fruitlook.co.za can help farmers identify over-irrigation in parts of their farm



"How should we irrigate this newly planted apple orchard?"

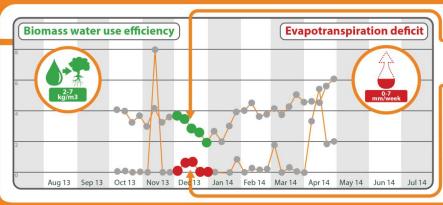
-Nelius Kapp, Soil2Root Technologies



Nelius Kapp helped an apple farmer in Villiersdorp optimise his irrigation using FruitLook and soil moisture probes.

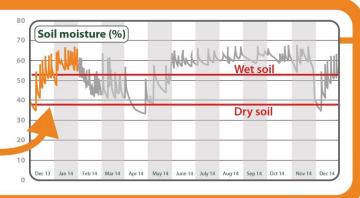
FruitLook data showed that biomass production increased as expected until December 2013, when it dropped substantially.





The biomass water use efficiency also decreased over this period, but the evapotranspiration deficit remained constant and close to 0. Taken together, the FruitLook data suggests the apple orchard was over-irrigated during this period.

Soil moisture data from probes confirmed over-irrigation, showing values associated with winter rainfall (high soil moisture) during this summer period.





Nelius' analysis helped the farmer better understand his apple orchard's water requirements. The data suggested that less irrigation was required during summer, and possibly more in autumn.



FruitLook data, combined with soil moisture data, helped Nelius optimise irrigation for this orchard, thus preventing water wastage.