

Simplified Irrigation



Why Do We Irrigate?

Produce a crop

Improve yield

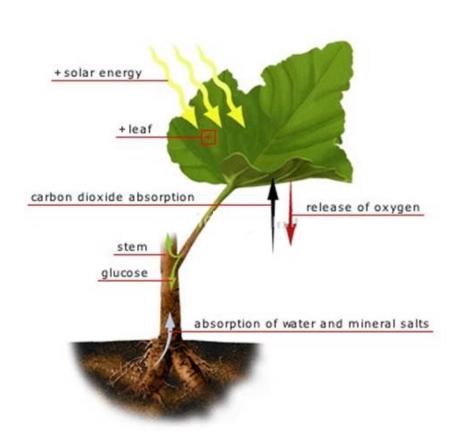
Improve quality

Avoid disease and pest pressures

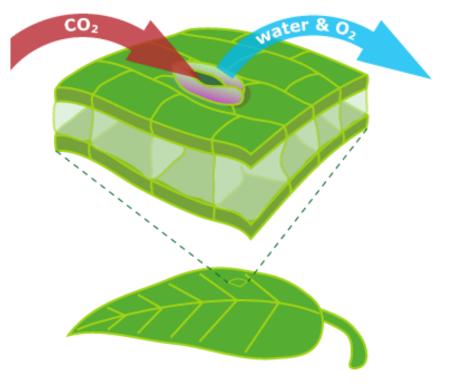
Avoid plant stress

Plant Water Demand



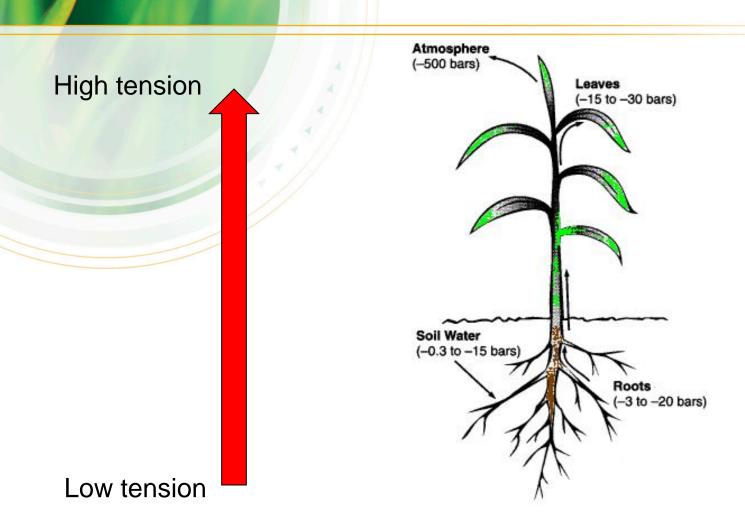


Carbon dioxide enters, while water and oxygen exit, through a leaf's stomata.



Plant Water Demand







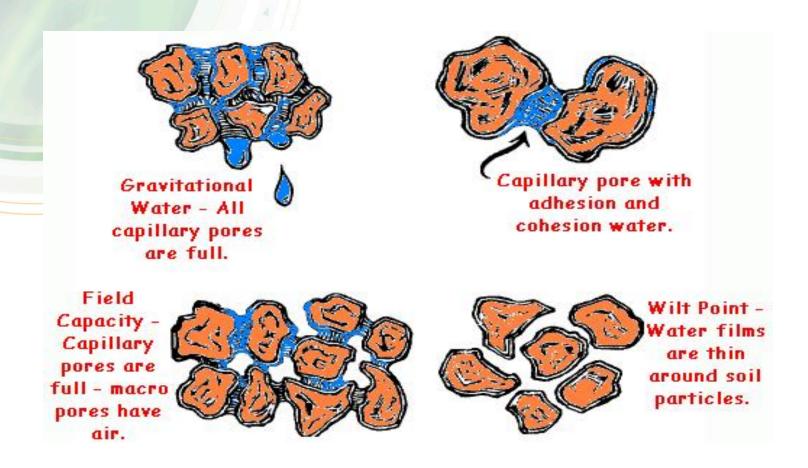


Soil tension is defined as the suction exerted by soil particles on the water they hold.

