

# **DAMMER DIKER®:**

## **SOMETHING TO TALK ABOUT**

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### **DOES THE DAMMER DIKER REALLY STOP RUNOFF?**

“We call it Reservoir Tillage,” says Tom Longley, University of Idaho-Aberdeen Station. “It stops runoff cold. Where we lost 10% to 60% of the water from conventional tillage, there was no runoff with reservoir tillage. It increased spring wheat yields 9.5%, potatoes 22%, and corn 31%.”

**Farm Journal, April 1985**

### **DOES THE DAMMER DIKER INCREASE THE INFILTRATION RATE OF THE SOIL?**

“They do something drastic to the soil,” says R.J. Hanks, soils physicist, Utah State University. “You get more infiltration than you can computer. The hydraulic properties of the soil are changed. In our trials, reservoir tillage reduced runoff almost entirely. We had to apply 4 to 5 inches of water per hour under a center pivot to get it to run off. Conventionally-tilled fields lost 66% of the water applied.”

**Farm Journal, April 1985**

### **DOES THE DAMMER DIKER INCREASE YIELD?**

We couldn't afford to farm without something like the Dammer Diker,” says Brent Schulthies, who, with Brent Hartley, Clyde Bybee, and Robert, Loren, and Duane Munn, developed Sunheaven Farms in the rolling Horse Heaven Hills, Benton County, Washington. Then he adds simply, “It saved us. Pumping costs have skyrocketed. But we've survived because of the tremendous increases in yields. Also, the Dammer Diker saves us time in the field. We pull it as fast as we can go, and it's easier to pull than the older, three-sided diking machine we had.”

**The New Farm, Nov/Dec 1985**

“Our big problem for years has been water runoff,” says Mile Svoboda, who grows 1,300 acres of dry-land corn and milo on tight clay soils near Bennington, Oklahoma. The answer to his water management problems is a “Dammer Diker” machine, which both subsoils and punches gallon-sized holes, or reservoirs, into row middles for water retention. “We get enough rain, but it tends to fall in 2- or 3-inch downpours. Normally, the soil holds only half an inch of that, but with the holes, we're keeping it all.” That translates into more vigorous crops, more consistency across the field, and a 10-bushel-per-acre yield increase, Svoboda says. He no longer sees muddy runoff from his fields, which shows he was losing topsoil with conventional tillage.

**The New Farm, Nov/Dec 1985**

Kansas farmer Ed Winger tried the Dammer Diker for the first time last year on 250 acres of irrigated corn and decided to buy a 12-row unit, which he used on 750 acres this year. Winger says he hasn't had time to measure yields, but “you can see the difference in the height of the corn and the grain in the bins.”

**The New Farm, Nov/Dec 1985**

## DOES THE DAMMER DIKER SAVE WATER?

“We put 9,600 acres of dryland what under pivot irrigation in 1976. We pump inland from 11 to 17 miles and over 1,000 feet of lift. The Dammer Diker saves us from \$7.00 to \$20.00 per acre in water costs alone. We pump less water and get a yield increase to boot.

“In addition, we find that the ability to combine several cultivation processes in one pass with the Dammer Diker saves us from one to two passes through the field.

“Our machines pay for themselves on every 500 acres of use, in water savings alone.”

**Duane Munn**  
Sun Heaven Farms  
Benton County, WA

## DOES THE DAMMER DIKER IMPROVE CROP QUALITY?

Balcome & Moe, Inc. Pasco, WA

Dammer Diker Comparison – Potatoes – Farm Unit 54 – Plot Size 1.5 Acres

	<i>With Dammer Diker</i>	<i>%</i>	<i>Regular</i>
<b>70 Count</b>	89 lbs	35%	66 lbs
<b>80 Count</b>	96 lbs	85%	52 lbs
<b>90 Count</b>	133 lbs	5%	127 lbs
<b>100 Count</b>	220 lbs	14%	193 lbs
<b>Total</b>	83,050 lbs	9%	76,980 lbs

**23% more cartons of 70, 80, 90, & 100 count**

**57% more cartons of 70 & 80 count**

**30% more cartons of 70, 80, and 90 Count**

**9% Increase in Total Yields**

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