

Modelling optimisation of HTO transfer from soil to plants  
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PREDRAFT

Overview

1. Hypothetical scenario conclude that soil pathway is less important than air but night and rain conditions must be elucidated. It is always true?
2. We are interested in HTO and OBT in edible plant part and NOT detailed soil tritium
3. root dynamics
4. potential and actual transpiration
5. water uptake from soil layers
6. HTO profile in soil
7. contamination of leaf water from soil

Plants of interest include pasture, lucerne, rice, wheat, corn, vegetables (leafy and root vegetables), tomatoes, potatoes, apples and citrus fruits, grapes + sunflower and sugar beet

Pasture have roots until 30 cm- permanent pasture

Leafy vegetables also 30 cm but growing from 10. We are interested mostly on few weeks before harvest

Other plants can have deeper roots

Plant characteristics **AQUACROP**

Maize

**1.4 Development of root zone**

Z<sub>n</sub> Minimum effective rooting depth (m) Management <sup>(3)</sup> 0.30

Z<sub>x</sub> Maximum effective rooting depth (m) Management <sup>(3)</sup> Up to 2.80

Shape factor describing root zone expansion Conservative <sup>(1)</sup> 1.3

Time from sowing to maximum rooting depth (growing degree day) Cultivar <sup>(4)</sup>  
Environment <sup>(3)</sup>

Function of root expansion rate:

1.5 - 2.5 cm/day

Data base for:

Maize potato rice, soybean sugar beet sunflower tomato wheat

**SWAP & WOFOST**

Faba bean

\*

RDI = 10.00 ! Initial rooting depth, [0..1000 cm, R]

RRI = 0.80 ! Maximum daily increase in rooting depth,  
[0..100 cm/d, R]

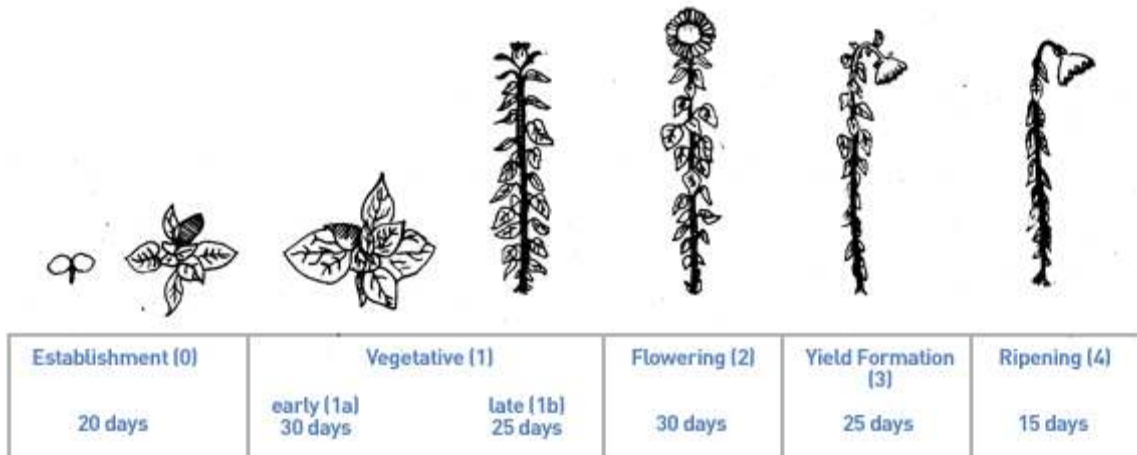
RDC = 100.00 ! Maximum rooting depth crop/cultivar,  
[0..1000 cm, R]

