Livestock, Animal Specialities, and Irrigation Data

Introduction

Our Nation's social and economic development has depended on and will continue to depend on the availability of usable water. In 1950, the U.S. Geological Survey (USGS) began publishing water-use data on a national level every 5 years to assist in the management of our Nation's water resources. The USGS currently collects and (or) estimates water-use data for the following categories: public supply, domestic, commercial, industrial, thermoelectric power, mining, livestock, animal specialties, irrigation, hydroelectric power (instream use), sewage-treatment returns, and reservoir evaporation.

In 1977, Congress authorized the National Water-Use Information Program. The program encourages the USGS and a State-level agency in each of the 50 States to cooperate in the collection and dissemination of water-use data. In Ohio, the USGS and the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, Division of Water (ODNR-DW), are cooperators in this effort.

In 1990, ODNR-DW implemented the Water Withdrawal Facility Registration Program for Ohio, which requires those water consumers who have the capacity to withdraw 100,000 gallons of water daily to register annually with the ODNR-DW. The information collected from the registrants is maintained in computerized data bases at the ODNR-DW and at the Ohio District Office of the USGS.

This Fact Sheet, which summarizes Ohio's 1990 livestock, animal specialties, and irrigation water-use data, is one of a series that supplements, by category, the USGS publication on water use in the United States in 1990.

Livestock, Animal Specialities, and Irrigation

The livestock category includes those operations that withdraw water for the use in production of meat, poultry, eggs, milk, and wool in Ohio. Operations that withdraw water for use at fur-bearing-animal, horse, and fish farms are included under the animal-specialties category. Irrigation includes those operations that withdraw water to apply to farm and horticultural crops, as well as public and private golf courses.

Livestock operations withdrew water at an estimated rate of 33 Mgal/d (million gallons per day) in 1990, whereas animal specialties withdrew water at an estimated rate of 500,000 gal/d (gallons per day). Irrigation operations withdrew water at an estimated rate of 16 Mgal/d.

Ohio ranked 22d in the Nation in total livestock withdrawals, whereas animal specialties withdrawals ranked 30th. Ohio ranked 42d in the Nation in total irrigation withdrawals.

Ground Water

In 1990, livestock operations in Ohio withdrew an estimated 7 Mgal/d from ground-water sources (fig. 1), which represents about 21 percent of the total amount of water withdrawn.