



East Torrance Soil & Water Conservation District

Po Box 58
 715 S 5th St
 Estancia, NM 87016
 505-384-2272 ext. 3287

WATERING FACILITY EVAPORATION LOSSES			
FROM SEPT. 30, 2015 - SEPT. 4, 2018			
WITH SHADE BALLS		WITHOUT SHADE BALLS	
7.5' drinker gallons lost in excess of rainfall	20' drinker gallons lost in excess of rainfall (estimated)	7.5' drinker gallons lost in excess of rainfall	20' drinker gallons lost in excess of rainfall (estimated)
2.622.75	19.771.50	10.767.25	81.168.50



Shade Ball

Water Conservation Project



(505) 384-2272 x3287



SHADE BALL WATER CONSERVATION PROJECT COST-SHARE PROGRAM

Our partners at Roosevelt SWCD have been conducting research with “shade balls” on livestock water tanks since September 2015. The HDPE balls are 4 inches in diameter, UV-stable, and water-filled. High surface- area coverage is achieved by placing a sufficient number of balls on the surface of the water. As water levels rise and fall, the balls organize themselves into a cover that provides coverage of up to 91%.

During this time, we have been measuring evaporation, water temperatures, rainfall, and ice formation. We have recorded significantly less evaporation and ice formation with the ball-covered tank.

For more information on availability, pricing, and current cost-share programs, please visit us at 715 S 5th St Estancia NM, call us at (505) 384-2272 Ext. #3287, e-mail us at leonard.howell@usda.gov .

Drinker Size (Diameter in feet)	Surface Area (square feet)	Number of Shade Balls Required (10/ft ²)
8	50.27	503
10	78.54	785
12	113.10	1131
14	153.94	1539
16	201.06	2011
19.1	286.52	2865
20	314.16	3142
24	452.16	4525
25	490.87	4909
30	706.86	7069



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Agriculture (USDA)

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New Mexico Department of
Agriculture

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Association

United States Forest Service

New Mexico State Forestry

Bureau of Land Management

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Extension Service

Office of the State Engineer

Torrance County

Estancia Basin Water Planning
Committee

Estancia Farm Service Agency

**NEIGHBORING SOIL & WATER
CONSERVATION DISTRICTS:**

Claunch-Pinto

Cudad

Edgewood

Tank Cover and Shade Ball Program

The ETSWCD Tank Cover and Shade ball program will cover 85% of the cost of materials required of the projects, up to \$7,500.00.

Producer must supply with application:

- 1) The number of drinkers or tanks and sizes to be included in the program with the application.
- 2) The locations mapped and turned in with the application.
- 3) For tank covers that are premanufactured fiberglass the cover manufactures specifications and details.
- 4) All other tank covers need to have a design and materials list to be used submitted with the application.
- 5) Shade balls must be water ballast balls.

When the project is complete East Torrance Soil & Water will inspect and match the specs and details submitted from the application for approval.

When the inspection is complete and approved the producer will submit receipts for the cost of materials only. Labor is not paid through the program.

