

Englevale Aquifer

Ransom and Sargent Counties

Aquifer At-a-Glance

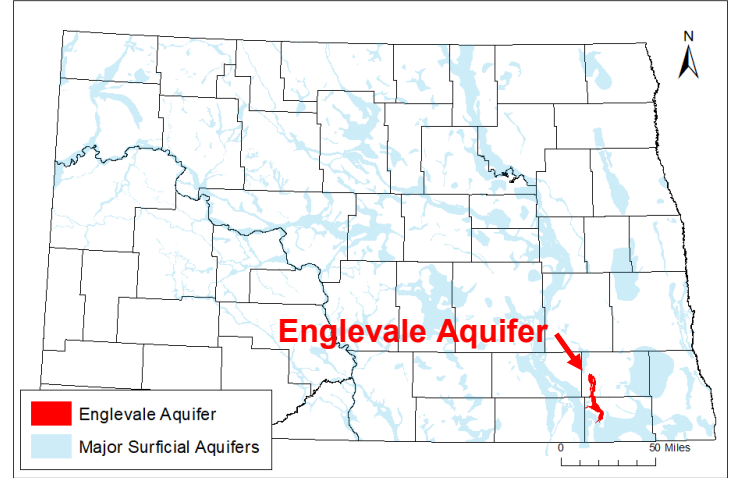
Area	73.7 square miles
Aquifer Type	Unconfined Surficial
Major Land Uses over Aquifer (percentage of aquifer area covered in 2017) ¹	Crops (45%) Grassland/Pasture (26%)
Depth to Water (2020)*	0-32 feet
Total Unique Wells Sampled	51
Wells Sampled in 2020	31
Samples Collected in 2020	44
Years Sampled	1995, 2000, 2005, 2010, 2015, 2020

*Depths to water may vary seasonally, year to year, and across the aquifer

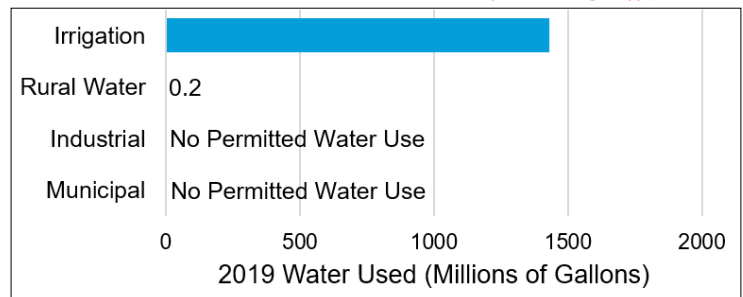
- Aquifer materials consist of sands and gravels deposited by an old version of the Sheyenne River moving meltwater away from glaciers during the last ice age. Three slight changes in the river's course left deposits of silt in places between the aquifer deposits.²
- The aquifer ranges from 5-130 feet thick and averages about 40 feet thick. The aquifer thins in the north.²
- Domestic and irrigation wells are common in the aquifer. Several stock wells are also installed in the aquifer.
- The Ransom County Water Resource District rural water system draws water from the aquifer.
- In North Dakota, permits are required to withdraw large quantities of groundwater. In 2019, 1.4 billion gallons of permitted water were drawn from the aquifer; irrigation use consumed the largest quantity of water. For more information on water use and permits, contact the North Dakota State Water Commission (swc.nd.gov).

References

- (1) US Department of Agriculture, 2017, National Agricultural Statistics Service Cropland Data Layer.
 (2) Armstrong, C.A., 1982, Ground-Water Resources of Ransom and Sargent Counties, North Dakota, North Dakota State Water Commission County Ground-Water Studies 31-Part 3, North Dakota Geological Survey Bulletin 69.



2019 Englevale aquifer permitted water use (from North Dakota State Water Commission (swc.nd.gov))↓



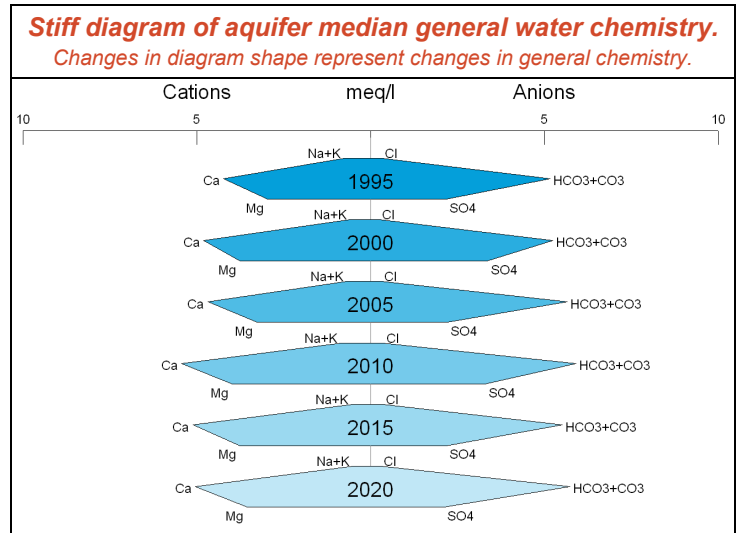
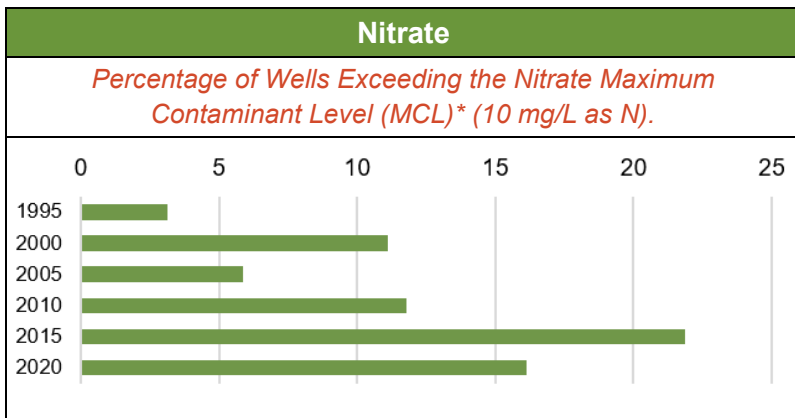
About the Agricultural Groundwater Monitoring Program