To extract water from the soil, plants must exert suction on that water. As the soil dries, its tension increases, and it becomes harder for plants to extract water from the soil. The amount of energy a plant must spend to extract water from the soil is directly linked to soil tension.

What Is Soil Tension?





Plant Stress



- Plants and trees can adjust their own water use based on soil tension
- The root system can command the leafs to stop the photosynthesis activity to preserve water.
- There is no visible evidences of this stress it has to be very severe before it becomes visible
- In crop production, this mechanism is very costly as it translates into a succession of yield losses
- To maximize yields and profitability, tension must be managed within a narrow bandwidth









Benefits of Soil Tension for Irrigation Management

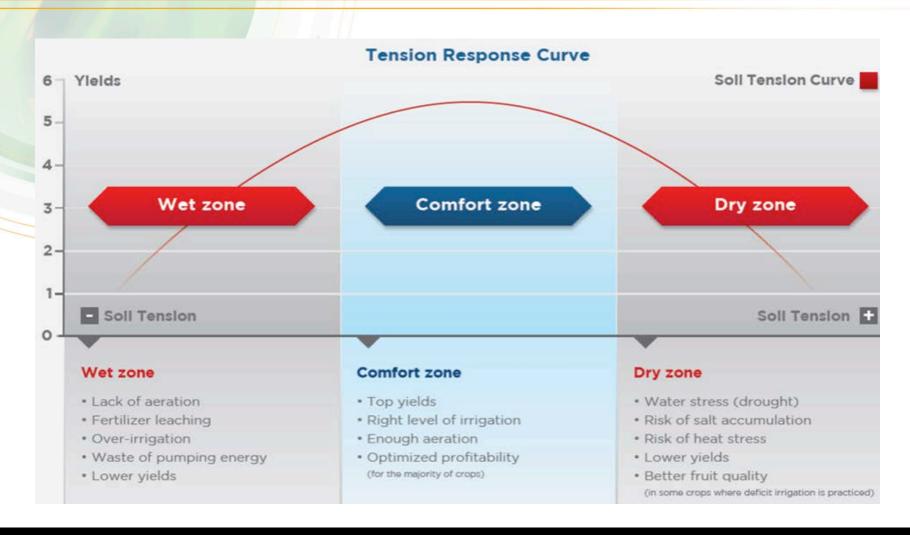
- -Exact Measurement
- Directly linked to plant stress and/or plant needs
- -Tensiometer (tool used to measure soil tension) acts like a mechanical root
- -Proven technology dating back to the 1950's



