HIDROSOPH

CASE STUDY

LUSOMORANGO -PORTUGAL- BERRIES

BASE INFORMATION

Portuguese berry producing organization for local and international market (20% and 80%)
Hidrosoph customer since 2009
Main goal was to improve water management, fruit quality, shelf life, reduce disease and costs
Provide field staff with tools to improve their irrigation and fertilizer management practices

WORKING PROCESS—Hidrovolution™ at work

Use of IRRISTRAT™ TOTAL software service
Characterisation of soil hydrodynamics based on laboratory analysis and farmer local knowledge
Mapping of existing irrigation zones indicating crops and monitoring equipment
Evaluation of irrigation and fertilizer practices previously in use and determination of scope for improvement
Parameterisation of irrigation units—Soil, climate, crop, irrigation system

RESULTS

- Water savings up to 50%
- Leaching has been stopped completely (very important in vulnerable areas such as Almeirim)
- Quality and production of berries was maintained
- Better understanding of soil plant water relationships
- Optimization of production potential of each field through adoption of a site specific irrigation strategy
- Development of in-house field staff skills on berry irrigation management

"In such a difficult year in terms of weather conditions, we were able to maintain fruit quality and production with a saving of water and fertilizer."

Marta Baptista, Driscoll's of Europe Agronomy Manager Portugal

"The technical team proposed the increase from 4 to 11 locations in 2011 and will be implemented. The administration believes in these investments as a way to increase fruit quality and benefit all the associates."

Nuno Madureira Simões, Lusomorango Director

Co-financiamento
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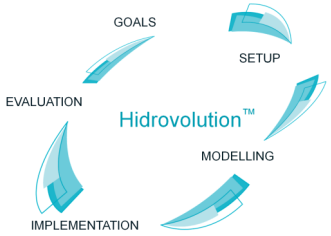
HIDROVOLUTION AT WORK

SUPPORT SERVICES SCOPE

- Daily and automatic generation of irrigation plan
- Weekly remote consulting support to farmer
- Regular site visits to evaluate the strategy and impact
- End of season evaluation
- During a working meeting the inputs, outputs and results are discussed and documented. The results will be used during the next campaign to improve the implementation strategy



TRAINING

- The field staff has been fully involved in the process from planning to implementation and evaluation and they have been present on all field visits and weekly phone support
- This process of working jointly in irrigation management during the campaign has resulted in a lot of transfer of knowledge and improved irrigation practices

MONITORING EQUIPMENT

- Automatic weather station (GPRS communication)
  Real time weather data time including of ET0 data (Penman-Monteith) and Precipitation
- Soil Moisture EnviroSCAN Triscan (GPRS communication)
  Permanent measurement of soil moisture and salinity at different depths in the root zone
  Analysis of soil moisture and nutrient dynamics

smart irrigation works

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