

Kim Patten  
WSU Long Beach



*World Class. Face to Face.*

# Irrigation Systems Evaluation

- **Why important**

- **Direct relationship between yield and irrigation scheduling and design**
- **Direct relationship between proper frost protection and yield**
- **Direct relationship good pest management and system uniformity**
- **Direct relationship between surface water contamination and system design**
- **2010 BC survey of grower beds some as low as 30% coef. of variability, one brand new field with new Nelson heads on 53' by 55' only 70%**

# Irrigation Systems Evaluation

- **Why important**

- **2010 BC survey of grower beds**

- **31% to 73% coef. of variability**
    - **Pressure at sprinkler heads 30 to 50 psi**
    - **Variability within a system (one as 72% COV near pump 52% COV far from pump)**
    - **Irrigation rates vary within a system (0.14"/hr to 0.11"/hr)**
    - **Washoff times 4 to 12 minutes**
    - **Systems vary a lot**
      - **Nelson rotator on wide spacing in wind 31%**
      - **Impacts 40' by 50' with good pressure– 73%**
      - **Impacts 30' by 30' low pressure 30%**

# Irrigation Systems Evaluation

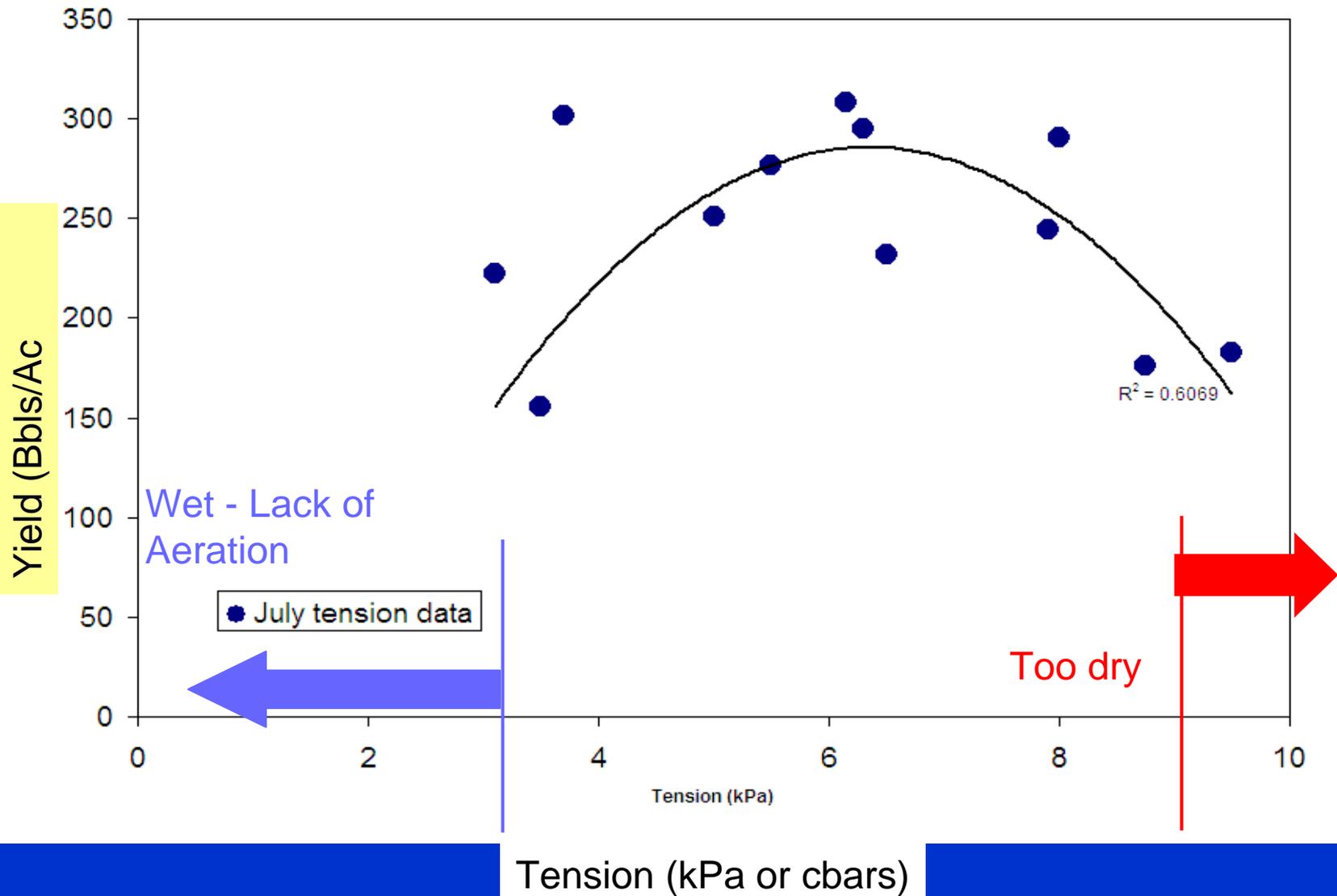
- **Why important**

- **Don't know your system unless you test it!**



# Centibars Vs Yield

Yield and tension in Wisconsin (Kummer, 2004)



# Cranberry botany as it relates to irrigation

- Rooting
  - Structure
  - Depth
  - Growth
  - Factors affecting
    - Herbicide
    - Drainage
    - Temperature
    - Plant development
    - Soil density
    - Hydrogen sulfide
- Protection needs
  - Spring frost (vegetative growth stages vs tolerance)
  - Summer heat scald
  - Fall (Fruit maturity vs tolerance)
  - Winter hardiness
- Cranberry water use needs (general background)
  - ET
  - Crop coefficients
  - Other models/weather stations
  - New plantings vs established plantings

- **Rooting**

- Structure

- fine fibrous root

- no root hairs

- mycorrhizal associated with roots but not of economic significance

- Depth

- 0-2”

- Can have air roots along upright in situation of thick vines on peat





2-3" depth of rooting



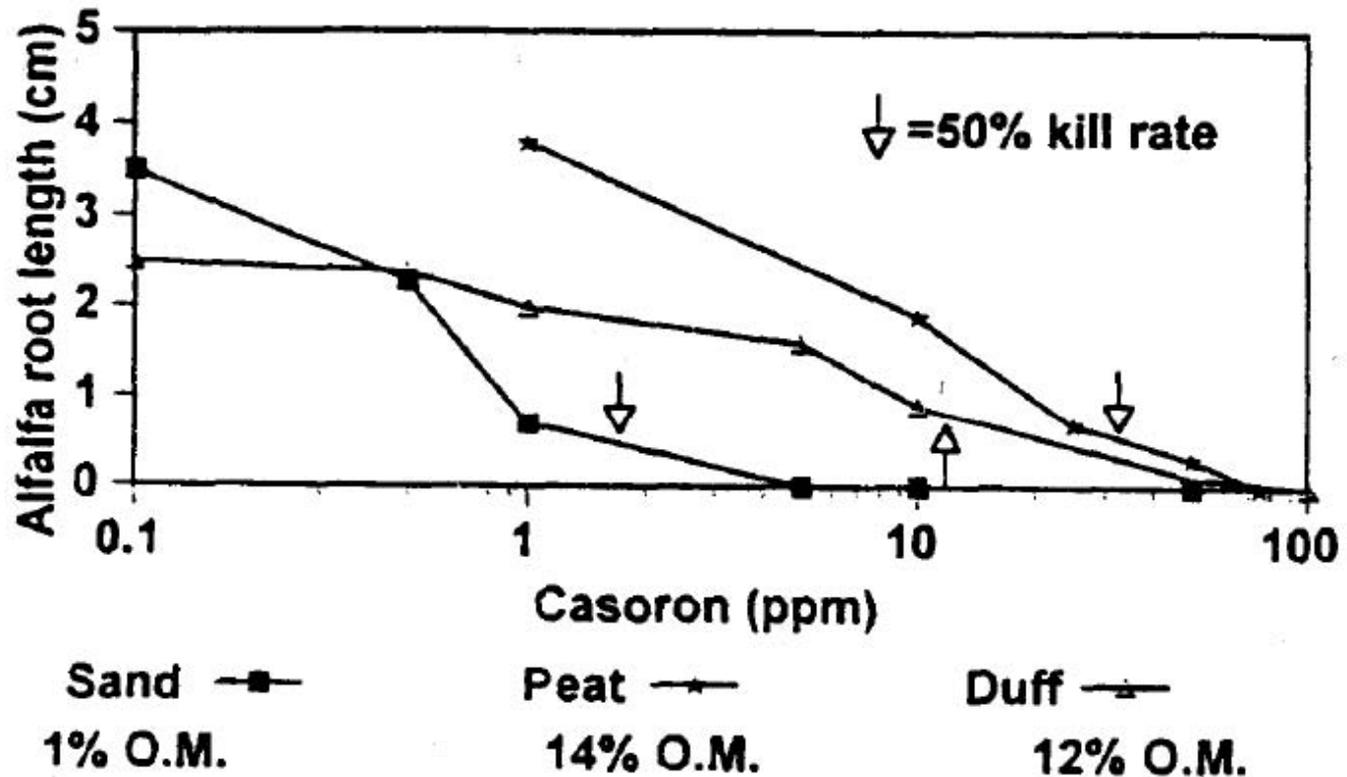
1 to 2" depth of rooting



3 to 4" depth of rooting

- Factors affecting root growth
  - Herbicide
    - Casoron prunes new growth (rate by soil type effect)
    - Immediate effects subtle, but long-term effects are significant
  - Drainage
    - Root rot
    - Growers in BC and WI report a direct relationship between yield and good drainage and proper irrigation
  - Temperature
    - Cold wet soils – delayed growth until mid-June
    - Sandy dry soils – new root growth in February
  - Plant development
    - Maximum growth corresponds to peak plant activity
    - Data from USDA in OR suggest they are shutting down in August
  - Soil density
    - Fine roots just don't penetrate dense soil or layer packed sand very well
  - Hydrogen sulfide
    - If you can smell it, you've got root damage

## Standard Curves for Casoron in different soil types



Root damage from Casoron is dependent on soil type.  
Root damage in sand occurs @ 1/10<sup>th</sup> Casoron rate than in peat.

- Protection needs
  - Spring frost (vegetative growth stages vs tolerance)
  - Summer heat scald
  - Fall (fruit maturity vs tolerance)
  - Winter hardiness

# Frost Protection

## Basics of sprinkler protection

- When to stop
  - When ice begins to melt
    - if wind picks up and melting stops -- evaporation can be a problem (heat loss is more than with melting)
  - Sun on the plants
  - Both usually by 7:30 a.m.
  - Above tolerance by 3+ degrees

# Frost Protection

## Basics of sprinkler protection

- When to start
  - 1-2° above tolerance
  - If manual turn-on alarm usually is set even higher

# What is the tolerance

- Temperature that the plant can cool to without ice forming in the cells
- Changes during development
- Tolerance temp increases in the spring and decreases in the fall (always 30 °F or less)

# Tolerance is site specific

- You must scout
- Spring changes are dependent on accumulation of heat units – warmer locations develop faster and lose tolerance sooner
  - Look at buds frequently to recognize changes
  - Look for most advanced stage that is present in more than 3-5% of buds

## Determine using visual cues

- Spring
  - Appearance of the bud
  - $<18\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$  to  $29.5\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$
- Fall
  - Color of the fruit
  - $28\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$  to as low as  $20\text{ }^{\circ}\text{F}$



Low to mid 20's

25- 30

32



From UMASS

4/26/10



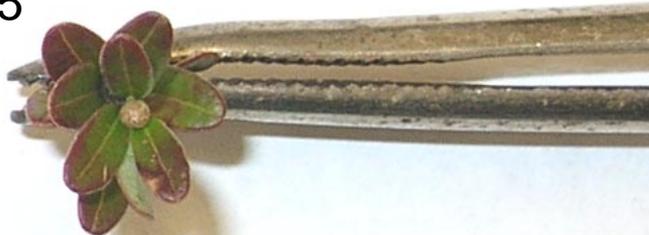
Ben Lear Tolerance = 29.5



*Ben Lear*

4/26/10

Howes = 25



*Howes*

From UMASS



Stevens Tolerance = 29.5

*Stevens*



Which sensor location is best? Protected sensors are warmer and also have a time delay of up to 2 hours before they may reach the critical temperature. Sensors should be exposed to open air at the lowest point in the bed.

## WSU Research – mid 90's

- 1) Uprights from vines grown on peat soil were consistently hardier than those on sand despite having larger bud size and green leaves in the winter.
- 2) There was a lot of natural flower death over the winter regardless of temperature.
- 3) For any given date, McFarlin was much hardier than Stevens, but for equal stages of development hardiness is fairly similar. Growers with mixed varieties on the same irrigation system must protect for the most sensitive buds.

4) Flower buds were much hardier in February and early March than most growers suspected. In February, our data indicated good hardiness into the single digits.

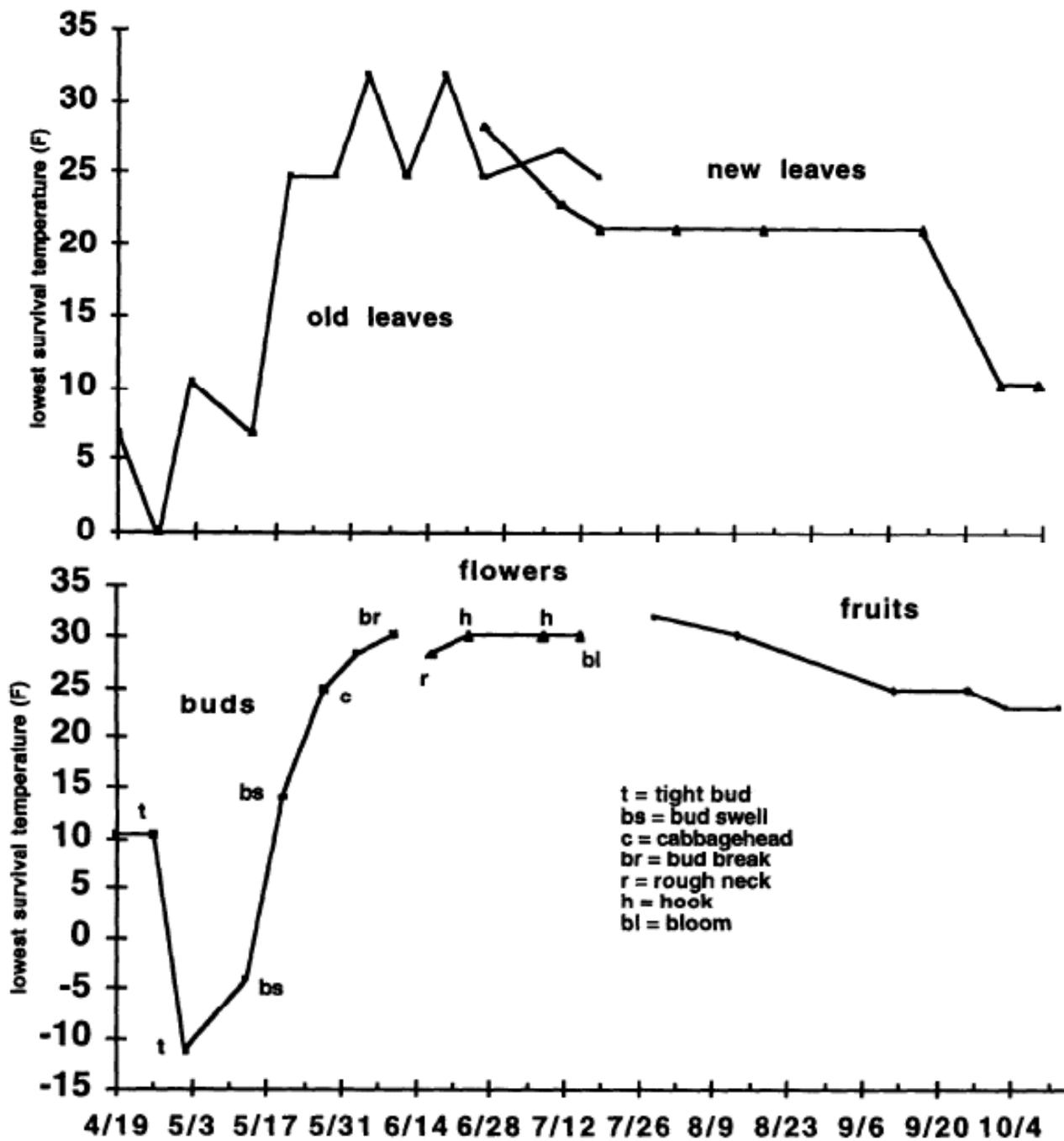
Therefore, frost protection in February was not necessary. It was not until mid- to late March that buds began to experience damage in the 20's.

