



Rain Bird's Cast Iron Valve with Cyclik battery powered wireless control mounted at the end of the pivot to automate flushing.

Lamesa, TX

*Irrigation Equipment Supplier
Mesa Irrigation
Owner & Grower - Jay Coleman*

*Mesa Irrigation Sales Representative
Ray Hewitt*



Ray Hewitt reviews Cyclik wireless control system programming instructions and components.

Rain Bird's Cast Iron Valves and Cyclik™ Wireless Controller provide an economical solution to automate pivot flushing

Well water often contains sand and it accumulates at the end of the pivot. If the pivot is not flushed periodically, nozzles, regulators, and drops start clogging from the end of the machine inward. Low flow or no flow at the end of the machine is especially concerning because this represents the largest percentage of the production area. It can take many hours to clean out the clogged nozzles, regulators, and drops. The down time also decreases the hours available to meet peak evapotranspiration and may result in

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Ray positioned along side the installed Cyclik wireless control system.



Close up of the Rain Bird Cast Iron Valve and Cyclik module.

Rain Bird Corporation
Agri-Products Division
633 W. Foothill Blvd.
Glendora, CA 91741-2469
Phone: (800) 435-5624
Fax: (626) 852-7310

Rain Bird International, Inc.
145 N. Grand Ave.
Glendora, CA 91741-2469
Phone: (626) 963-9311
Fax: (626) 963-4287

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yield reduction. To combat this problem, many operators install a 1.5" drop at the end of the pivot with a ball valve to act as a sand trap. Operators periodically go to the end of the machine and open the ball valve to purge the sand before it starts clogging nozzles. This requires repeated trips to each machine during operation. This practice can be costly and unreliable, especially if the operator has other tasks to attend.

Jay Coleman is a local producer and the owner of Mesa Irrigation in Lamesa, Texas. He was experiencing this problem on his crop of Sorghum. When Rain Bird District Manager John McHugh introduced the new cast iron valve and Cyclik wireless control system to Ray Hewitt, a sales representative from Mesa Irrigation, Hewitt decided to try it as an automatic flush on one of Coleman's pivots. The Cyclik system is powered by a standard 9 volt battery. A control module mounts to the valve at the end of the

machine. A hand held field transmitter is used to download a program to the module. One field transmitter can program as many valves as needed. The heavy-duty cast iron valve is simple yet rugged. Its exterior plumbing allows the hydraulic supply tubing and intake screen to be connected to the top of the pivot where the water is cleanest. Hewitt programmed Coleman's system to flush for 40 seconds every 3 hours. This

is an ideal program because it purges the sand often enough to prevent clogging without requiring any direct attention from Hewitt, who can now focus on more important matters within the operation. "Rain Bird's Cast Iron Valve and Cyclik Controller can save valuable time and the programming is really quite simple and versatile," comments Hewitt.

The Cyclik control system is beneficial for many other reasons. The control module has no switches or dials, so unauthorized personnel can not tamper with it. The field modules are water proof and rugged with potted electronics and an infrared connection for downloading. It also eliminates the need to run wire the full length of the pivot. These benefits along with the durability of Rain Bird's Cast Iron Valve will ensure timely flushing and eliminate problems and cost associated with accumulating sand.



The valve opens for 40 seconds every 3 hours to flush sand.