\*

Data base for

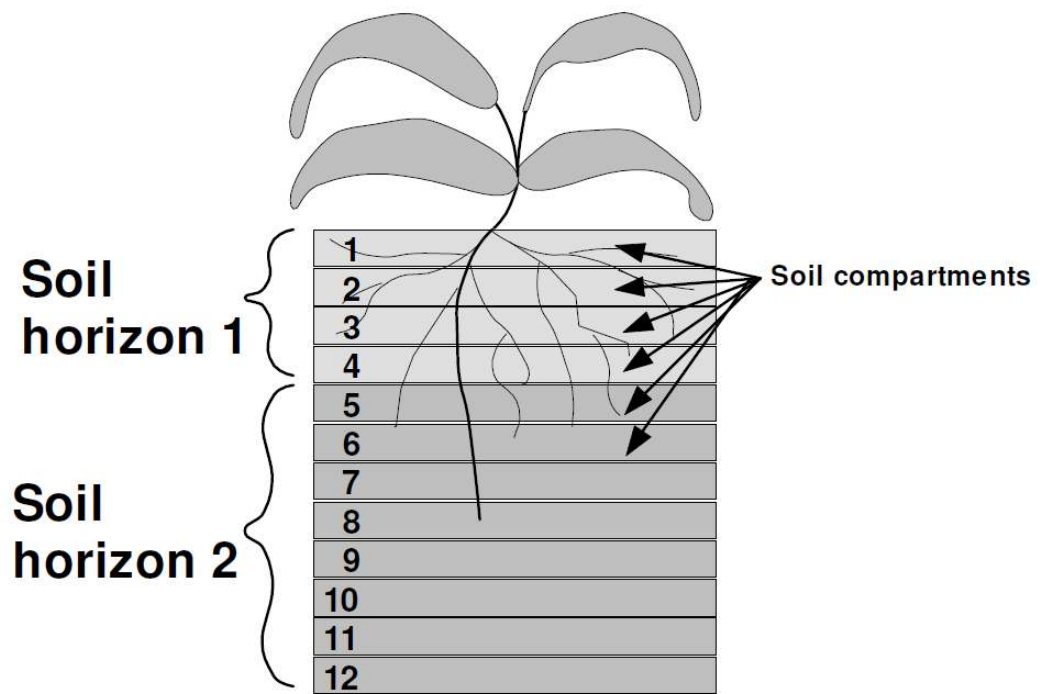
Faba bean potato sugar beet sun flower winter wheat grain maize  
spring barley soy bean winter oilseed rape grass

SUNFLOWER

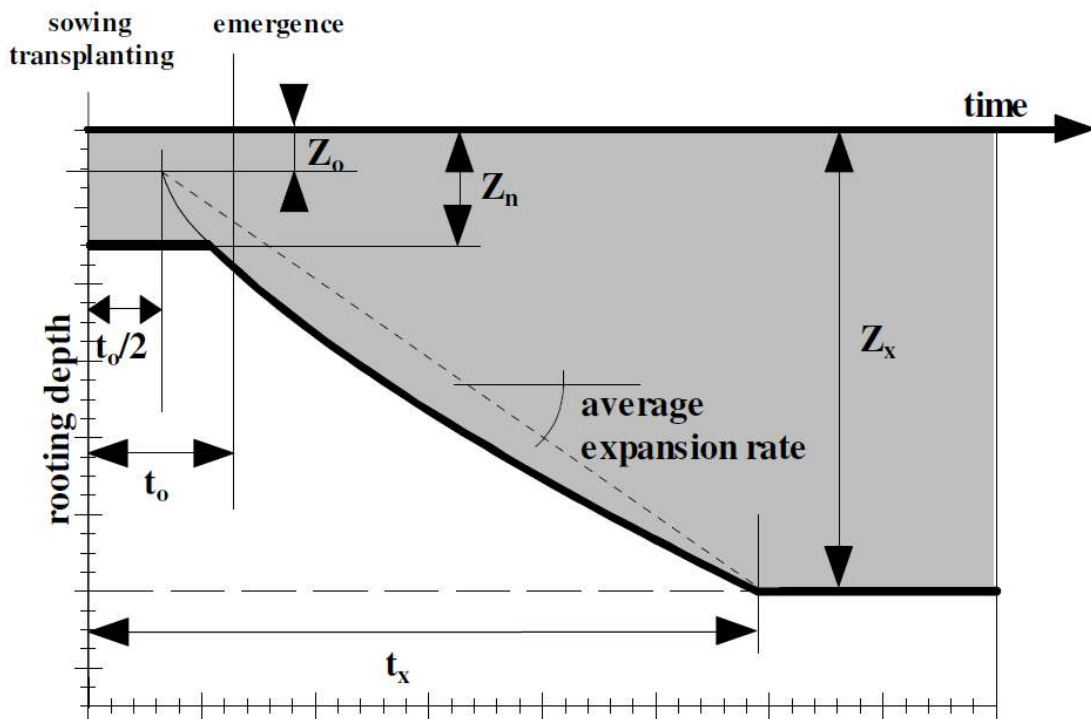


ROOTING ZONE MUST EXTEND MORE THAT 1.5 m !!!