5) A lot of sensors are set in the wrong locations in the bed. Sensors should be exposed at the level of buds in the lowest location within the beds. Protected sensors are several degrees above real bud temperature and usually have a lag time before they reach a minimal temperature.

# Scald/heat damage

- Damage to fruit vs damage to vines
- Fruit
  - No set rule when fruit damage will occur.
  - Weak, brittle vines, open exposed fruit, very sandy soils – better protect at 80.
  - Thick healthy vines, lots of roots, peat soil – should be good up to 85 to 90+
  - Sprinkle for evaporation-cooling
- Vines
  - Hot and windy on sandy soils with weak vines-- damage can occur quickly. Sprinkle for soil- water not evaporation-cooling





From U. Wis.

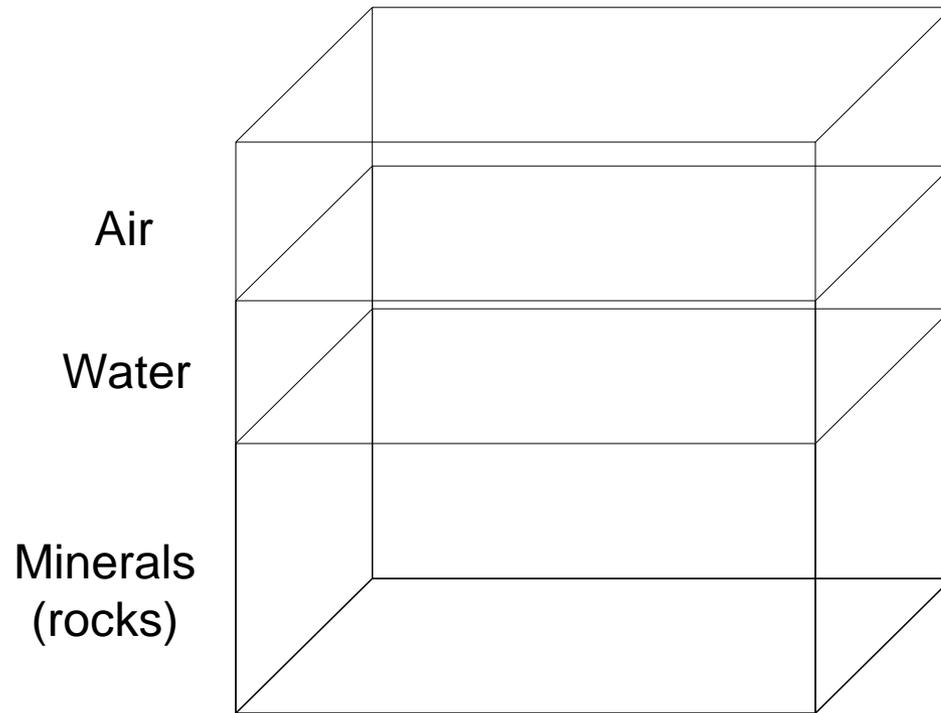
- Cranberry water use needs (general background)
  - ET
  - Crop coefficients
  - Weather stations

# Water need and irrigation scheduling

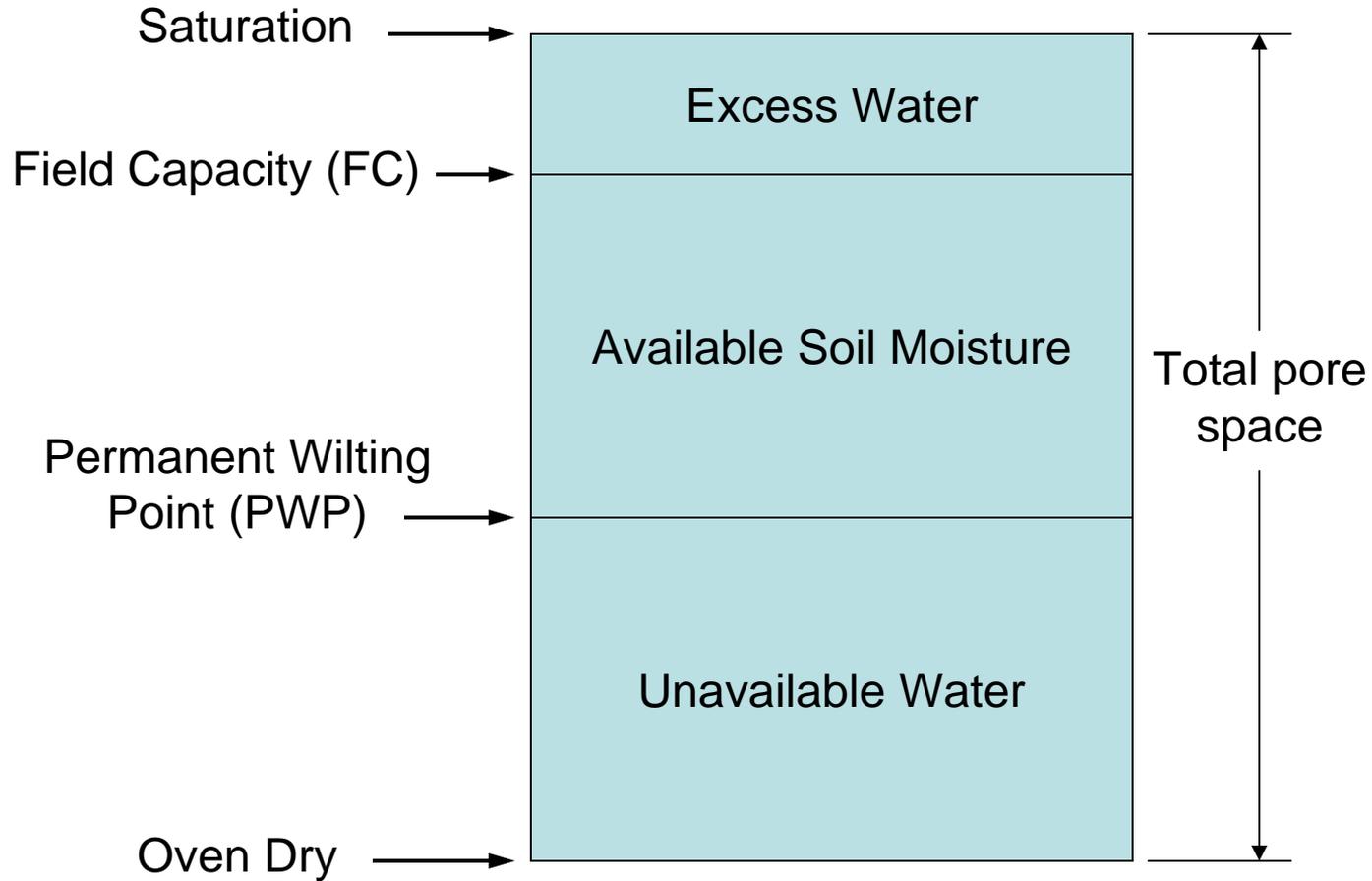
R. Troy Peters & Kim Patten  
WSU Extension

# Demonstration with sponges

# Composition of Soil

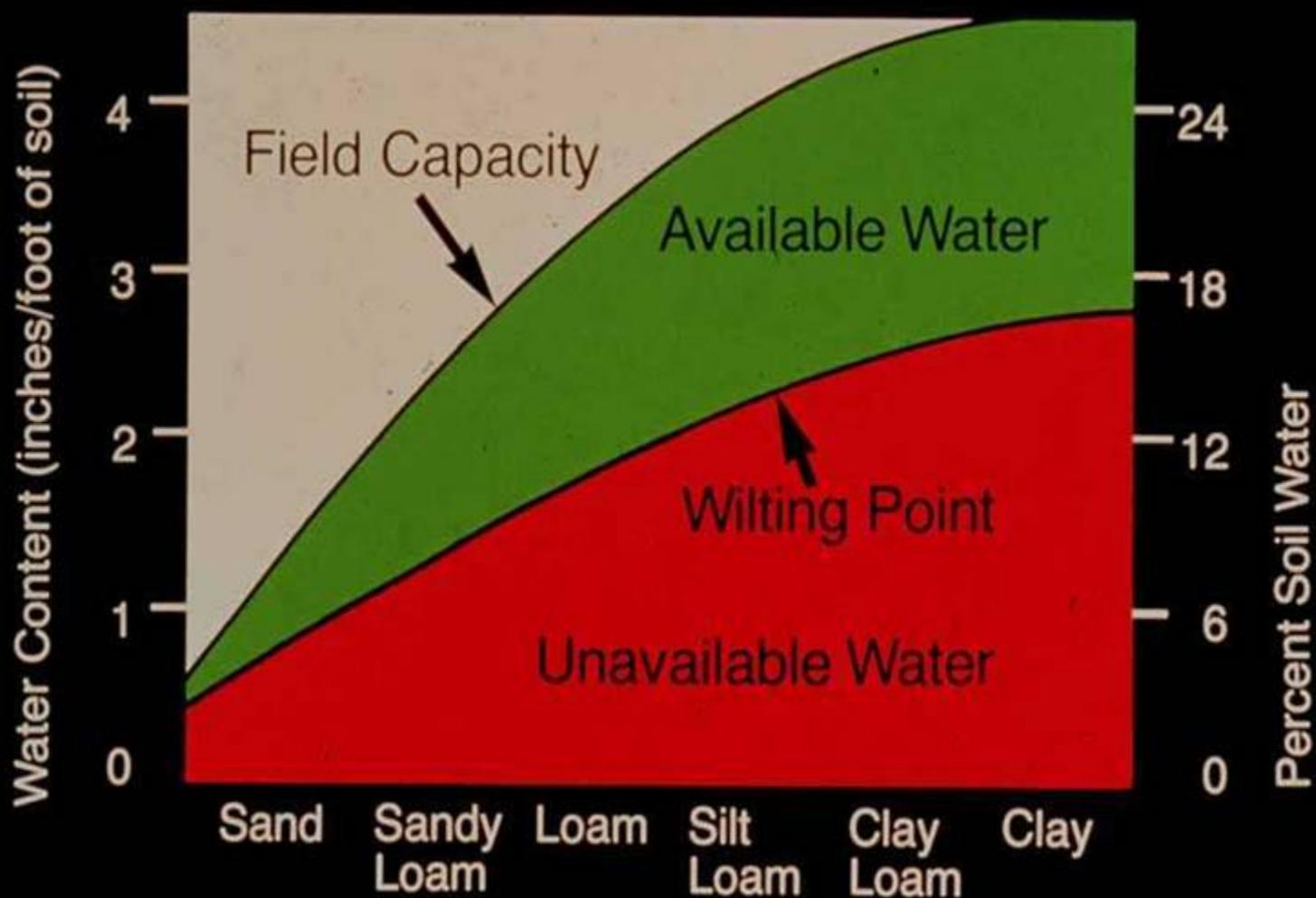


# Soil Water



- **Field Capacity (FC):** Maximum amount of water that a soil can hold indefinitely against gravity (% of volume)
- **Permanent Wilting Point (PWP):** The amount of water remaining in the soil after plants can no longer pull water from the soil (wilt & die)
- **Available Water (AW) = FC – PWP**
- **Management Allowable Deficit (MAD):** percent deficit of Available Water (AW) that management will accept (30 to 50% ?)

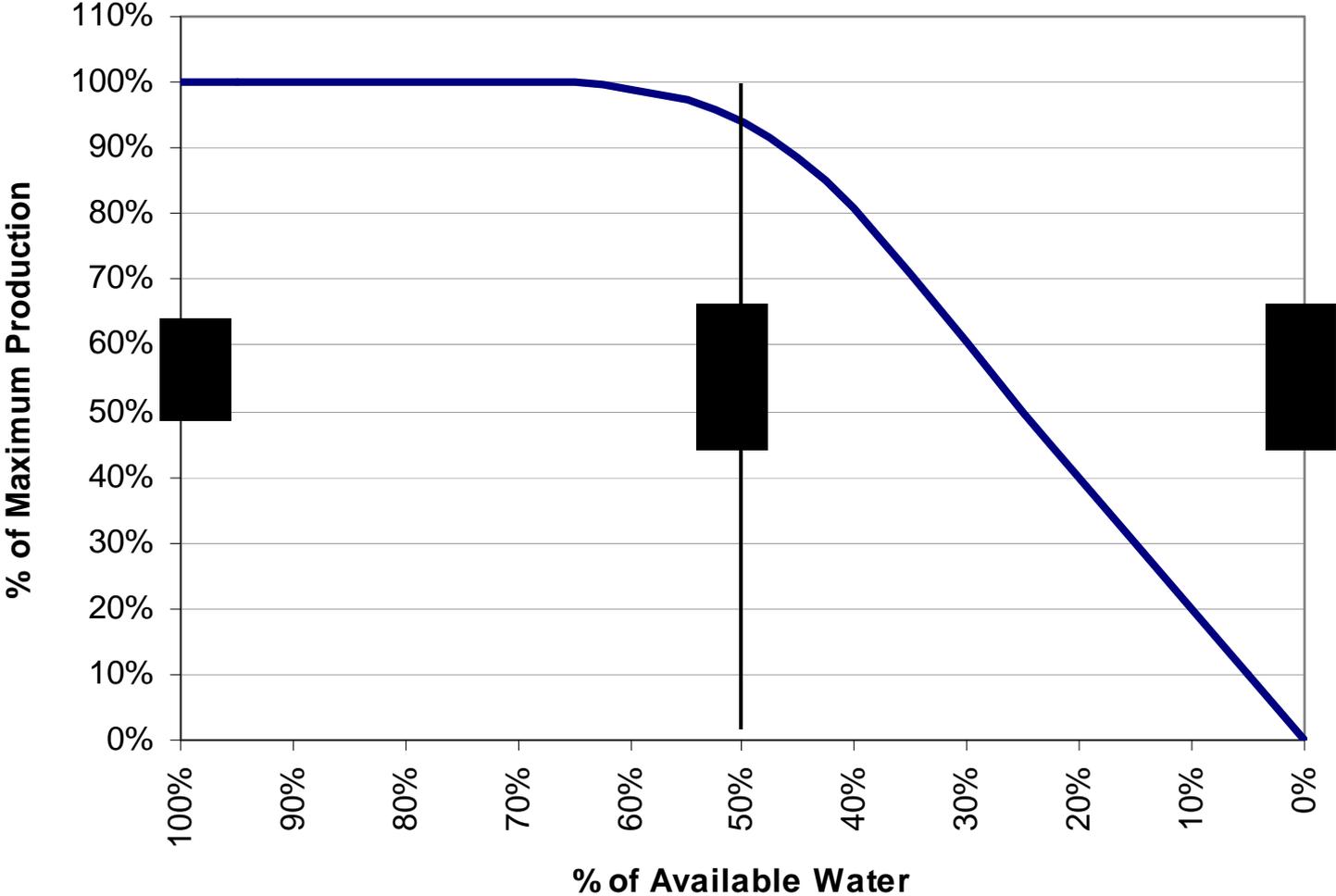
## Fineness of Texture



# Soil Texture and Available Water

Soil Texture	Available Water (AW in/in)
Coarse Sand	0.16 to 0.07
Fine Sand	0.06 to 0.08
Peat /Muck	0.16 to 0.24