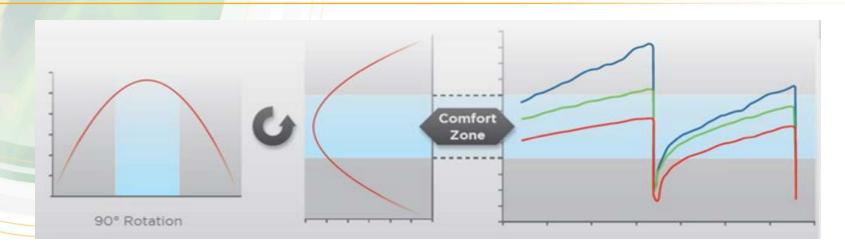


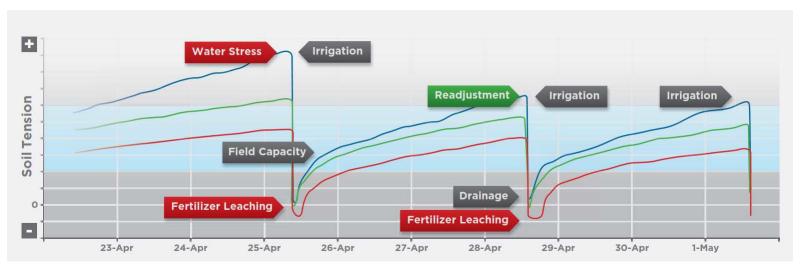






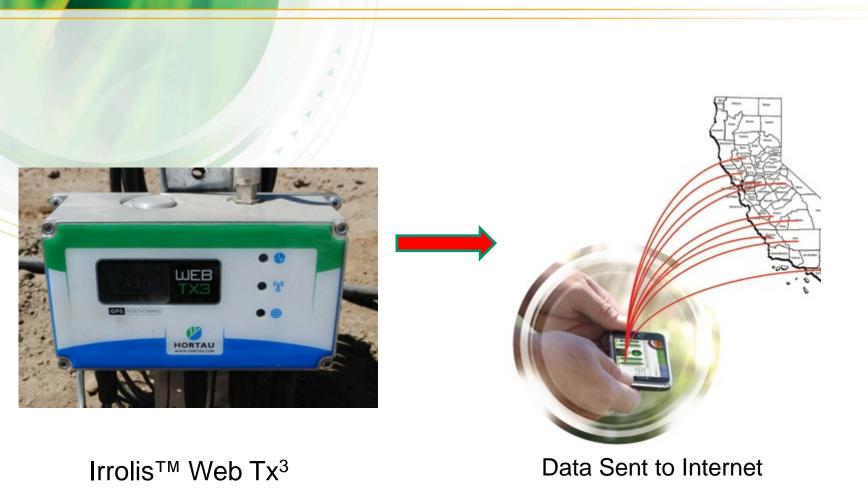




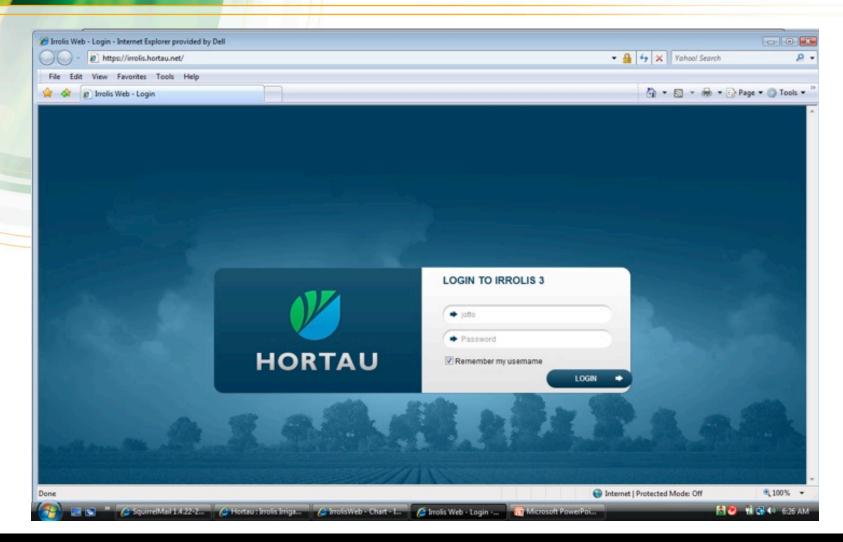




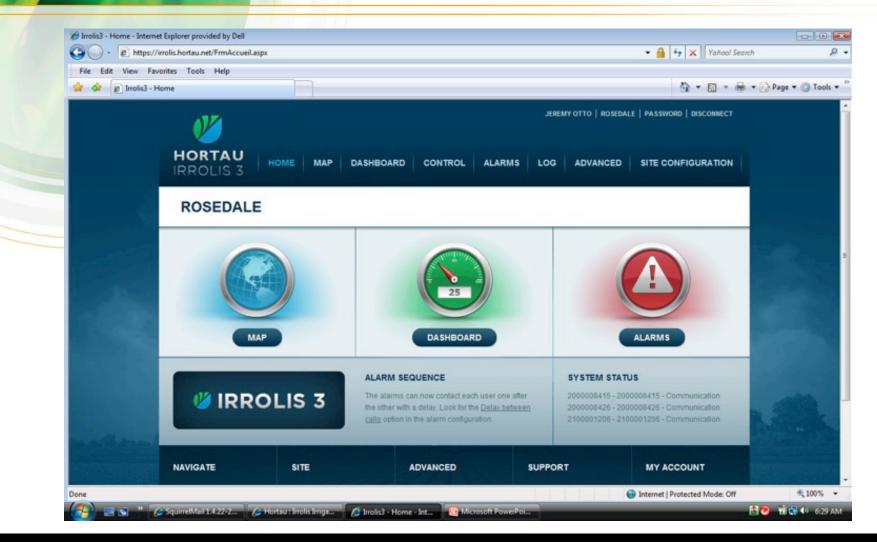








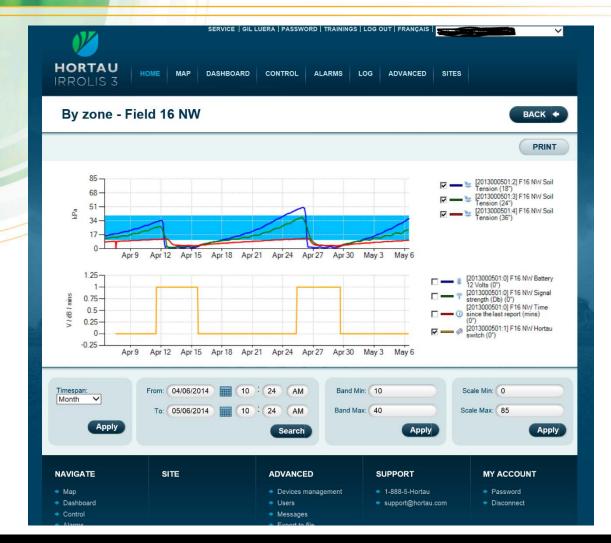