WE NEED apples and citrus fruits, grapes



**Figure 3.6b**  
**Soil horizons and soil compartments**



**Figure 3.5a**

**Development of the effective rooting depth (shaded area) from sowing till the maximum effective rooting depth ( $Z_x$ ) is reached**

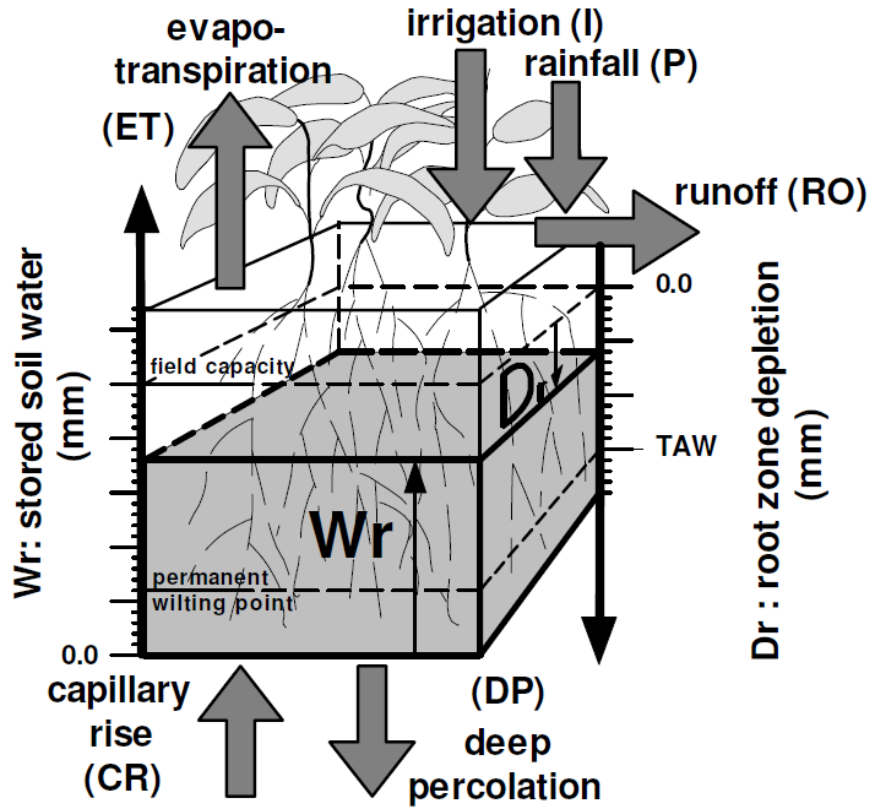
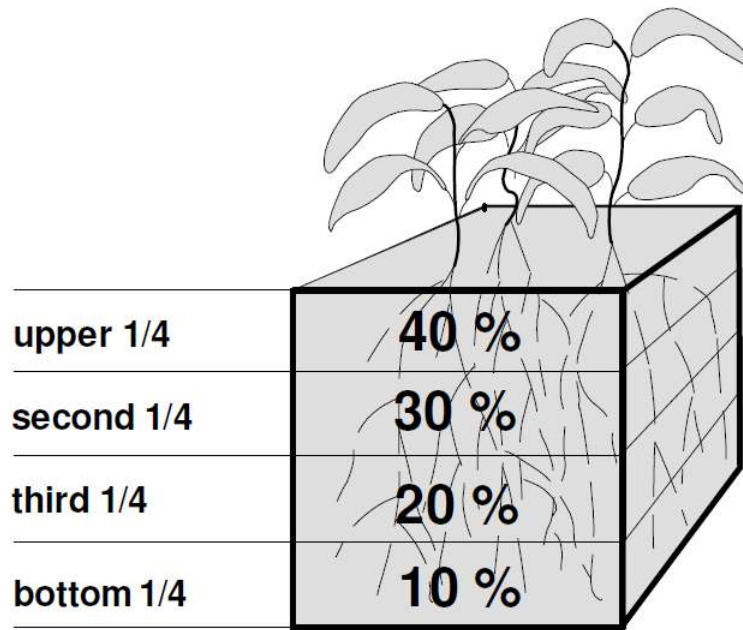