# Production Reduction Function



For cranberry



# Effective Rooting Zone

Root Development

Percentage of Moisture Extraction

1" - 45%

40%

40%

2" - 45%

30%

30%

3" - 10%

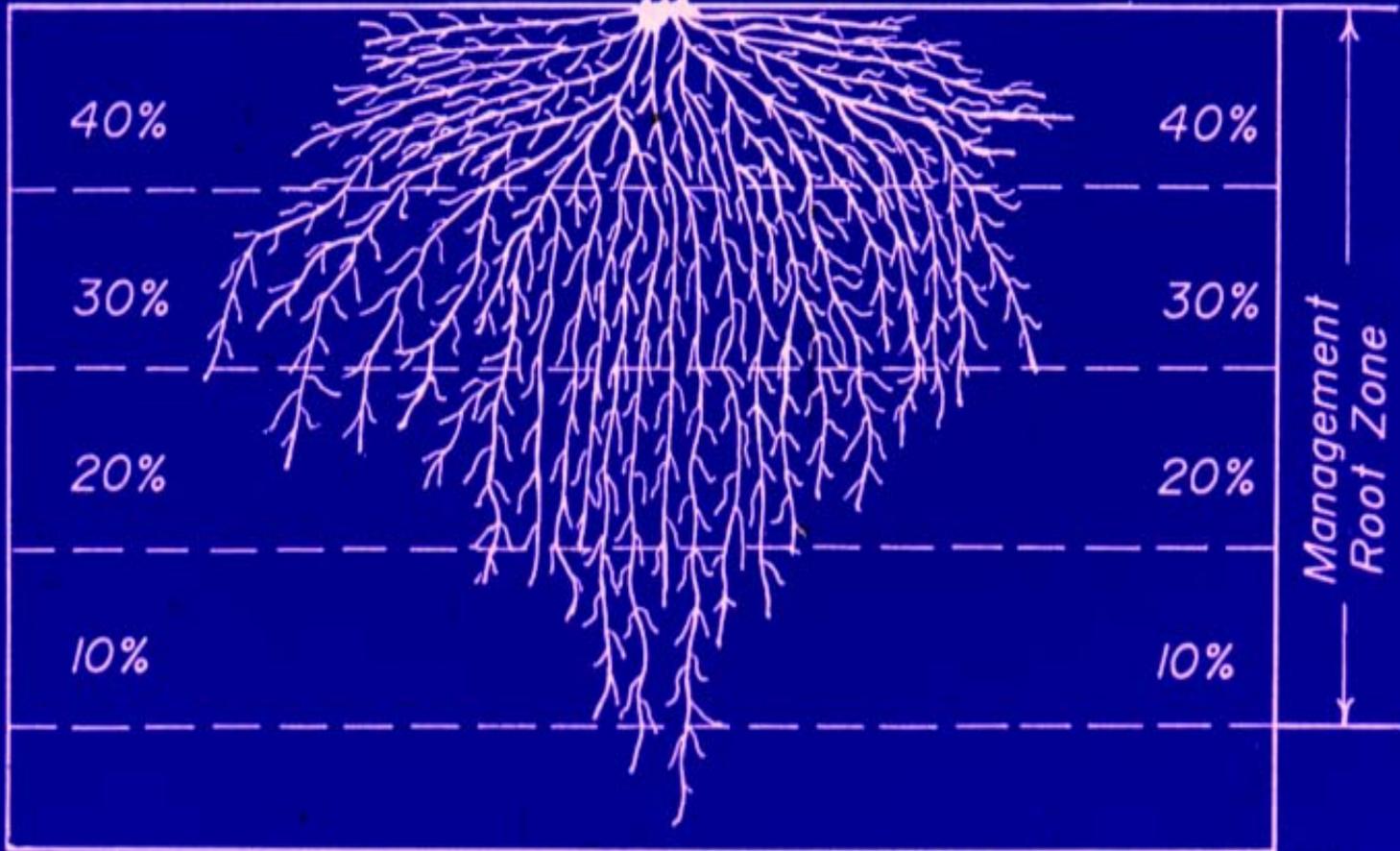
20%

20%

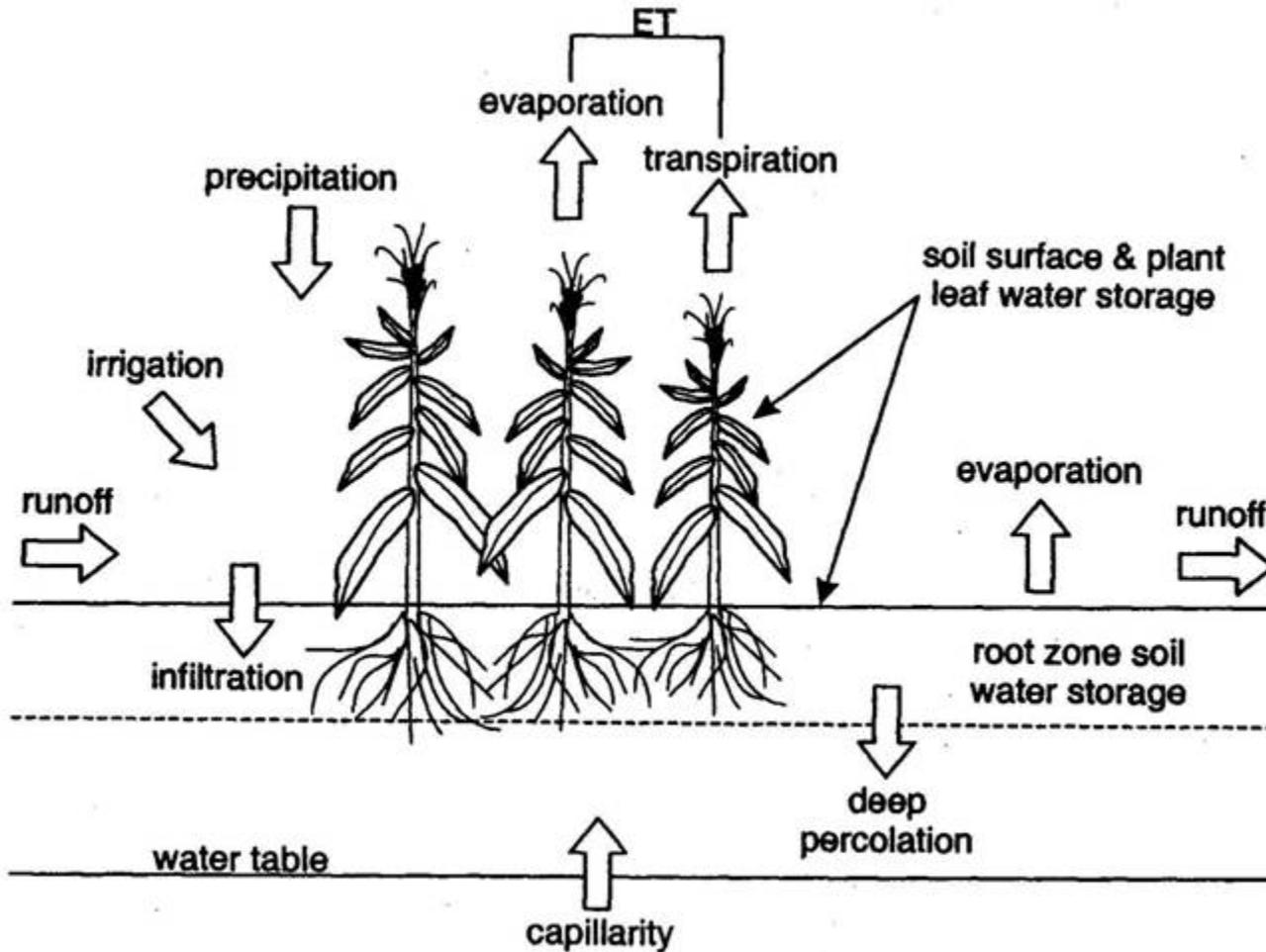
10%

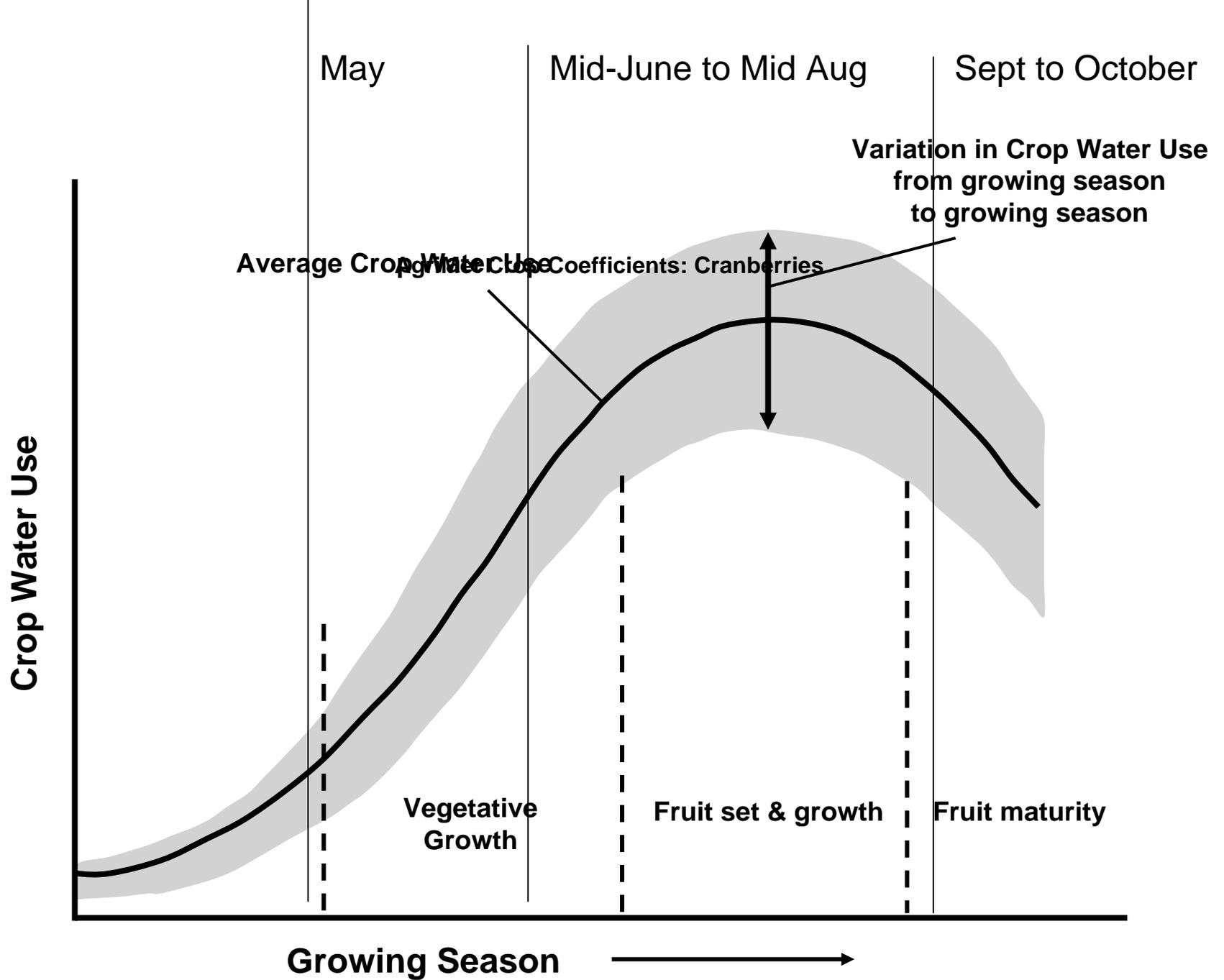
10%

Management Root Zone



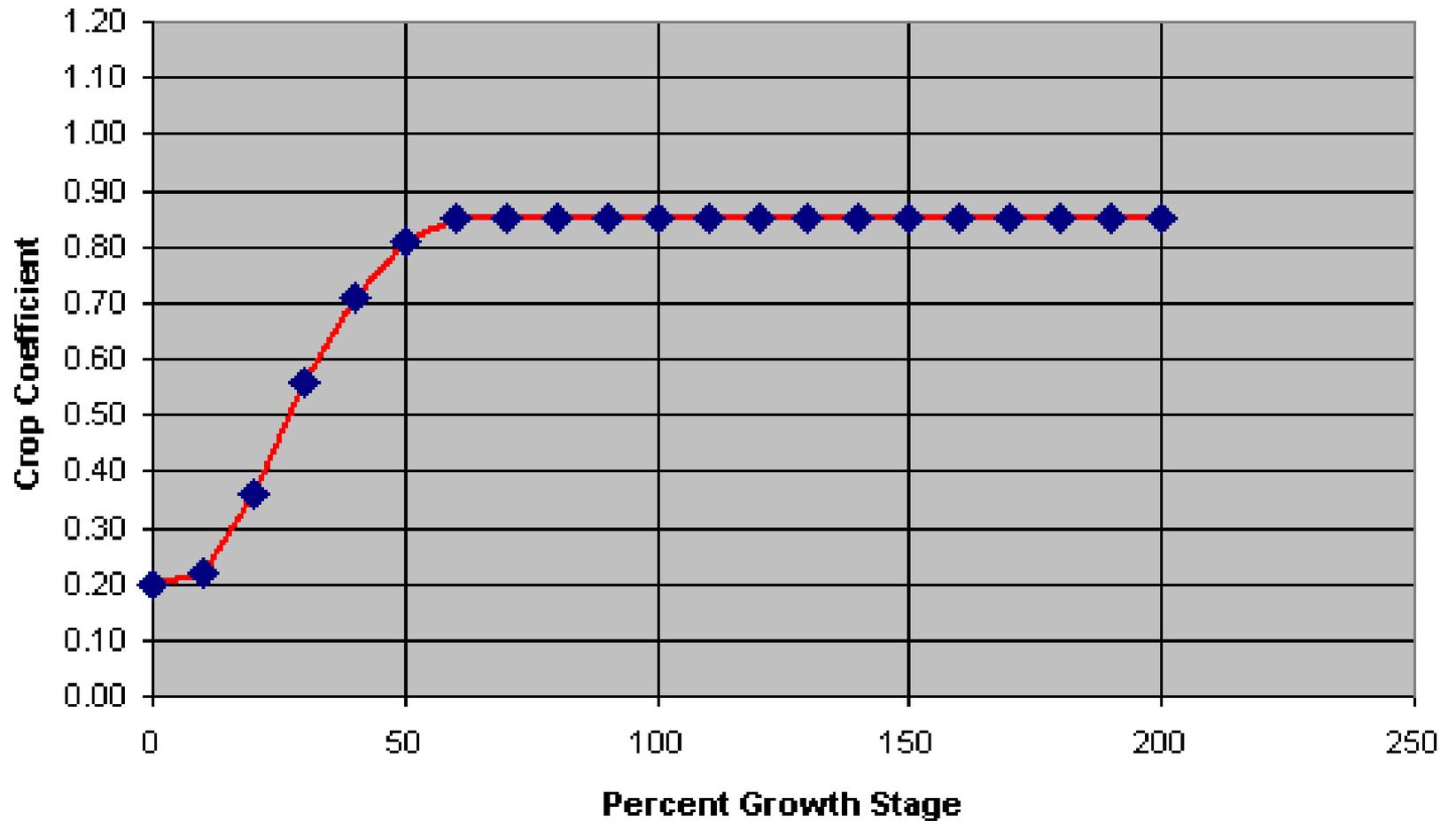
# Water Balance



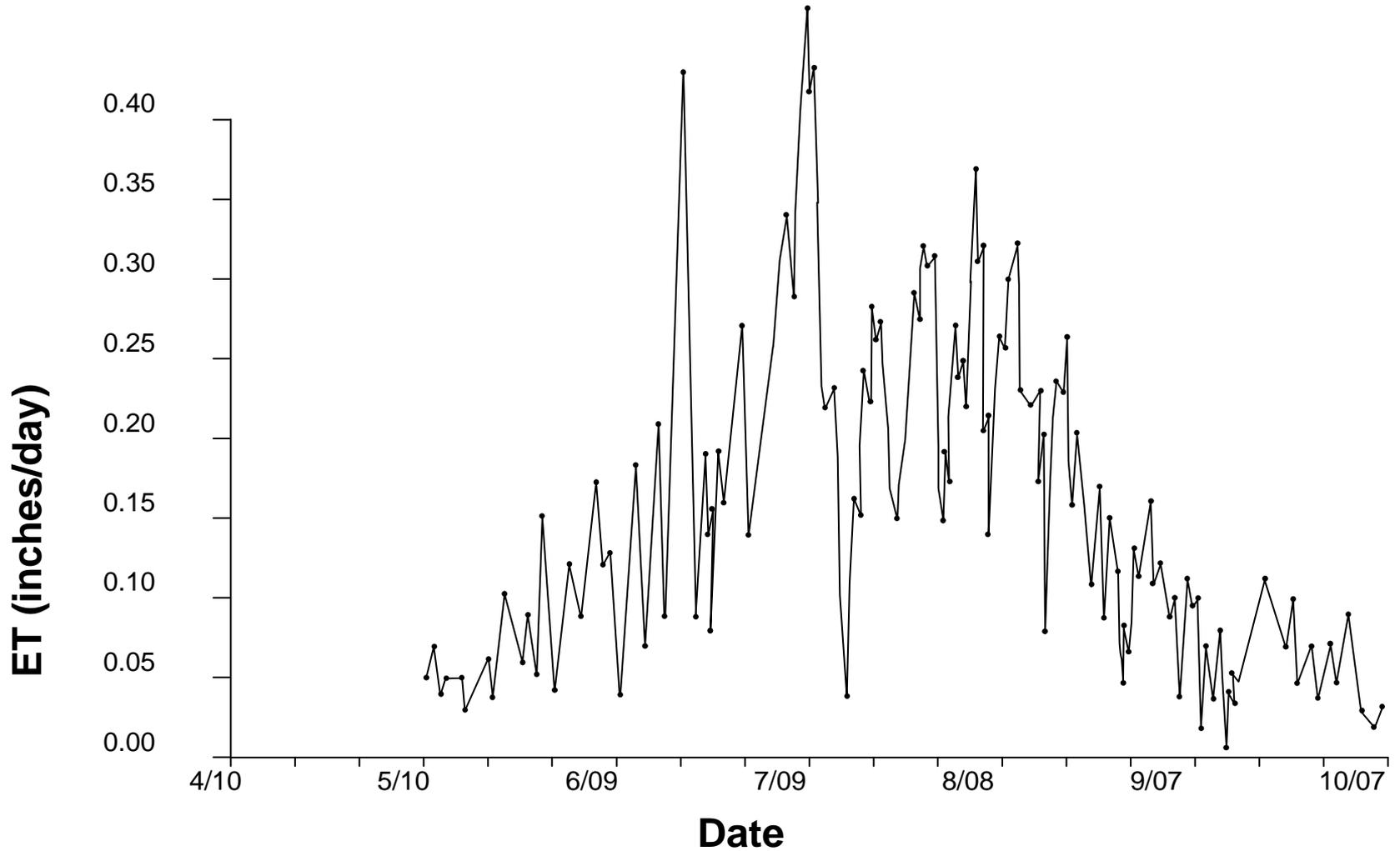