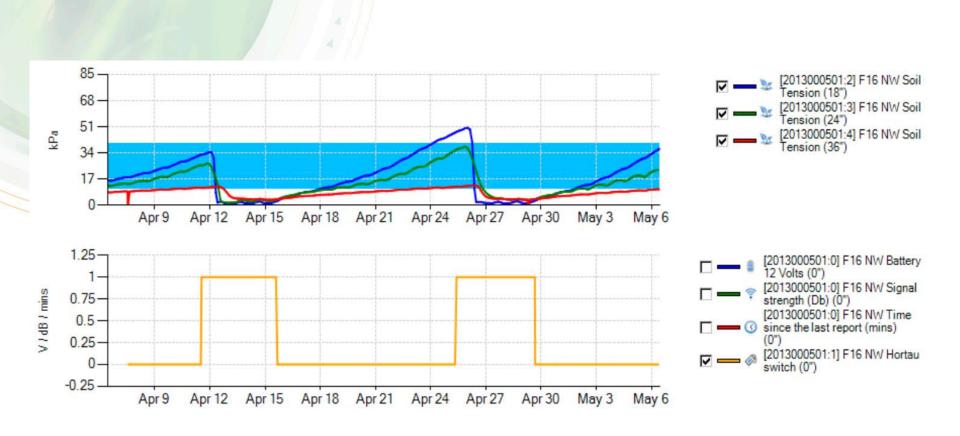






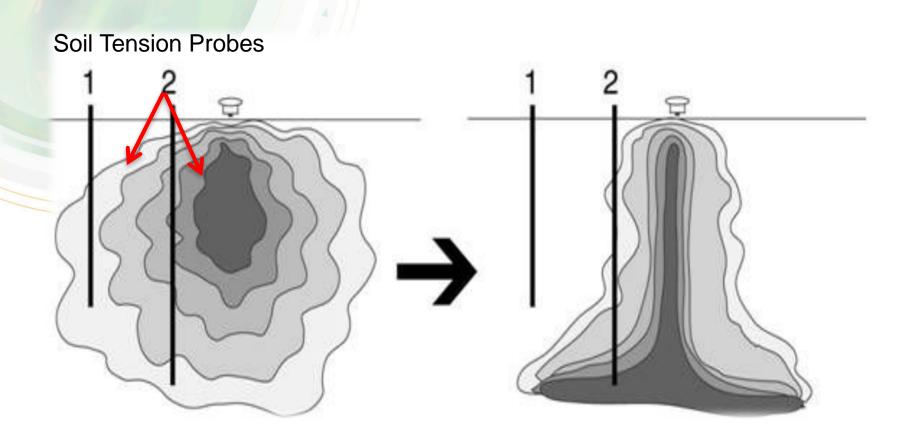






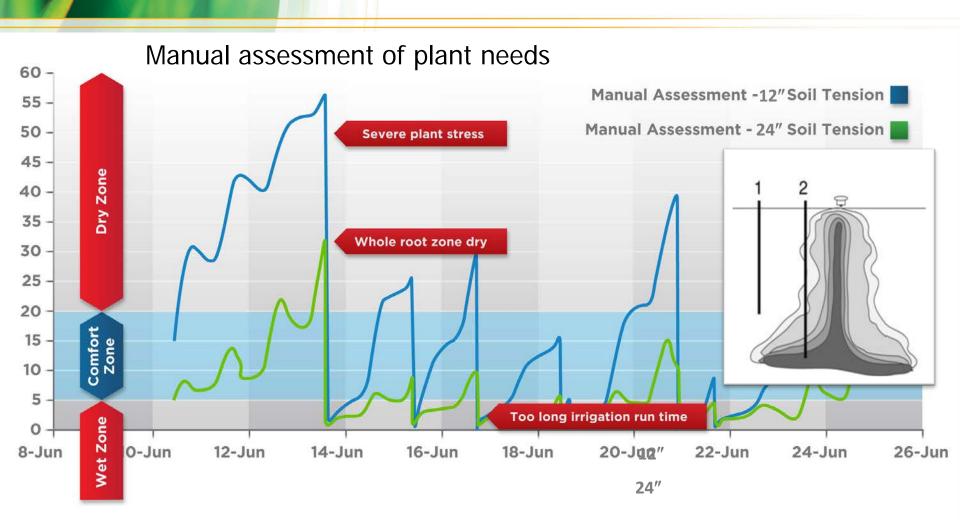
How Real Time Data is Used





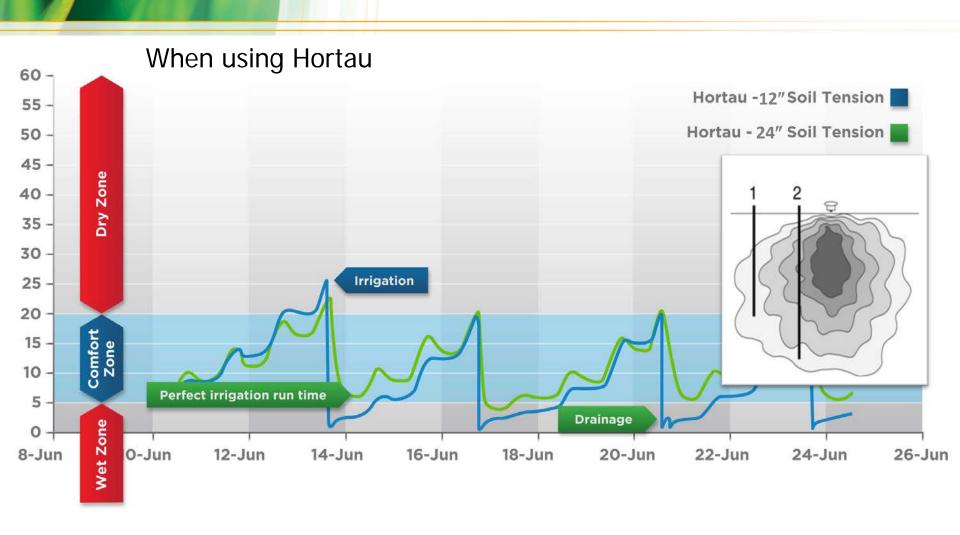
Irrigation Management