Figure 3.1a  
The root zone as a reservoir



**Figure 3.8k**  
**Default extraction pattern in the root zone**

## POTENTIAL AND ACTUAL TRANSPIRATION

### Potential

Comparison of the increasing complexity of the models in terms of number of parameters required

Parameter	Symbol	Units	PT	MB	Penman	PM	SW
Rate of change of vapor pressure with temperature	$\Delta$	kPa K <sup>-1</sup>	✓		✓	✓	✓
Total available energy	$A$	W m <sup>-2</sup>	✓		✓	✓	✓
Psychrometric constant	$\gamma$	kPa K <sup>-1</sup>	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Air temperature	$T_a$	°C	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓
Specific heat at constant pressure	$c_p$	J kg <sup>-1</sup> K <sup>-1</sup>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Air density	$\rho$	kg m <sup>-3</sup>		✓	✓	✓	✓
Vapor pressure deficit	$D$	kPa		✓	✓	✓	✓
Bulk stomatal resistance of the canopy	$r_{cs}$	s m <sup>-1</sup>		✓		✓	✓
Wind speed	$u$	m s <sup>-1</sup>			✓	✓	✓
Aerodynamic resistance above the canopy	$r_{ca}$	s m <sup>-1</sup>				✓	✓
Bulk boundary layer resistance of the vegetation	$r_{ca}$	s m <sup>-1</sup>					✓
Aerodynamic resistance for substrate and canopy	$r_{sa}$	s m <sup>-1</sup>					✓
Surface resistance of the substrate	$r_{ss}$	s m <sup>-1</sup>					✓
Available soil energy	$A_s$	W m <sup>-2</sup>					✓

PT, Priestley–Taylor; MB, McNaughton–Black; PM, Penman–Monteith; SW, Shuttleworth–Wallace.

The Penman–Monteith model (Monteith, 1965) expanded upon the Penman model:

$$\lambda E = (\Delta A + c_p \rho D / r_{sa}) / (\Delta + \gamma + \gamma(r_{cs} / r_{sa}))$$

where  $r_{sa}$  is the aerodynamic resistance above the canopy, and  $r_{cs}$  is stomatal resistance of the canopy.

SW

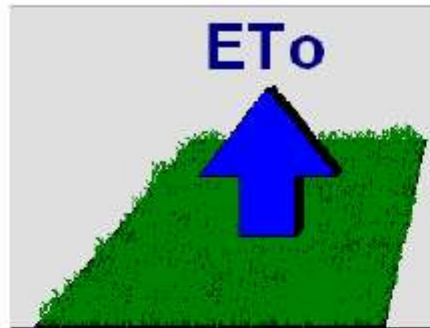
$$\lambda E_s = (\Delta A_s + \rho c_p D_0 / r_{sa}) / (\Delta + \gamma(1 + r_{sa} / r_{ca}))$$

$$\lambda E_c = (\Delta(A - A_s) + \rho c_p D_0 / r_{ca}) / (\Delta + \gamma(1 + r_{ca} / r_{sa}))$$

where  $A_s$  is available soil energy, and  $D_0$  is vapor pressure deficit in the canopy;  $r_{sa}$  is the aerodynamic resistance between the substrate and canopy source height,  $r_{ca}$  is the boundary layer resistance of the vegetation, and  $r_{cs}$  is soil resistance. The aerodynamic resistance above the canopy ( $r_{sa}$ ) and the aerodynamic resistance between the substrate and canopy source height ( $r_{sa}$ ) are functions of leaf area index, eddy diffusivity decay constant, roughness length of the vegetation (function of vegetation height), zero plane displacement (function of vegetation height), a reference height above the canopy where meteorological measurements are available, wind speed, von Karman's constant, and roughness length of the substrate.  $D_0$  is derived from the Ohm's law electrical analog for the vapor pressure and temperature difference between the canopy and the reference height above the canopy where fluxes out of the vegetation are measured.  $D_0$  is a function of the measurable vapor pressure deficit at the reference height,  $D$ :

$$D_0 = D + (\Delta A - r_{sa} \lambda E_c (\Delta + \gamma)) / \rho c_p$$

# The ETo Calculator



Evapotranspiration  
from a reference surface



## Reference Manual

Version 3.1  
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### 3.8.7 Actual crop transpiration (Tr)