# AgriMet Crop Coefficients: Cranberries in Oregon

## Cranberries



# ET and Weather



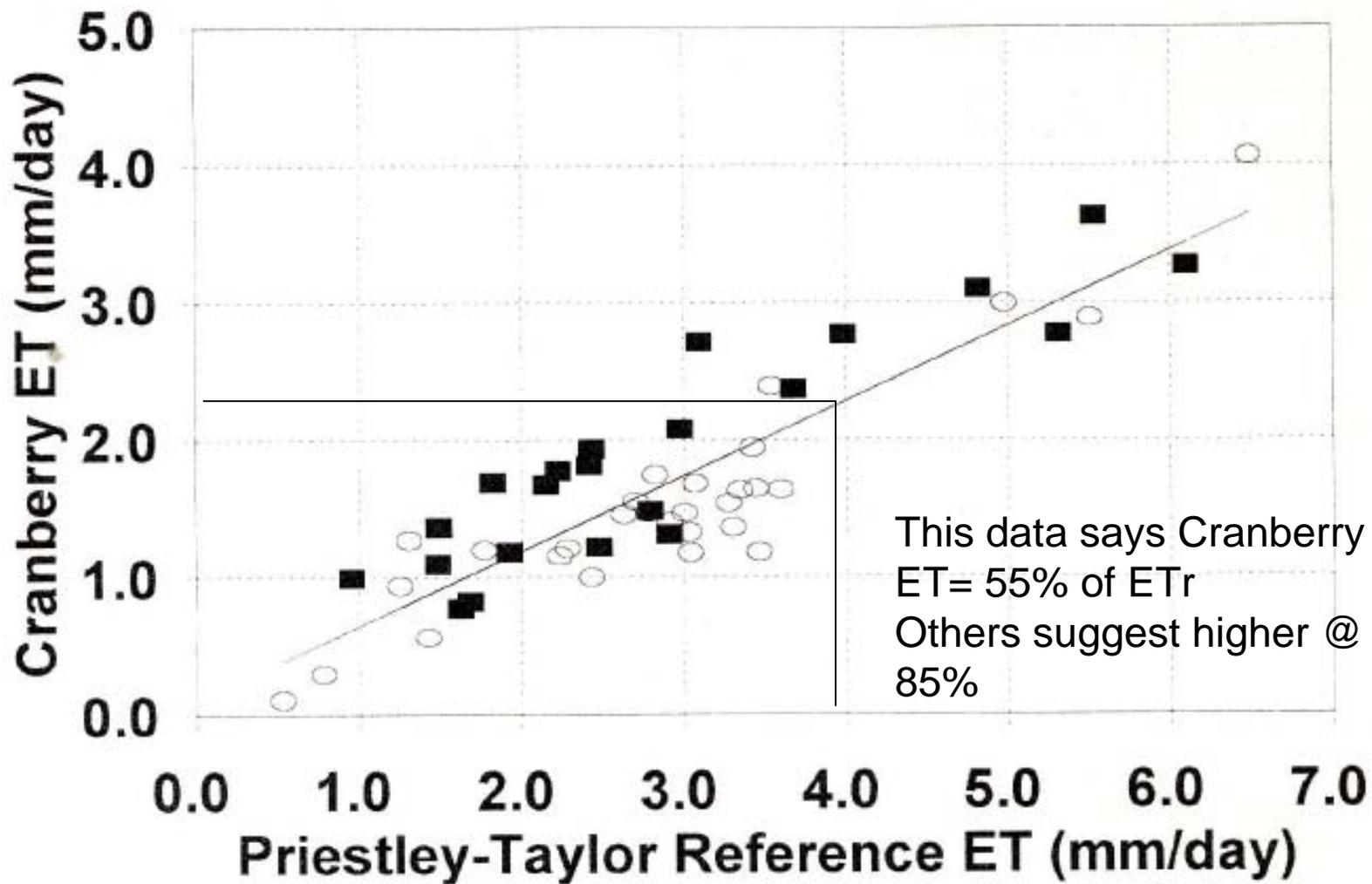


Fig. 1. Regression of cranberry evapotranspiration (ET) on Priestley-Taylor reference ET (ETR) in 1992 at (■) Gravland and (○) Long Beach.  $ET = 0.10 + 0.55*(ETR)$ , with  $r^2 = 0.795$ ,  $n = 51$ .

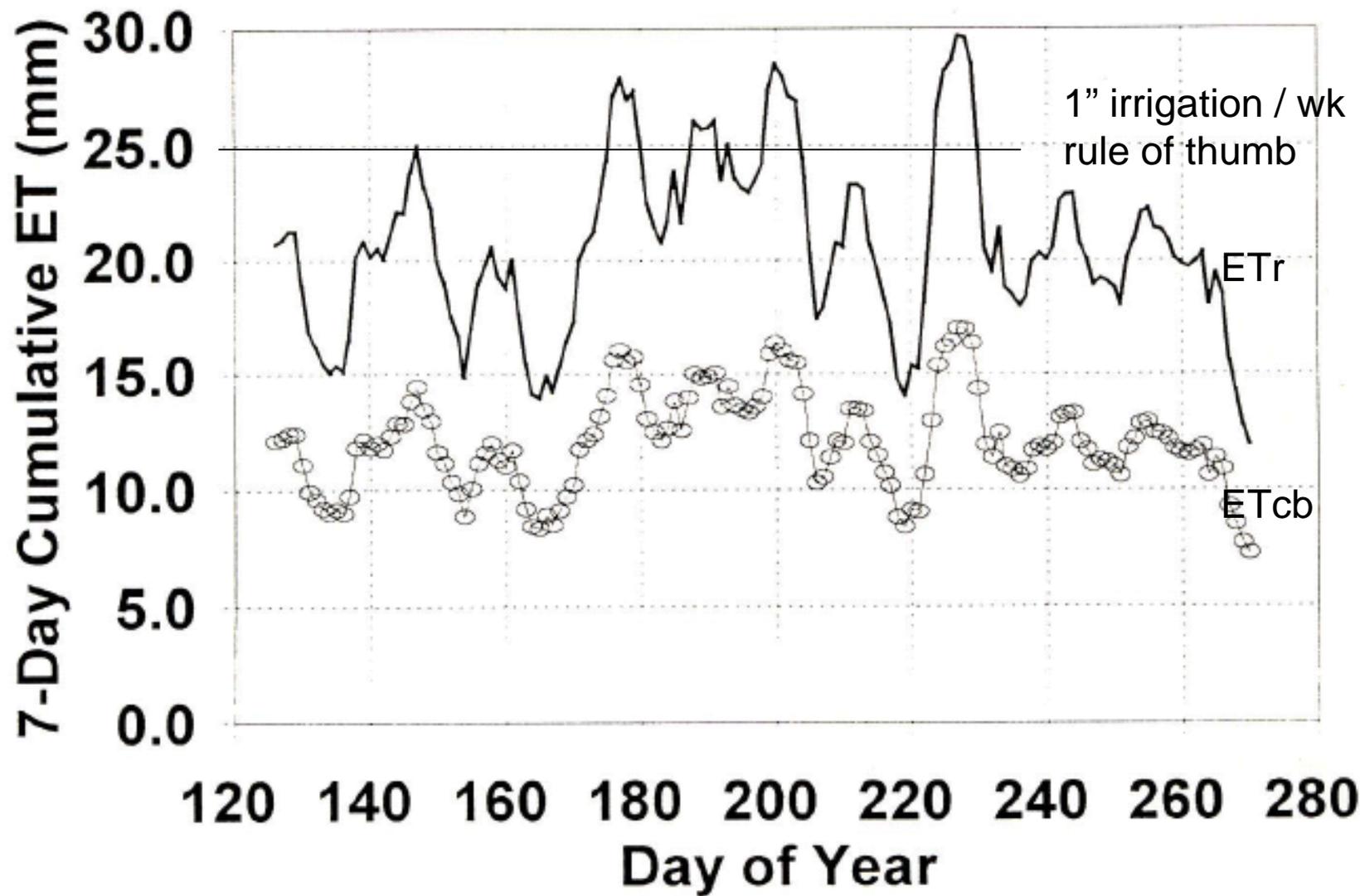
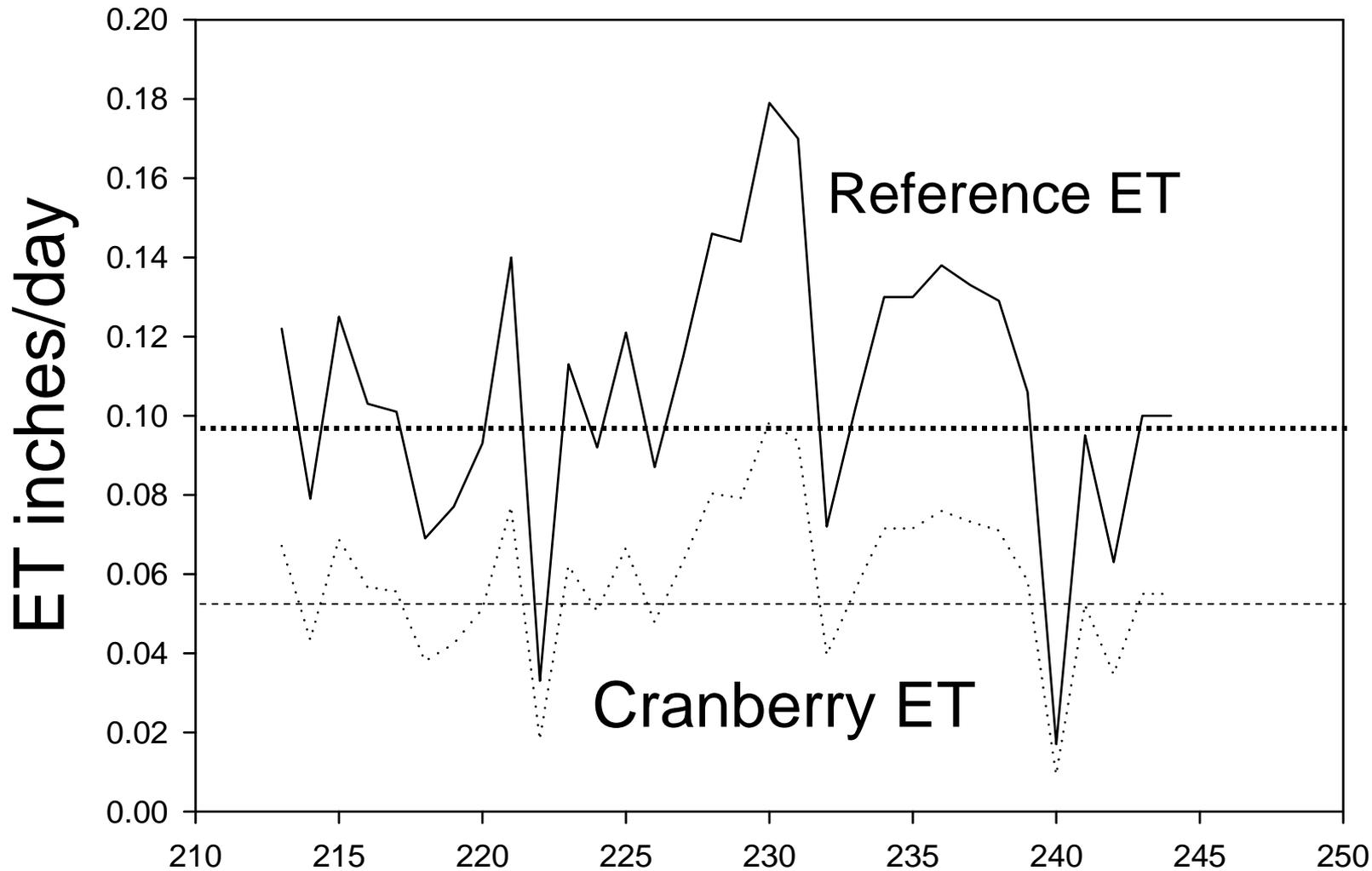


