



**Table 1**

**Pros and cons of drip irrigation lateral and submain configurations for field and row crop applications**

<b>Seasonal submain (Layflat, Oval hose)</b>		<b>Permanent submain (PVC)</b>	
Pros		Pros	
<p><b>1. Seasonal lateral (Drip, tape, flat emitter dripline)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Portable with ability to follow crop</li> <li>• Germinate crop</li> <li>• Average maintenance</li> <li>• Low initial cost</li> </ul>	<p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• High flushing labor</li> <li>• High moving labor</li> <li>• Disposal costs</li> <li>• Seasonal lateral replacement cost</li> <li>• Periodic submain replacement cost</li> </ul>	<p><b>2. Seasonal lateral (Drip, tape, flat emitter dripline)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automate flushing</li> <li>• No submain moving labor</li> <li>• Germinate crop</li> <li>• Average maintenance</li> <li>• Multi-year PVC use</li> </ul>	<p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Winterization required</li> <li>• Trenching required</li> <li>• Repairs more difficult</li> <li>• Lateral replacement more difficult</li> <li>• Moderate lateral costs</li> <li>• Manifolds for various crops difficult</li> </ul>
Examples: Onions, celery, veggies		Examples: Some vegetable-growing regions	
<b>Seasonal submain (Layflat, Oval hose)</b>		<b>Permanent submain (PVC)</b>	
Pros		Pros	
<p><b>3. Permanent lateral (Drip, tape, flat emitter dripline)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Multi-year lateral use</li> <li>• Portable submain</li> <li>• Medium initial cost</li> </ul>	<p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplemental moisture for germination may be needed</li> <li>• Lateral repairs more difficult</li> <li>• Needs excellent maintenance</li> <li>• High flushing labor or needs flushing manifolds</li> </ul>	<p><b>4. Permanent lateral (Drip, tape, flat emitter dripline)</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Automate flushing</li> <li>• No submain moving labor</li> <li>• Multi-year lateral and submain use</li> </ul>	<p>Cons</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Supplemental moisture for germination may be needed</li> <li>• Lateral and submain repairs more difficult</li> <li>• Needs excellent maintenance</li> <li>• Winterization required</li> <li>• Higher initial cost</li> </ul>
Example: Processing tomatoes		Examples: Corn/soybeans, alfalfa, cotton	

Source: Based on information developed by Inge Bisconer, Toro Micro-Irrigation, and Jim Klauzer, Clearwater Supply.