#### ▪ Thresholds for stomatal closure

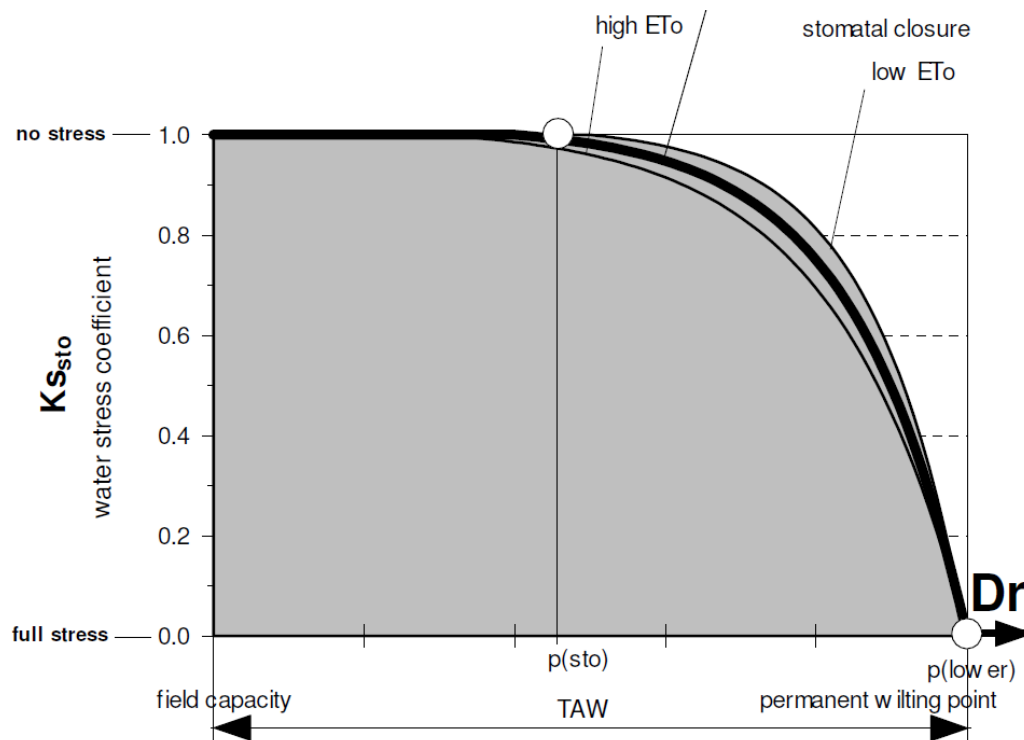
The actual rate of crop transpiration depends on the amount of water available in the root zone (Figure 3.8g). Crop transpiration is reduced below its maximum value as soon as the soil water content in the root zone ( $W_r$ ) drops below the upper threshold for stomatal closure:

$$W_{r_{sto,upper}} = [\theta_{FC} - p_{sto} (\theta_{FC} - \theta_{PWP})] 1000 Z \quad (\text{Eq. 3.8p})$$

or the root zone depletion ( $Dr$ ) exceeds:

$$Dr_{sto,upper} = p_{sto} TAW \quad (\text{Eq.3.8q})$$

where  $W_{r_{sto,upper}}$  upper threshold expressed as an equivalent depth [mm];  
 $Dr_{sto,upper}$  upper threshold expressed as root zone depletion [mm];  
 $p_{sto}$  fraction of TAW at which stomata start to close;  
 $\theta_{FC}$  soil water content at field capacity [ $\text{m}^3(\text{water})/\text{m}^3(\text{soil})$ ];  
 $\theta_{PWP}$  soil water content at permanent wilting point [ $\text{m}^3(\text{water})/\text{m}^3(\text{soil})$ ];  
 $Z$  effective rooting depth [m];  
 $TAW$  total available soil water in the root zone [mm].