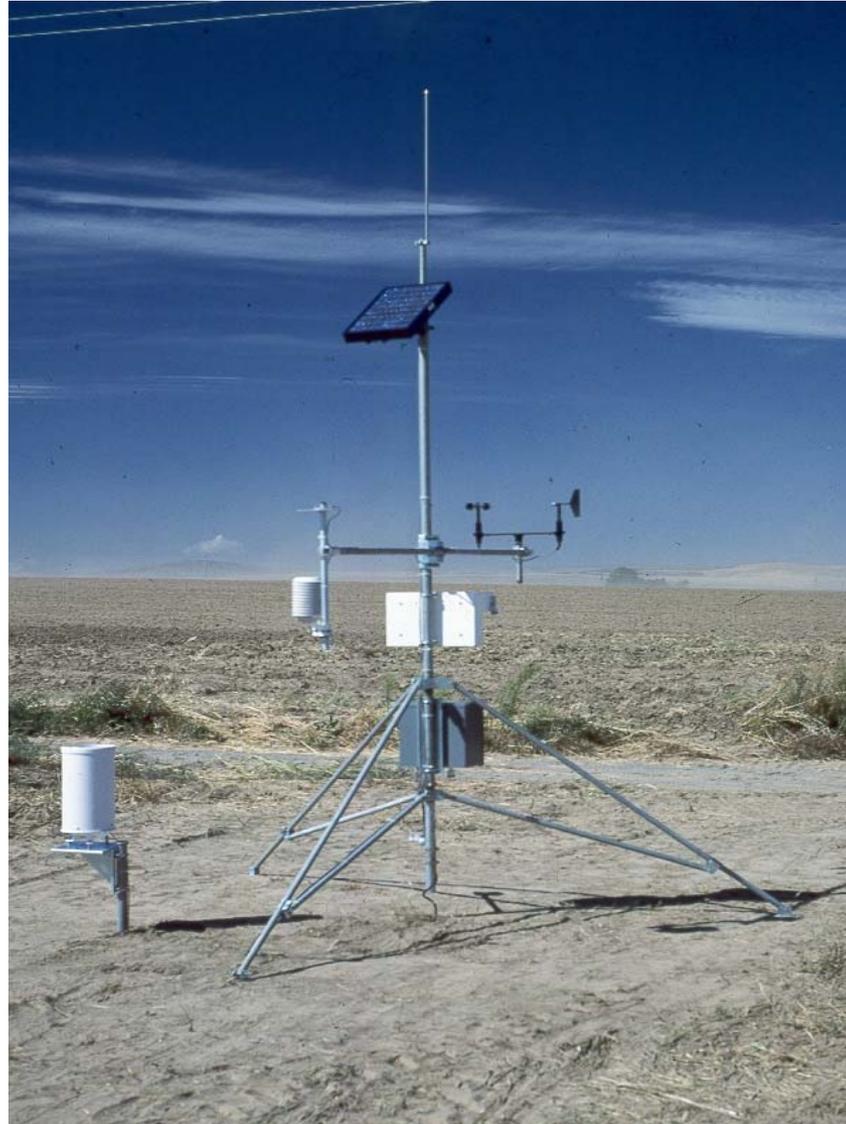
Fig. 2. Seven-day cumulative cranberry evapotranspiration (ET) (—○—) and reference ET (—) at Long Beach, 1992. Sums were calculated by adding daily ET through days 1–7, 2–8, etc.

# Evapotranspiration - Long Beach 2009



July 1 to August 31- 2009

# Washington Ag Weather Network



AgWeatherNet  
Logon  
Username:  
Password:

<http://weather.wsu.edu/>

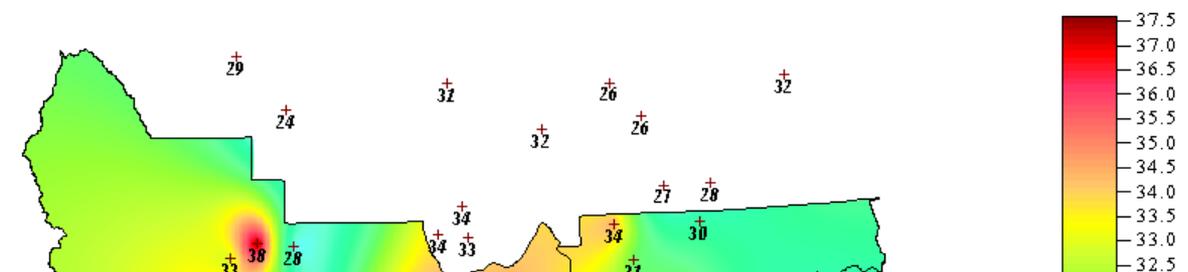
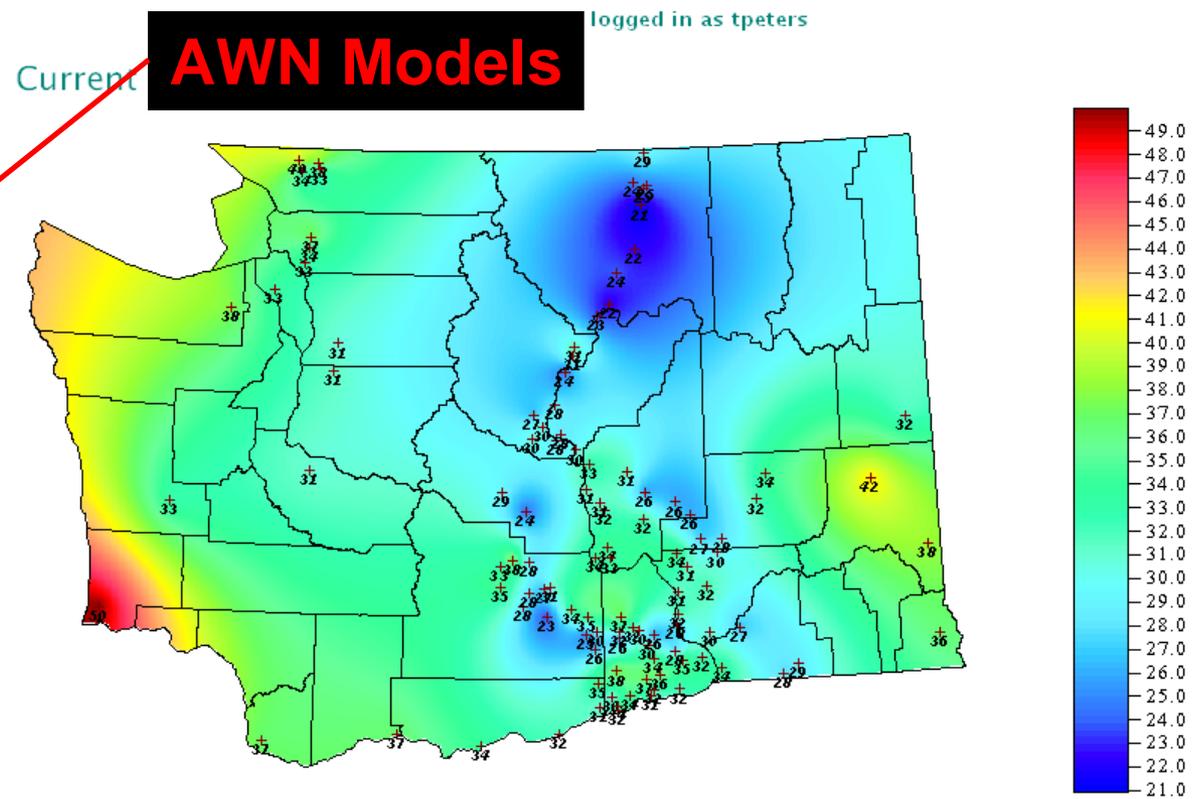


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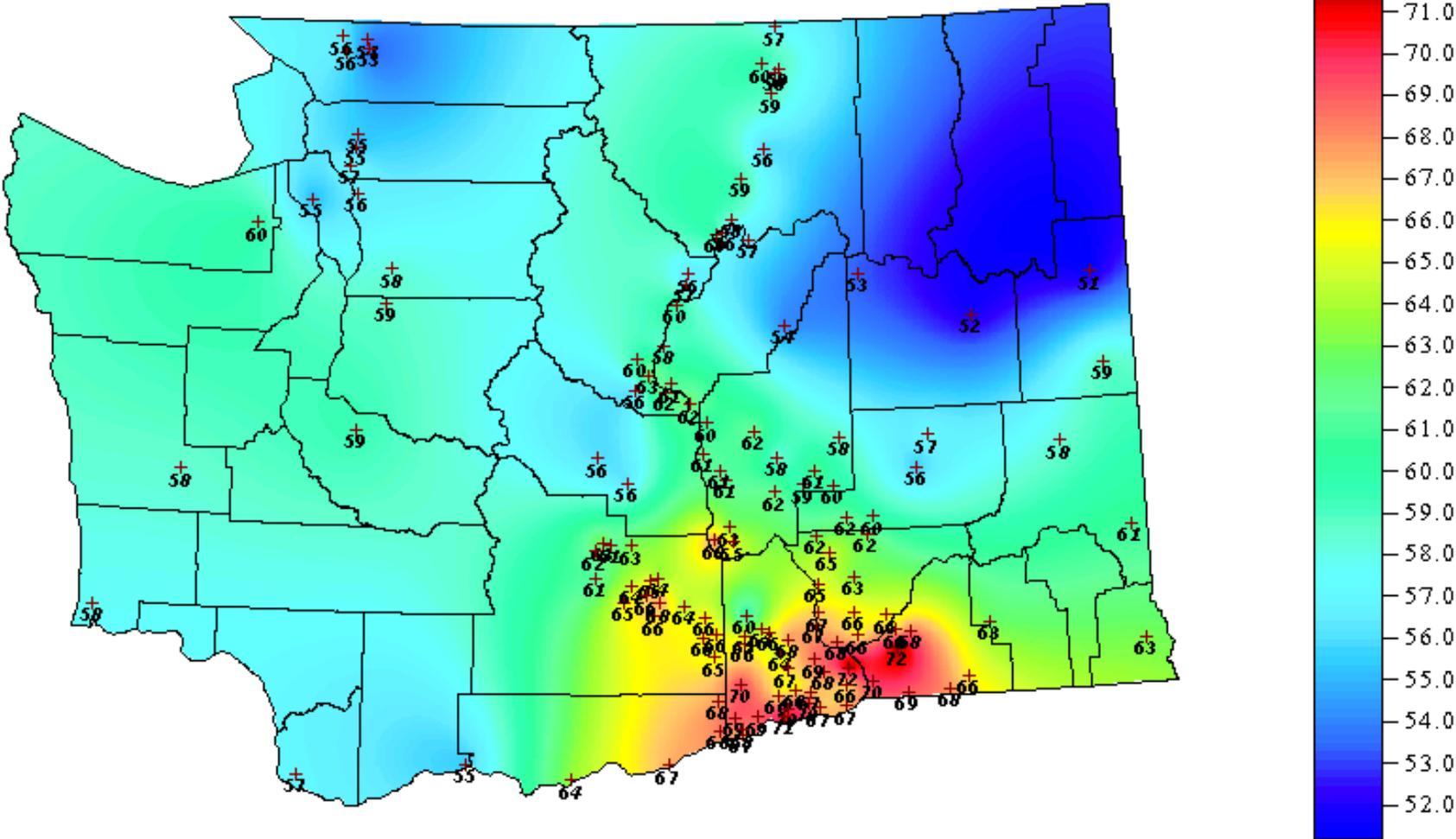
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  - Regional Year-To-Date Maps
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- Member Total: 3249  
There are 12 members  
2 guests viewing the site