Irrigation Management







Grapes









Strawberry













































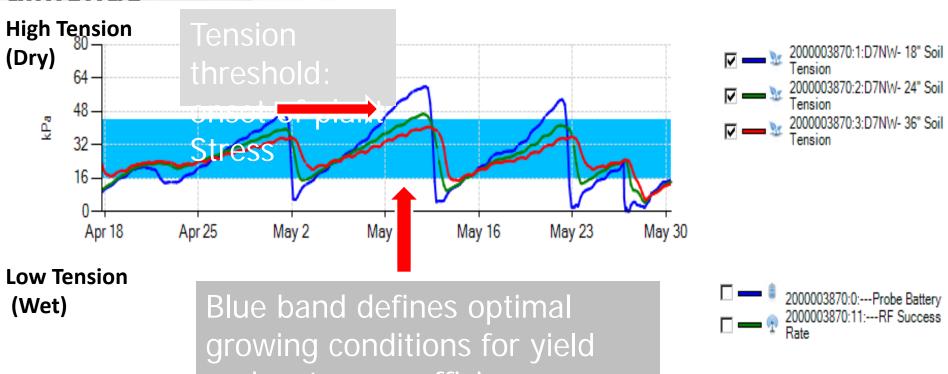
Benefits of Managing Soil Tension in Real Time

Increased Water Efficiency
Increased Fertilizer Efficiency