**Figure 3.8h**  
**The water stress coefficient for stomatal closure ( $K_{s_{sto}}$ )**  
**for various degrees of root zone depletion ( $Dr$ )**

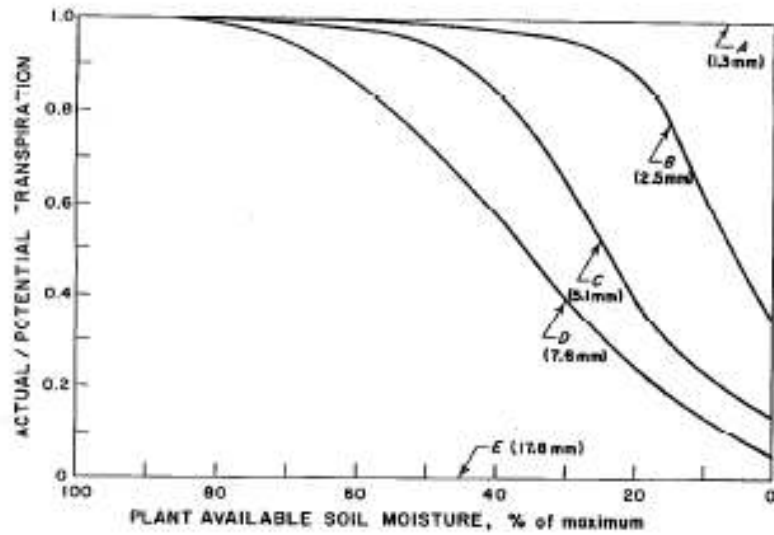


Figure 17.5: Actual over potential transpiration as a function of plant available water and daily PET.

The maximum possible root water extraction rate, integrated over the rooting depth, is equal to  $T_p$  ( $\text{cm d}^{-1}$ ), which is governed by atmospheric conditions and plant characteristics. Taking into account the root length density distribution (Bouten, 1992), the potential root water extraction rate at a certain depth,  $S_p(z)$  ( $\text{d}^{-1}$ ) is calculated by:

$$S_p(z) = \frac{\ell_{\text{root}}(z)}{\int_{-D_{\text{root}}}^0 \ell_{\text{root}}(z) dz} T_p \quad (2.67)$$

where  $D_{\text{root}}$  is the root layer thickness (cm).

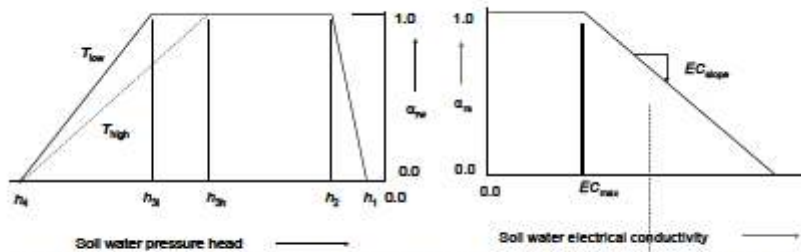


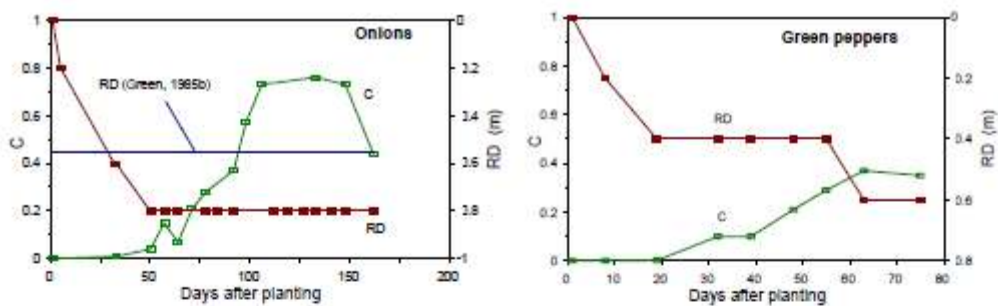
Figure 3.4 Reduction coefficient for root water uptake,  $\alpha_w$ , as function of soil water pressure head  $h$  and potential transpiration rate  $T_p$  (after Feddes et al., 1978).

Figure 3.5 Reduction coefficient for root water uptake,  $\alpha_w$ , as function of soil water electrical conductivity  $EC$  (after Maas and Hoffman, 1977).