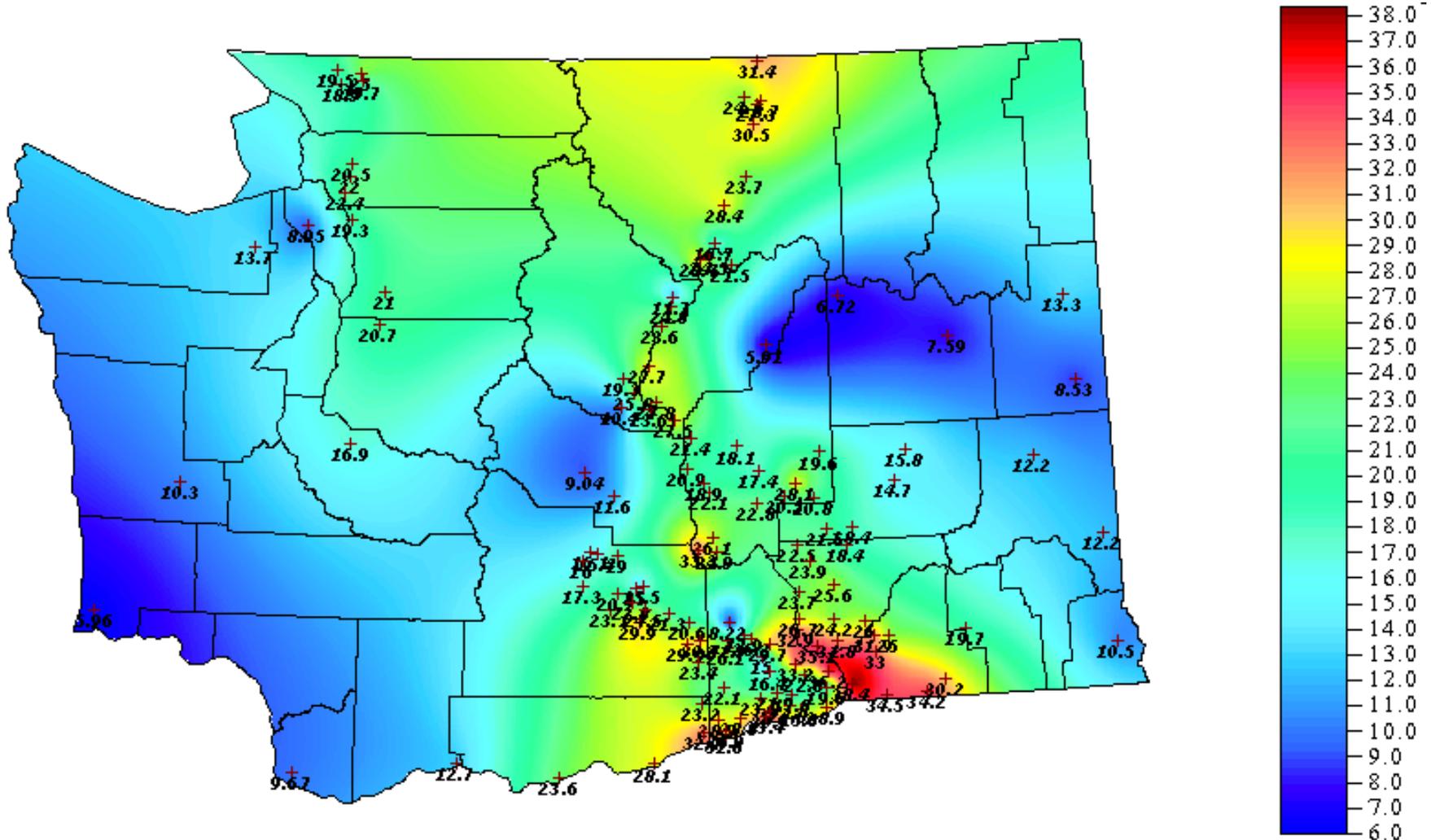


# Current temperature

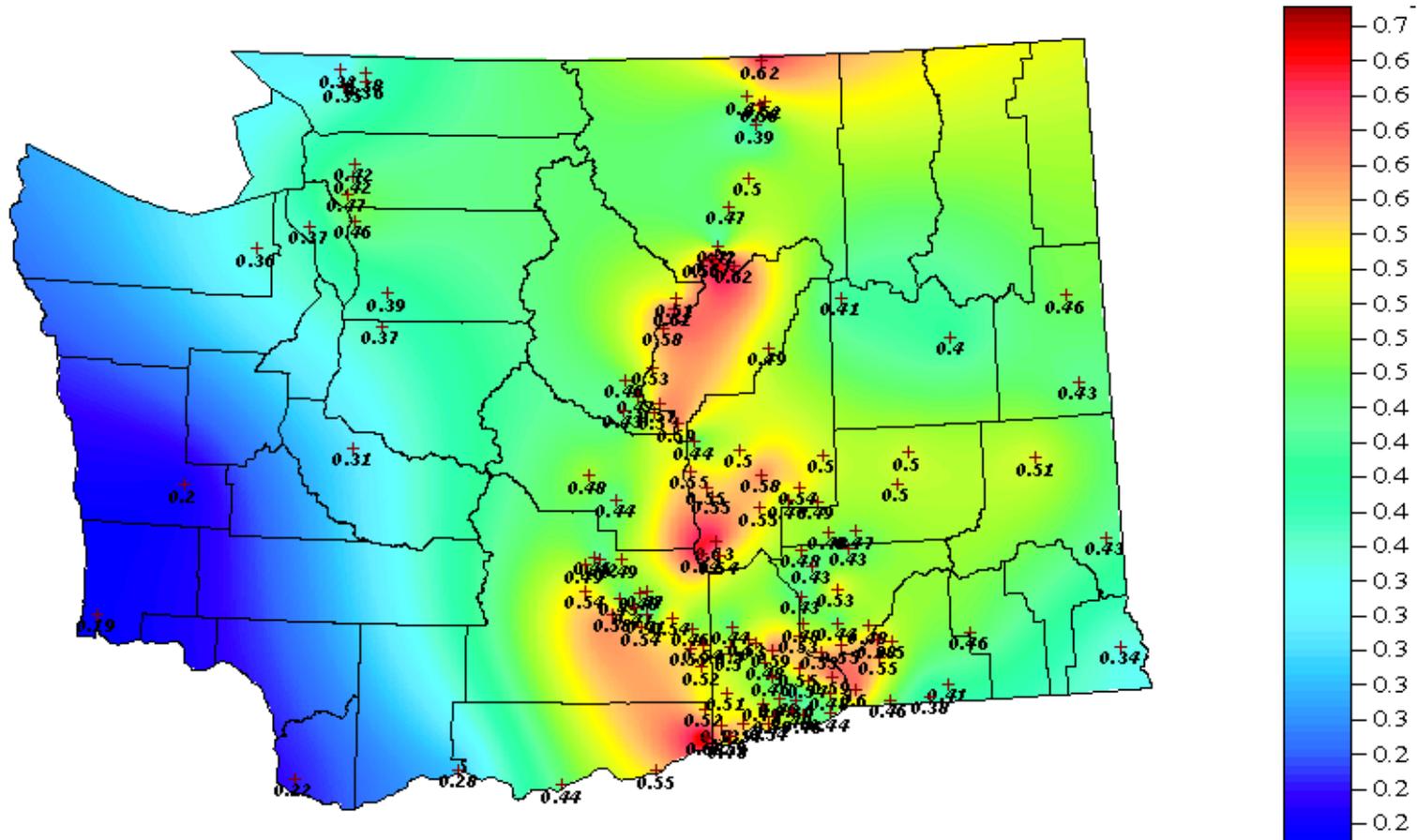




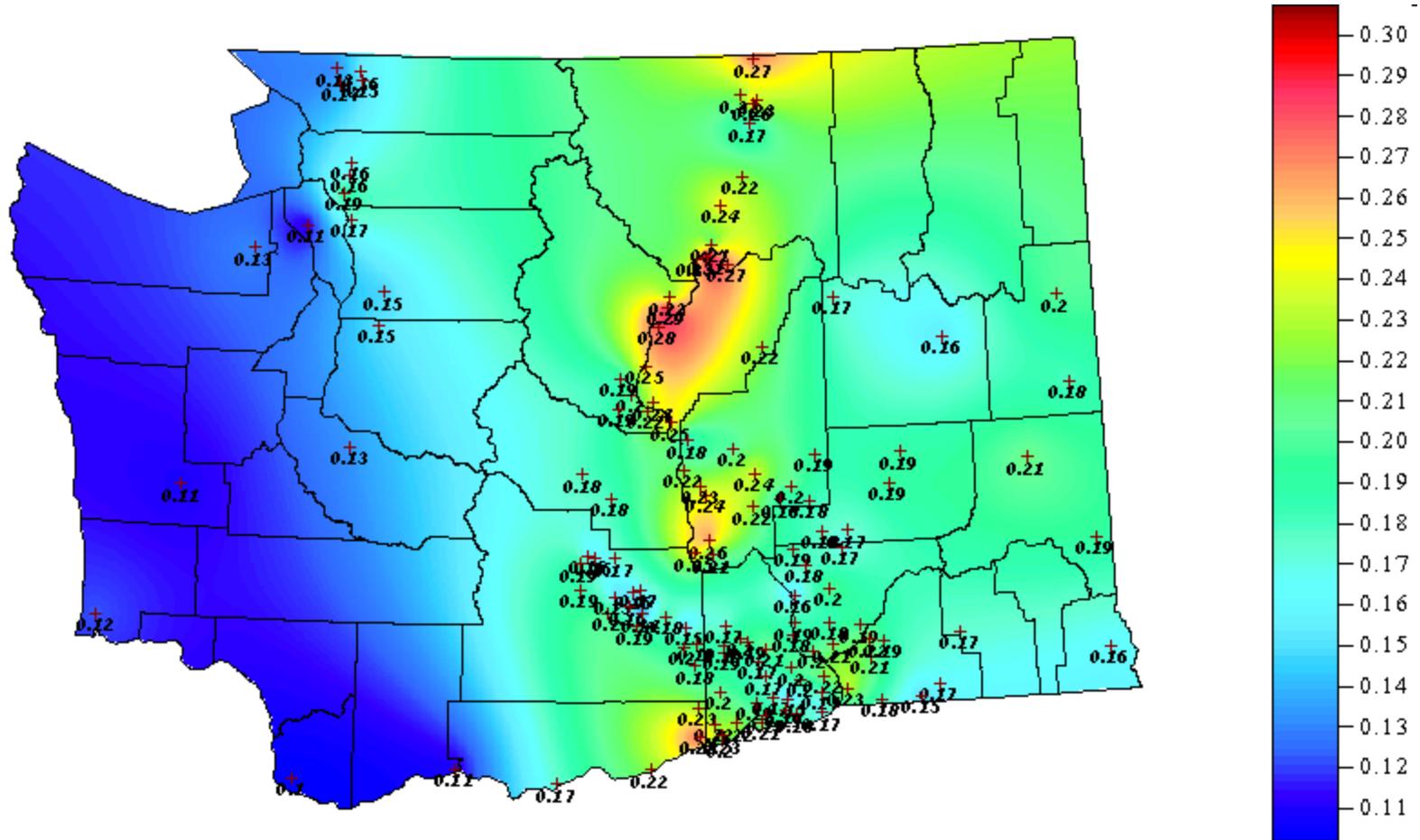
# Growing Degree Day (base 50)



# Accumulated Evapotranspiration (in) for Jun-01 to Jun-03-2010



# ETr (in) for Jun-03-2010





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AWN Raw Data  
AWN Models  
Apple Scab  
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Grape Bunch Rot  
Grape Powdery Mildew  
Hop Powdery Mildew  
Water Use

Tree Fruit IPM Models  
Current Maps  
Yesterday Maps  
Month-To-Date Maps  
Year-To-Date Maps  
Terrain Map  
Google Map

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Account Info  
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Member Total: 3248  
There are 8 members

### Select time interval, station, and unit

click when finished

#### 1. Please select time interval

- Midnight today to present
- Midnight yesterday to present
- Previous 7 days to present
- Previous 30 days to present
- Use start and end date

Start Date     :

End Date     :

# Select Station and Dates

#### 2. Please check desired sites [\(click to show new sites\)](#)

- |   |  |   |  |
|---|--|---|--|
| <b>Adams</b>                              | <input type="checkbox"/> Wenatchee Heights | <b>Island</b>                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Stanwood      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Hatton           | <input type="checkbox"/> WSU TFREC         | <input type="checkbox"/> Whidbey Island   | <b>Spokane</b>                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Lind             | <b>Clallam</b>                             | <b>King</b>                               | <input type="checkbox"/> Fairfield     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Ritzville        | <input type="checkbox"/> Sequim            | <input type="checkbox"/> 21 Acres         | <b>Walla Walla</b>                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> WSU Othello      | <b>Clark</b>                               | <b>Kittitas</b>                           | <input type="checkbox"/> College Place |
| <b>Asotin</b>                             | <input type="checkbox"/> WSU Vancouver RE  | <input type="checkbox"/> Broadview        | <input type="checkbox"/> FishHook      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Anatone          | <b>Douglas</b>                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Thorp            | <input type="checkbox"/> K2H           |
| <b>Benton</b>                             | <input type="checkbox"/> Brays Landing     | <b>Klickitat</b>                          | <input type="checkbox"/> Touchet       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Badger Canyon    | <input type="checkbox"/> Brewster          | <input type="checkbox"/> Alderdale        | <input type="checkbox"/> Walla Walla   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benton City      | <input type="checkbox"/> East Wenatchee    | <input type="checkbox"/> Maryhill         | <input type="checkbox"/> Wallula       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Benton City West | <input type="checkbox"/> Orondo            | <input type="checkbox"/> McKinley Springs | <input type="checkbox"/> Welland       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Canoe Ridge      | <input type="checkbox"/> WSU Sunrise       | <input type="checkbox"/> Roosevelt        | <b>Whatcom</b>                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Carlson          | <b>Franklin</b>                            | <b>Okanogan</b>                           | <input type="checkbox"/> Lawrence      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Coffin           | <input type="checkbox"/> Basin City        | <input type="checkbox"/> Brewster Flat    | <input type="checkbox"/> Lynden        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Eby              | <input type="checkbox"/> CBC Pasco         | <input type="checkbox"/> East Oroville    | <input type="checkbox"/> Nooksack      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Finley           | <input type="checkbox"/> Connell Bench     | <input type="checkbox"/> Ellisforde       | <input type="checkbox"/> Ten Mile      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Fourmile         | <input type="checkbox"/> Juniper           | <input type="checkbox"/> Loomis Grade     | <b>Whitman</b>                         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Gramling         | <input type="checkbox"/> Mesa SE           | <input type="checkbox"/> Loomis Valley    | <input type="checkbox"/> Pullman       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Horrigan         |  |   |  |



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- AWN Reports
- AWN Raw Data
- AWN Models
  - Apple Scab
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  - Grape Bunch Rot
  - Grape Powdery Mildew
  - Hop Powdery Mildew
  - Water Use**
- Tree Fruit IPM Models
- Current Maps
- Yesterday Maps
- Month-To-Date Maps
- Year-To-Date Maps
- Terrain Map
- Google Map
- Regional Current Maps
- Regional Yesterday Maps
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- Regional Year-To-Date Maps
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- Member Total: 3248  
There are 7 members

### Water Use Model

Please enter the following information

- Default Emergence and Harvest Dates
- OR
- Custom Emergence and Harvest Dates

Emergence (mm-dd-yyyy)

Harvest (mm-dd-yyyy)

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Alfalfa                   | <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Apples w/cover crop |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apples w/o cover crop     | <input type="checkbox"/> Apricots w/cover Crop          |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Apricots w/o cover Crop   | <input type="checkbox"/> Asparagus                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Bean (dry)                | <input type="checkbox"/> Beans (green)                  |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Blueberries               | <input type="checkbox"/> Carrots                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Cherries w/cover crop     | <input type="checkbox"/> Cherries w/o cover crop        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Clover                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Concord Grapes                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Corn (grain)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Corn (sweet)                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Crucifers                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Cucumbers                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Grass (Pasture, Turf)     | <input type="checkbox"/> Hops                           |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Onions (dry)              | <input type="checkbox"/> Onions (green)                 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peaches w/cover crop      | <input type="checkbox"/> Peaches w/o cover crop         |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Pears, Plums w/cover crop | <input type="checkbox"/> Pears, Plums w/o cvr crop      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Peas                      | <input type="checkbox"/> Peppermint                     |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Potatoes                  | <input type="checkbox"/> Radishes                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Raspberries               | <input type="checkbox"/> Safflower                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sorghum                   | <input type="checkbox"/> Soybeans                       |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spearmint                 | <input type="checkbox"/> Spinach                        |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Spring grains             | <input type="checkbox"/> Strawberries                   |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Sugarbeets                | <input type="checkbox"/> Sunflower                      |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Tomato                    | <input type="checkbox"/> Wine Grapes                    |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Winter wheat              |   |

All Crops for the last 7 days

**Water Use**

**Select Crop**



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**Home**

**Current Observations**

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**AWII Raw Data**

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**Water Use**

**Tree Fruit IPM Models**

**Current Maps**

**Yesterday Maps**

**Month-To-Date Maps**

**Year-To-Date Maps**

**Terrain Map**

**Google Map**

**Regional Current Maps**

**Regional Yesterday Maps**

**Regional Month-To-Date Maps**

**Regional Year-To-Date Maps**

**Regional Disease Maps**

**Account Info**

**Edit Account**

**Logout**

**Member Total: 3248**  
**There are 6 members**

### Water Use Model

Data Extracted: 2009-02-03  
 Station: **WSU HO**  
 Lat: 46.3 Lng: 119.7 Elevation: 868  
 Date Range from 2009-01-04 to 2009-2-3

**ET Report**

Accumulated precip for selected period is: 0.02 Inches.

