

# Water Needed to Grow a Pecan



## Pecan Trees

- Tree spacing:  $30 \text{ ft} * 30 \text{ ft} = 900 \text{ ft}^2 / \text{tree}$
- $1 \text{ acre} = 43,560 \text{ ft}^2$
- $\# \text{ trees/ac} = 43,560 \text{ ft}^2 / 900 \text{ ft}^2 = 48.4 \sim \mathbf{50 \text{ trees/acre}}$
- Yield: Mature trees avg about 50 lbs of nuts / yr
- Annual orchard yield = 2,500 lbs / acre
- A pound contains about 75 nuts
- Production:  $2,500 \text{ lbs} * 75 \text{ nuts/lb} = \mathbf{187,500 \text{ nuts/acre}}$



## Water

- $7.480519 \text{ gallons/ft}^3$  ;  $1 \text{ acre-foot} = 1 \text{ ac} * 1 \text{ ft} = 43,560 \text{ ft}^3$
- Gallons per acre-foot =  $7.48 \text{ g/ft}^3 * 43,560 \text{ ft}^3$
- = 325,851 g/ac-ft
- Pecan water-Use: about 60 inches/year
- $5.0 \text{ ac-ft/yr} * 325,851 \text{ ac-ft} = \mathbf{1,629,257 \text{ g/yr}}$
- Water per nut =  $1,629,257 \text{ g} / 187,500 \text{ nuts}$
- = **8.7 gallons / nut**