Better Crop Uniformity season to season
Maintain consistent crop quality
Lower Production Costs



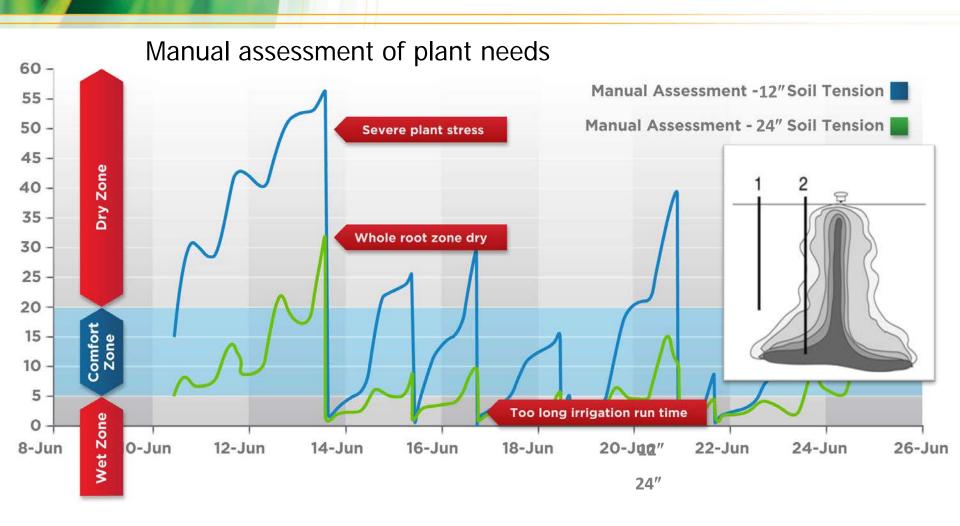
Research Goal:

Determine exact "blue zone" for maximum productivity in almonds



Irrigation Management





Irrigation Management