Date yyyy-mm-dd	Penman ETr Alfalfa (in)	Accum Alfalfa ET (in)	Apples w/cover crop ET (in)	Apples w/cover crop Accum ET (in)
2009-01-04	0.01	0.01	0.00	0.00
2009-01-05	0.02	0.03	0.00	0.00
2009-01-06	0.07	0.10	0.00	0.00
2009-01-07	0.17	0.27	0.00	0.00
2009-01-08	0.11	0.38	0.00	0.00
2009-01-09	0.04	0.42	0.00	0.00
2009-01-10	0.02	0.44	0.00	0.00
2009-01-11	0.03	0.47	0.00	0.00
2009-01-12	0.05	0.52	0.00	0.00
2009-01-13	0.01	0.53	0.00	0.00
2009-01-14	0.01	0.54	0.00	0.00
2009-01-15	0.00	0.54	0.00	0.00
2009-01-16	0.00	0.54	0.00	0.00
2009-01-17	0.00	0.54	0.00	0.00
2009-01-18	0.01	0.55	0.00	0.00
2009-01-19	0.01	0.56	0.00	0.00
2009-01-20	0.01	0.57	0.00	0.00
2009-01-21	0.01	0.58	0.00	0.00
2009-01-22	0.01	0.59	0.00	0.00
2009-01-23	0.02	0.61	0.00	0.00
2009-01-24	0.02	0.63	0.00	0.00
2009-01-25	0.04	0.67	0.00	0.00
2009-01-26	0.05	0.72	0.00	0.00
2009-01-27	0.04	0.76	0.00	0.00
2009-01-28	0.07	0.83	0.00	0.00
2009-01-29	0.04	0.87	0.00	0.00

# Example 1 Soil Water Budget

- Fine sand:  $AW = 0.07 \text{ in/in}$
- Effective rooting depth: 2"
- Total water holding capacity:  $0.07^{\text{in/in}} \times 2'' = 0.14 \text{ inches}$
- MAD: 30%
- Soil water deficit at MAD:  $0.14 \text{ in} * 30\% = 0.042 \text{ in}$

# Example 1 Soil Water Budget cont..

- Daily ET rate: 0.1 in/day ( revised to 0.085” for cranberry or use actual from web site)
- Time to dewater full profile to MAD:  
 $0.042 \text{ in} / 0.085 \text{ in/day} = 1/2 \text{ day}$
- Irrigation Efficiency: 75%
- Irrigation Amount:  $0.042 \text{ in} / 75\% = 0.06 \text{ in}$
- If irrigation rate is 0.11”/hr – irrigate ½ hour twice a day.

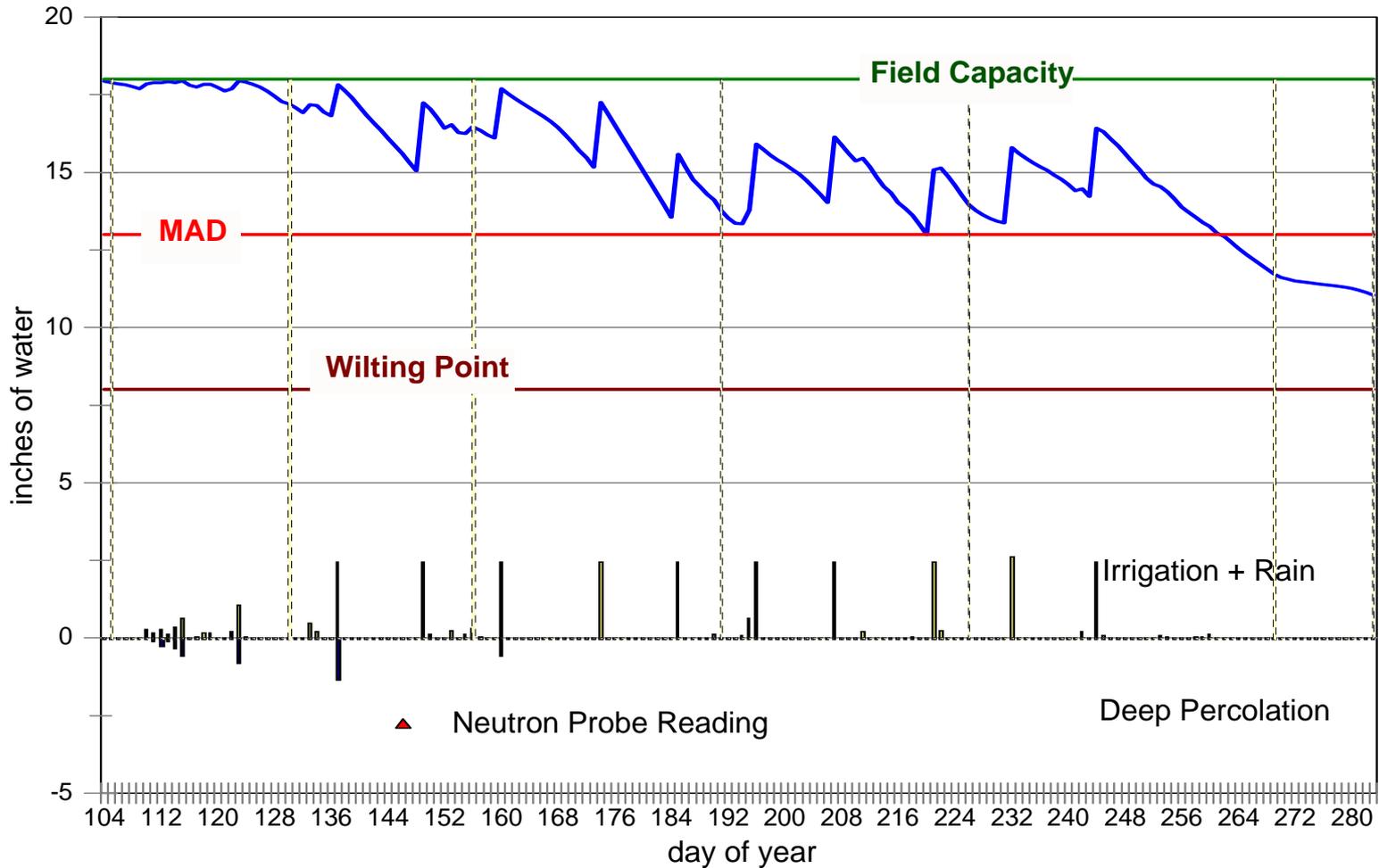
# Example 2 Soil Water Budget

- peat:  $AW = 0.2 \text{ in/in}$
- Effective rooting depth: 2"
- Total water holding capacity:  $0.2^{\text{in}}/\text{in} \times 2'' = 0.4$  inches
- MAD: 50%
- Soil water deficit at MAD:  $0.4 \text{ in} * 50\% = 0.2$  in

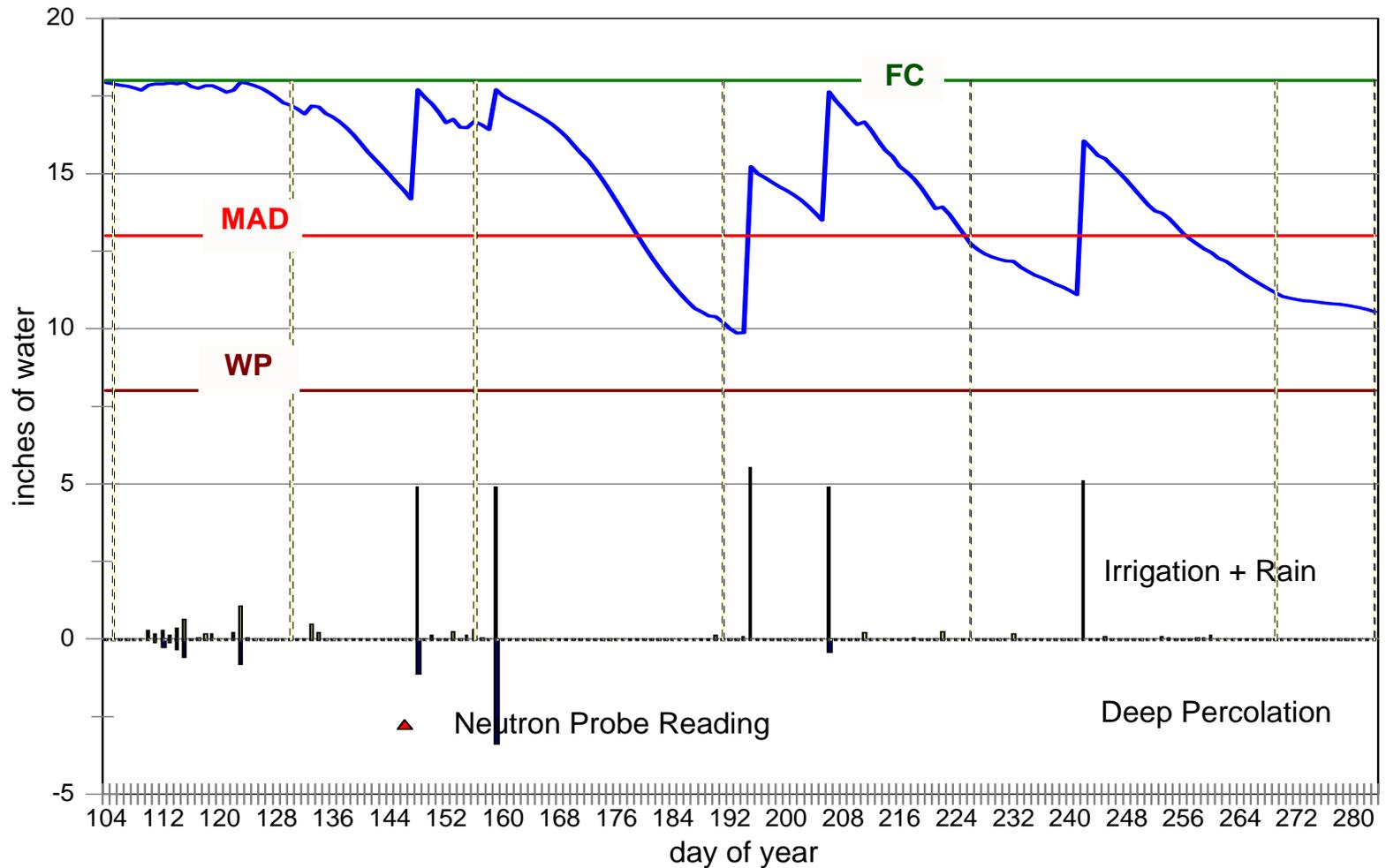
# Example Soil Water Budget cont..

- Daily ET rate: 0.1 in/day ( revised to 0.085” for cranberry or use actual from web site)
- Time to dewater full profile to MAD:  
 $0.2 \text{ in} / 0.085 \text{ in/day} = 2.4 \text{ days}$
- Irrigation Efficiency: 75%
- Irrigation Amount:  $0.2 \text{ in} / 75\% = 0.26 \text{ in}$
- If irrigation rate is 0.11”/hr – irrigate every two to three days for 2.4 hour.

# Good Irrigation Management

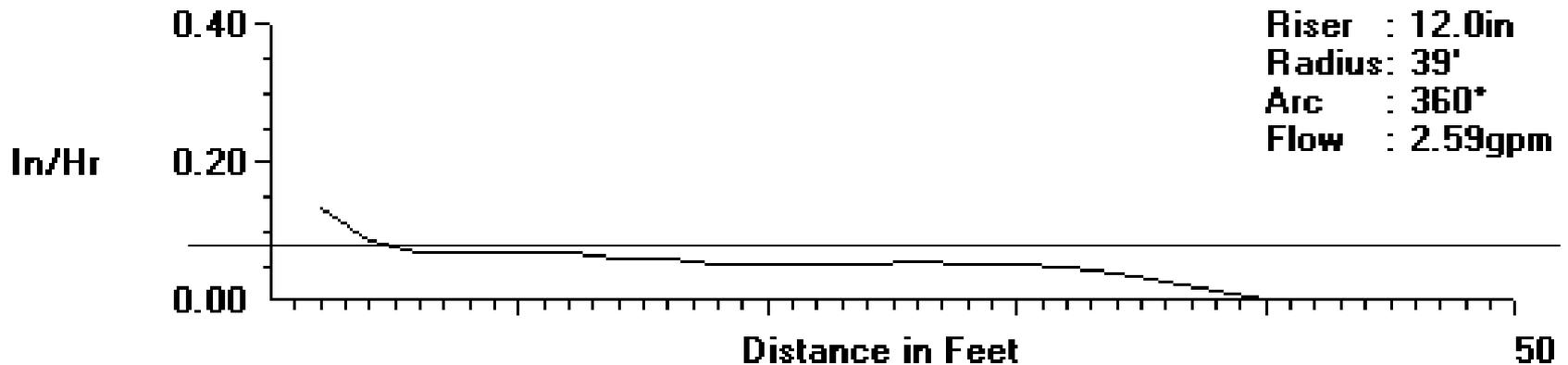


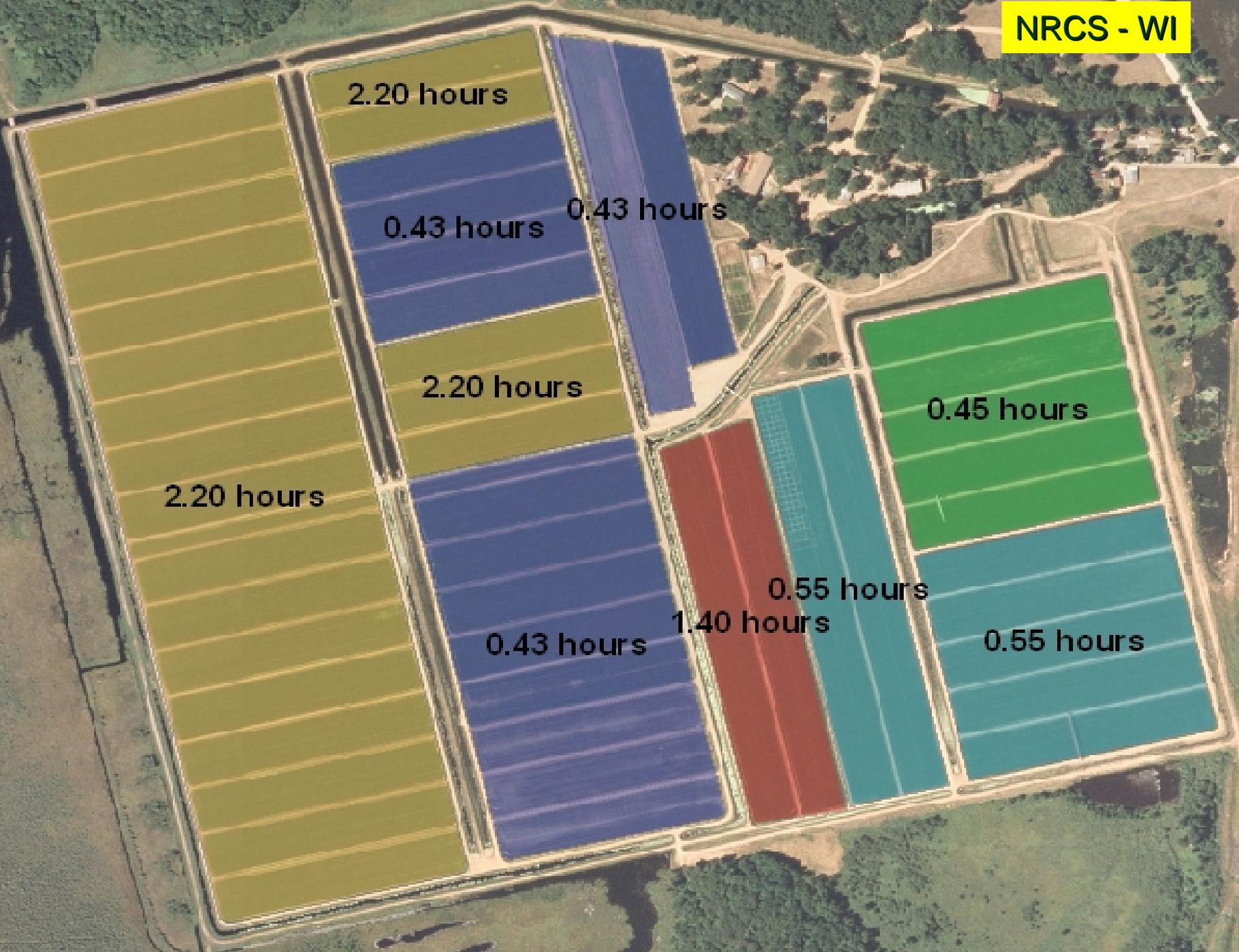
# Poor Irrigation Management



# Irrigation scheduling - more

- Schedule for sandiest bed on the system.
- Schedule for lowest output sprinklers (near end of line with low pressure)