## Appendix 8 Critical pressure head values for root water extraction

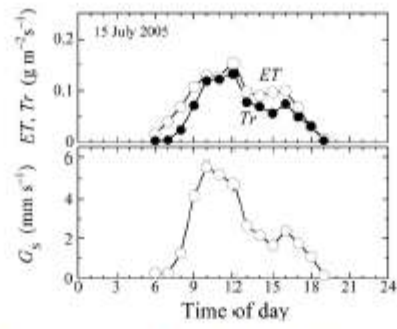
After Taylor and Ashcroft (1972)

Crop	$h_{3b}$	$h_{2b}$	Crop	$h_{3b}$	$h_{2b}$
<b>Vegetative crops</b>					
Alfalfa	-1500	-1500	Deciduous fruit	-500	-800
Beans (snap and lima)	-750	-2000	Avocados	-500	-500
Cabbage	-600	-700	Grapes		
Canning peas	-300	-500	early season	-400	-500
Celery	-200	-300	during maturity	-1000	-1000
Grass	-300	-1000	Strawberries	-200	-300
Lettuce	-400	-600	Cantaloupe	-350	-450
Tobacco	-300	-800	Tomatoes	-800	-1500
Sugar cane			Bananas	-300	-1500
tensiometer	-150	-500	<b>Grain crops</b>		
blocks	-1000	-2000	Corn		
Sweet corn	-500	-1000	vegetative period	-500	-500
Turfgrass	-240	-360	during ripening	-8000	-12000
<b>Root crops</b>					
Onions			Small grains		
early growth	-450	-550	vegetative period	-400	-500
bulbing time	-550	-650	during ripening	-8000	-12000
Sugar beets	-400	-600	<b>Seed crops</b>		
Potatoes	-300	-500	Alfalfa		
Carrots	-550	-650	prior to bloom	-2000	-2000
Broccoli			during bloom	-4000	-8000
early	-450	-550	during ripening	-8000	-15000
after budding	-600	-700	Carrots		
Cauliflower	-600	-700	at 60 cm depth	-4000	-6000
<b>Fruit crops</b>					
Lemons	-400	-400	Onions		
Oranges	-200	-1000	at 7 cm depth	-4000	-6000
			at 15 cm depth	-1500	-1500
			Lettuce		
			during productive phase	-3000	-3000



**Figure 1**  
 Measured values of canopy cover (C) and estimated root depth (RD, depth at which 90% of weekly soil-water depletion occurred) during the growing season of onions and green peppers. Root depth recommended by Green (1985b) is also presented for onions

Crop	Maximum RD (m)	$H_{c_{max}}$ (m)	90% of maximum C
Onions	0.8	0.5	0.60
Cabbage	0.8	0.3	0.90
Carrots	0.8	0.3	0.90
Beetroot	0.8	0.4	0.90
Lettuce	0.6	0.3	0.88
Swisschard	0.8	0.4	0.90
Sweet-corn (cv. Cabaret)	1.0	1.7	0.81
Sweet-corn (cv. Jubilee)	0.6	2.1	0.83
Sweet-corn (cv. Paradise)	0.6	2.1	0.80
Sweet-corn (cv. Dorado)	0.8	1.7	0.61
Bush beans (cv. Provider)	0.4	0.5	0.74
Bush beans (cv. Bronco)	0.8	0.5	0.71
Runner beans	0.6	2.3	0.81
Pumpkin (cv. Miniboer)	0.8	0.6	0.75
Pumpkin (cv. Minette)	0.8	0.7	0.76
Marrow (cv. President)	1.0	0.6	0.61
Marrow (cv. Long White Bush)	0.8	0.65	0.74
Squash (cv. Table Queen)	0.8	0.4	0.47
Squash (cv. Waltham)	0.8	0.3	0.55
Tomato (cv. Zeal)	0.6	0.6	0.48
Tomato (cv. P747)	0.8	0.65	0.69
Tomato (cv. HTX14)	0.8	0.45	0.53
Eggplant	0.6	0.6	0.45
Green peppers	0.6	0.5	0.31
Chilli peppers	0.6	0.6	0.29



**Fig. 12** Diurnal changes in evapotranspiration rate ( $ET$ ), transpiration rate ( $Tr$ ) and stomatal conductance ( $G_s$ ) of the canopy in the cornfield on 15 July in the crop development stage in 2005, respectively.