- The North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality monitors a network of wells in approximately 50 surficial aquifers that are at elevated risk of agricultural contamination.
- Aquifers are sampled on a 5-year rotation.
- Monitoring began in 1992.
- The vast majority of these aquifers are located in central and eastern North Dakota.
- Water is tested for 21 general chemistry parameters, eight trace metals, and 64 pesticides.

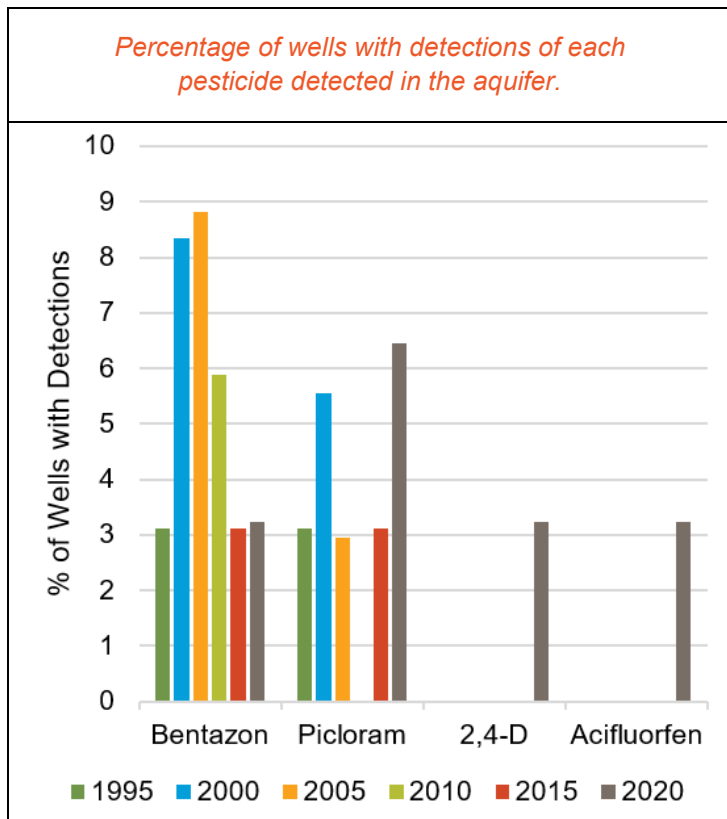
Water Chemistry

Is Aquifer Water High in...?	Analyte	Result	2020 Median Concentration	Potential Effects
	Arsenic	Locally	0.005 mg/L	Skin or circulatory system damage, increased cancer risk
	Iron	YES	1.95 mg/L	Metallic taste/odor, discoloration of surfaces
	Manganese	YES	0.78 mg/L	
	Sodium	NO	9.65 mg/L	Taste, people with certain health conditions may need to limit intake
	Sulfate	NO	101 mg/L	Taste/odor, laxative effect for people not used to the water
For more information about Maximum Contaminant Levels (MCLs), health effects, and treatment options for these contaminants and more, see the NDDEQ's fact sheets (deq.nd.gov/wq/1_Groundwater) or visit the US EPA website (epa.gov/ground-water-and-drinking-water).				

Dominant Water Type	Water Hardness
Calcium-Bicarbonate	Very Hard



Pesticides



State Pesticide Management Plan	
Agricultural Groundwater Monitoring Program aquifers are monitored as a part of the State Pesticide Management Plan. A Prevention Action Level (PAL) threshold of 25% of the pesticide's Maximum Contaminant Level (MCL)* or Health Advisory Level (HAL) is used to identify whether action is needed to prevent further contamination.	
Prevention Action Level Exceedances	None
MCL or HAL Exceedances	None

Number of Unique Wells with Pesticide Detections since 1995	10 of 51 Total Wells
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2020 Pesticide Detections		
Picloram	2 Wells	Herbicide applied to crops and roads/rights-of-way
Bentazon	1 Well	Herbicide applied to crops
2,4-D	1 Well	Herbicide applied to crops and lawns
Acifluorfen	1 Well	Herbicide applied to crops

*Note that MCLs are for public drinking water systems; private wells are not regulated in North Dakota. MCLs still provide guidelines for drinking groundwater.

Feel free to use this information, but please credit the North Dakota Department of Environmental Quality.