# Soil Moisture Tools To Assist With Irrigation Management



ESI Gro Point



Irrrometer LT



Acclima TDT Probe

Hortau Tensiometer

From Leroy Kummer  
OS Ag Scientist



Lampinenometers

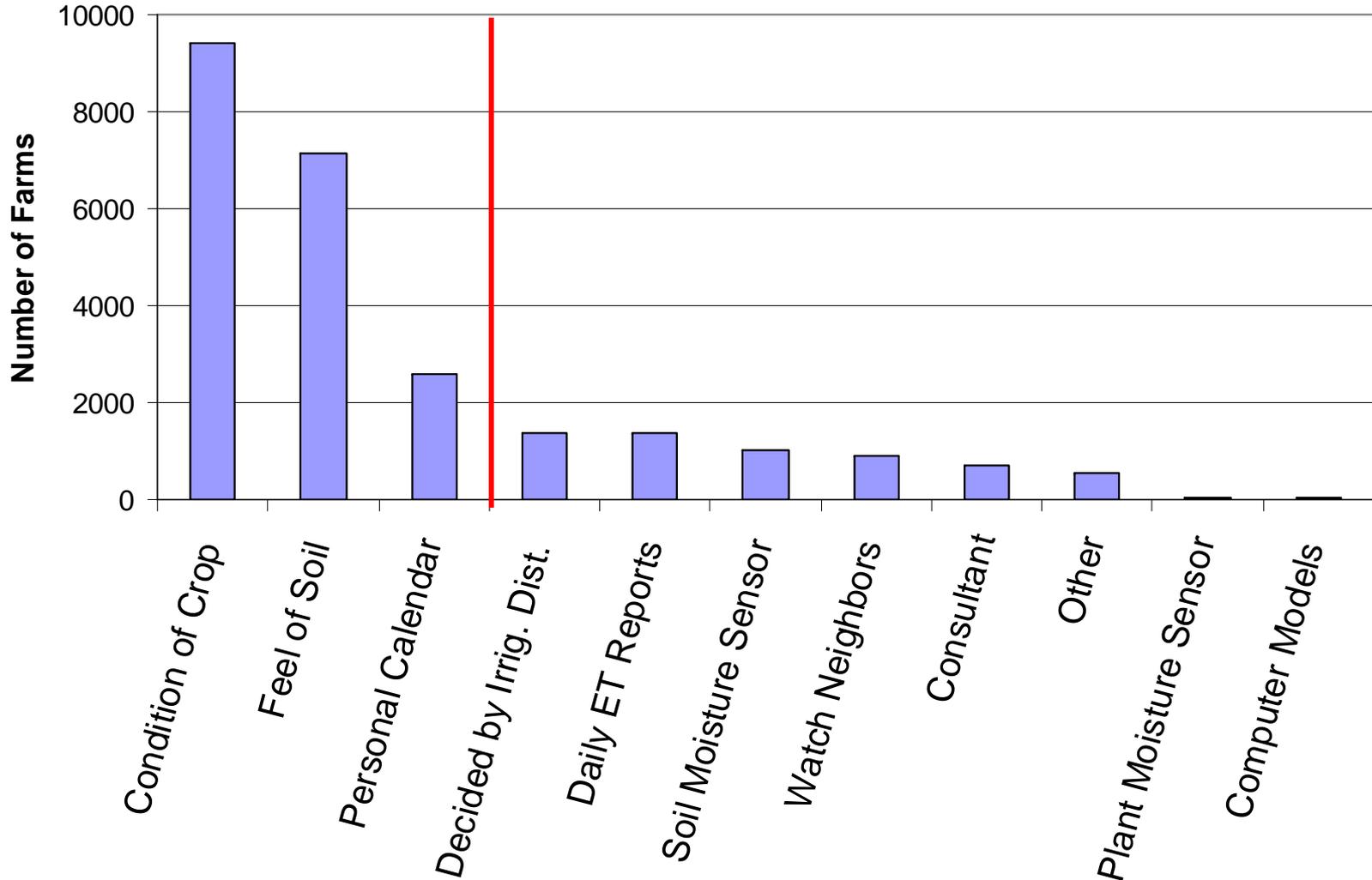


Hand Method



Gypsum Blocks

# Methods Used in Washington to Determine When to Irrigate



# Levels of Irrigation Scheduling

Worst

- Same schedule all season / Guessing
  - Kicking the dirt / Looking at the plants
- 

- Look and feel method using shovel or soil probe
- Checkbook method / ET (AgWeatherNet)
- Soil moisture monitoring
- Neutron probe + checkbook

Best

Less Profitable

More Profitable Growers

# Tensiometers & Soil Texture:

<b>Soil Moisture Irrigation Status</b>	<b>Soil Texture</b>  From Leroy Kummer OS Ag Scientist	<b>Soil Tension (cb)</b>
<b>Soil at Field Capacity – No irrigation</b>	<b>Sand, Loamy Sand</b> <b>Sandy Loam, Loam, Silt Loam</b> <b>Clay Loam, Clay</b>	<b>5-10 cb</b> <b>10-20 cb</b> <b>20-40 cb</b>
<b>50% of Available Water Depleted –Yes Irrigation</b>	<b>Sand, Loamy Sand</b> <b>Sandy Loam, Loam, Silt Loam</b> <b>Clay Loam, Clay</b>	<b>20-40 cb</b> <b>40-60 cb</b> <b>50-100 cb</b>

# Site assessment :

## Satellite maps (Goggle earth)

- Field maps
- Site plan
- Historical patterns
- Irrigation patterns
- Water flow patterns



*Department  
of  
Public  
Works*



**ASSESSORS TAXLOT MAPS 2006**

[Click here to download Pacific County Tax Lots in GOOGLE EARTH format - Updated 3/1/10](#)

Sep 10, 2009

Untitled Placemark

Untitled Placemark

Pacific

Wahkiakum

12

10

18.6 mi

Image State of Oregon  
Image USDA Farm Service Agency  
Data SIO, NOAA, U.S. Navy, NGA, GEBCO  
© 2010 Google

Google

Imagery Dates: Jun 29, 2005 - Jun 26, 2009

10 T 457851.85 m E 5144736.10 m N elev 1379 ft

Eye alt 63.92 mi



Change in uniformity over time



Poor system design

Sep 10, 2009



Pioneer Rd W

XSt

Image USDA Farm Service Agency

© 2010 Google

10 T 420144.82 m E 5135507.05 m N elev 27 ft

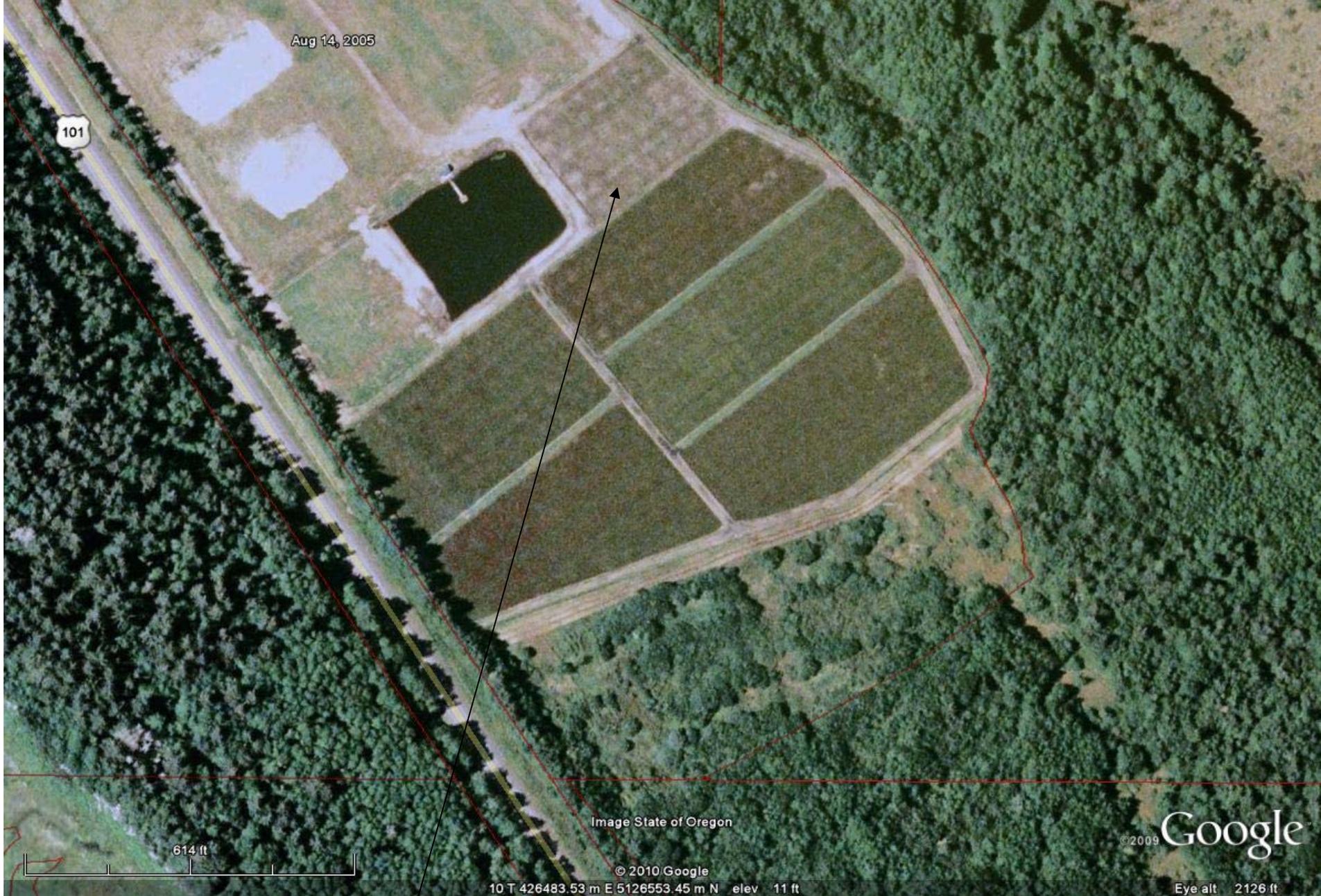
©2009 Google

Eye alt 3087 ft

Poor system design

Aug 14, 2005

101



614 ft

Image State of Oregon

© 2010 Google

10 T 426483.53 m E 5126553.45 m N elev 11 ft

©2009 Google

Eye alt 2126 ft

Poor system design



Aug 14, 2005

1524 ft

Image State of Oregon

© 2010 Google

© 2009 Google

Imagery Date: Jun 29, 2005

10 T 378067.40 m E 4743668.61 m N elev 168 ft

Eye alt 5287 ft

Poor system design



Poor system design

- Site assessment
  - Bog characterization
    - Bed variability
    - Soil depth
    - Water table depth – seasonal
    - Factors /requirement to avoid leaching of pesticide and nutrients to substrata
    - Drainage



Irrigation scheduling – very site dependent on water holding capacity of soil



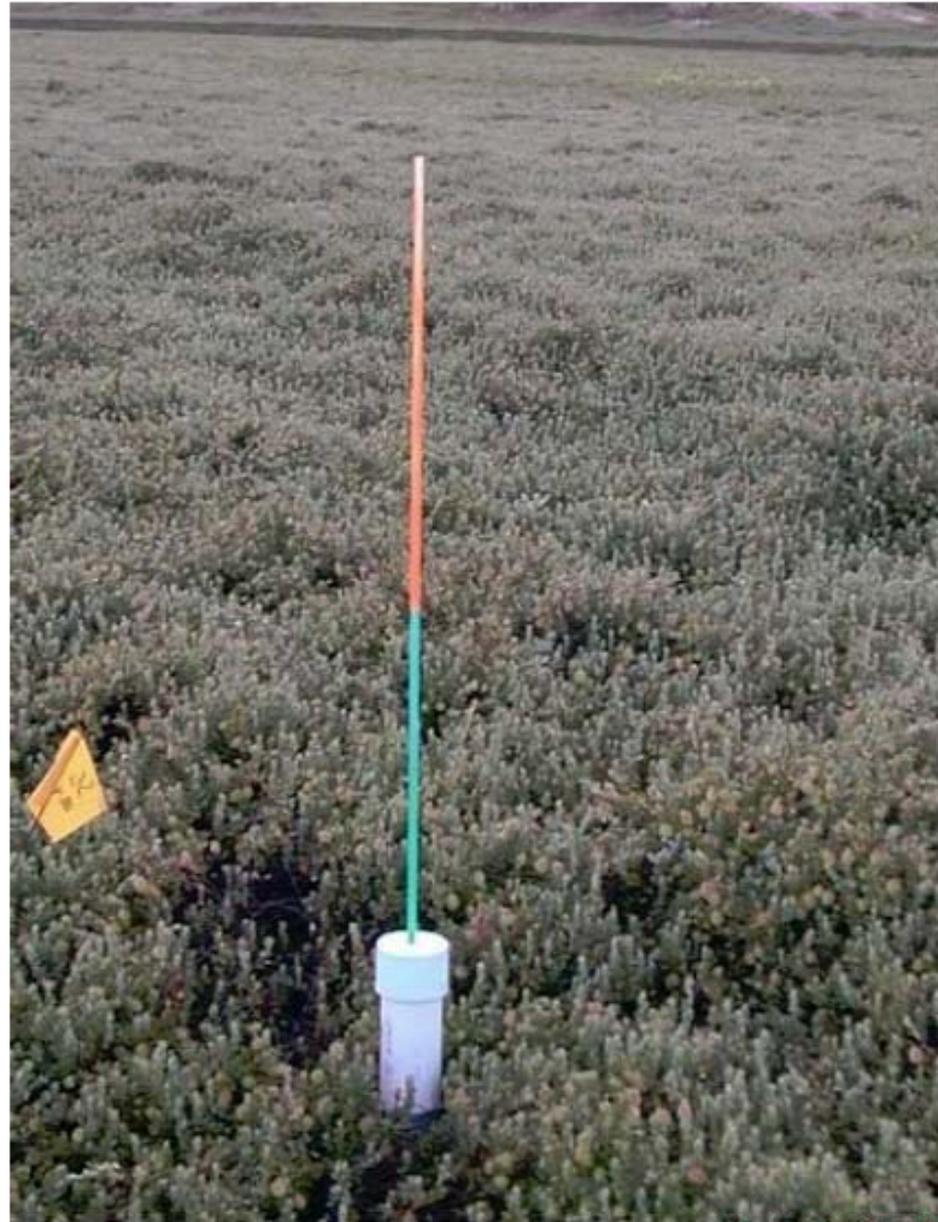
# Sub-irrigation – very site dependent



# Seasonal water table assessment



**Too wet**



**Adequate**





Dry spots



Wet spots

Drainage systems:

Flex line with or without sock

Solid – point holes down or up



Growers comments:

- Socks in peat don't work
- Flex line needs to be flush every 3-4 yr
- In BC on peat every drains running every 15-17', with growers liking solid with holes up on peat unless chip down in hole and all around then holes down.





Clean out



# Chemigation time (maximum time for rinse off and still obtain efficacy for fireworm)

- Treatment
  - Should be < 6 minutes
    - Confirm, Intrepid, Success, low-rate Delegate
  - Should be <8 minutes
    - high rate of Delegate
  - Should be <10-12 minutes
    - Diazinon, Lorsban, Orthene
- 6 hours drying time following application is required for non-OPs, retreat if rain or frost protection interfered.