

Owner's Statement Condition of Bog Before Renovation

The property is located in southeastern MA and consists of approximately 30 acres of land with 13.2 acres of cranberry bog. The water resource is a 66 acre pond neighboring the bog to the south.

The cranberry bog is an old style bog with a peat bottom. There is a large main ditch that meanders through the bog and there are lateral ditches that empty into the main ditch. The sections appear to have been graded to slope down to the main ditch. This results in the bog being 2 to 3 feet out of level. Approximately 1,000 gallons per minute flow through the property in low-flow conditions. Up to and including the 2006 growing season all water flowed through the main ditch. This made holding water after pesticide applications extremely difficult. The over abundance of water also caused great difficulties in the growing of cranberries. NRCS estimated the water usage to be 8 to 10 acre-feet per acre per year.

Current irrigation wash time (first head to last head) is 12 minutes. After renovation wash time needs to be under 4 minutes. Reducing wash time is extremely important in delivering an effective pesticide application in addition to protecting the environment from pesticide run off.