.

**F-F+I1** : Fallow field and vegetation. Vegetation can be scattered throughout and varies from 20 to 50 percent coverage with evidence of discing still visible.

**F-F+NV** : Fallow field and vegetation. Vegetation can be scattered throughout and varies from 50 to 70 percent coverage with little evidence of discing.

**I1** : Idle. Field has 70-90 percent coverage with limited bare soil visible.

**NV** : Native vegetation. 90 to 100 percent coverage, minimal or no bare soil visible.

**NV + D** : Field is native vegetation but being disced when observed.

The following photos are examples of some of the attributes used for this survey:



**F-F (07-01-09) (Field 24 after 2<sup>nd</sup> discing)**



**FF+nC (Field 50) disced between 8/12 and 8/20. Shows vegetation and residue remaining after discing.**



**FF+I1 20% vegetation**



**FF+I1 30% vegetation**



**FF+I1 40% vegetation**



**F-F+I1 50% vegetation**



**FF+NV 50% vegetation (due to extensive coverage by Bermuda grass in the background)**



**FF+NV 70% vegetation**



I1 70% vegetation



I1 90% vegetation



**NV 90% vegetation**



**NV 100% vegetation**