## **Estimating Vine Water Use:**

### The Quest for the Elusive K<sub>c</sub>



## Evapotranspiration

- Irrigation decisions require knowledge of plant water loss
- Water lost = Reference for replacement
- ET= the true amount of water lost to the atmosphere



# ET<sub>o</sub> = reference ET

- An estimate of what actual ET would be for a large area
- Reference "crop" is 100% ground cover of wellwatered turf
- Water use of crops in the area is calculated from that measure
- Measured in acre-inches (27154 gal.)



### **Crop Coefficient**

- Still need to know the water use of the actual crop compared to the reference "crop"
- Requires a crop coefficient- K<sub>c</sub>
- Crop Water Use (ET<sub>c</sub>) = ET<sub>o</sub> X K<sub>c</sub>



# **Crop Coefficient**

- Estimating ET<sub>c</sub> is difficult
- The crop coefficient for grapes changes as the canopy changes
- More transpiration = Higher  $ET_c$
- Therefore, accurate estimates of K<sub>c</sub> require constant measurement.
- Williams demonstrated that it is canopy orientation (percent shaded ground) that drives
  K<sub>c</sub> and not total canopy area

## How to estimate K<sub>c</sub>

Percent area shade of vineyard floor at solar noon (1:00 pm) Where y is  $K_c$  and x is percent shaded floor area

### y = 0.002 + 0.017 x

- -29% shaded floor ; K<sub>c</sub> = 0.500
- $ET_o of 2" X 0.500 = ET_c of 1"$
- 1 ac.-in. = 27154 gal.
- 729 vines per acre = 37 gal./vine

### Vineyard K<sub>c</sub>

### Year 2000, Paso Robles Vineyard, PR1 weather station 10' X 6', 729 vines per acre

Published data from Williams 2001

Equals 36.7 gal./vine that week



### Measuring Shade with Instrumentation

### **Remote sensing:**

**Uses NDVI** 

**Calculated from Infrared and Near Infrared** 

- Satellites
- Fixed wing fly overs
- UAV fly overs

### Issues:

Cloud cover Resolution Frequency Cost



# The TOPS Satellite Irrigation Management System

**Terrestrial Observation and Prediction System** 

- Landsat images
  - NDVI
  - Fractional cover (Fc)
  - K<sub>cb</sub>
  - ET<sub>cb</sub>
- Resolution of a 1/4 acre
- Fly over every 8 days
- May go to 4 or 5 in the future
- ~ 7 days before data is available



#### NASA Satellite Irrigation Management Support: Mapping Crop Water Requirements to Assist Growers in Optimizing Water Use



**PROJECT TEAM:** NASA Ames Research Center, California Dept. of Water Resources, Western Growers Association, California State University, Univ. of California Cooperative Extension, Desert Research Institute, USDA Ag. Research Service, USGS, Booth Ranches, Chiquita, Constellation Wines, Del Monte Produce, Dole, E & J. Gallo, Farming D, Fresh Express, Pereira Farms, Ryan Palm Farms



NASA SIMS web and mobile data services map crop canopy conditions and irrigation demand across 8 million acres of farm land in California

Data processing through supercomputing resources available through NASA Earth Exchange and OpenNEX, a collaboration between NASA and Amazon, Inc.

2- Year Cumulative ET, Pinot Noir, CA: TOPS-SIMS & Soil Water Balance

For more information, contact forrest.s.melton@nasa.gov, or visit https://c3.nasa.gov/water/projects/1/



### Satellite Irrigation Management Support (SIMS) Framework





### **TOPS Satellite Irrigation Management Support**





Disclaimer: This data is for research and evaluation purposes only.

Curator: Forrest Melton



### Satellite Irrigation Management Support (SIMS) Framework





#### TOPS Satellite Irrigation Management Support





# Fixed wing fly over

- Usually once a week
- Less cloud interference
- Cost
- Resolution of meters or centimeters



### **Unmanned Aerial Vehicles**

- Highest resolution
- Always under cloud layer
- Cost
- Resolution of centimeters



## CIMIS

### California Irrigation Management Information System

# – Where is the nearest station?

- Atascadero Station 163
- Blackwells Corner Station 54
- Kettleman Station 21

			Gal./Vine		
7/12-7/18	ETo	Кс	ETc	/Ac-in	Gal. lost
Atascadero	1.4	0.4	0.6	25.0	14.9
Blackwells Corner	2.1	0.4	0.9	25.0	22.4
Kettleman	2.1	0.4	0.9	25.0	22.8



### Spatial CIMIS

#### 5915 El Camino Real, Atascadero, CA 93422(35.4897, -120.6704)

Date	ETo (in)	Sol Rad Avg (Ly/day)
7/1/2015	0.17	407
7/2/2015	0.25	713
7/3/2015	0.24	724
7/4/2015	0.23	724
7/5/2015	0.23	722
7/6/2015	0.22	711
7/7/2015	0.24	731
7/8/2015	0.23	722
Tots/Avgs	1.81	682

#### 6169 Airport Rd, Paso Robles, CA 93446(35.6994, -120.6360)

Date	ETo (in)	Sol Rad Avg (Ly/day)	
7/1/2015	0.18	378	
7/2/2015	0.26	650	
7/3/2015	0.26	719	
7/4/2015	0.25	719	
7/5/2015	0.25	714	
7/6/2015	0.24	705	
7/7/2015	0.25	715	
7/8/2015	0.25	720	
Tots/Avgs	1.94	665	



Resolution =  $2 \text{ km}^2$ 

Combination of geostationary satellite data and CIMIS station data

### The "Paso Panel"

- Developed by UCCE Viticultural Adviser Mark Battany
- Relatively easy to build
- Relatively inexpensive
- Easy to use
- Hard data



### Measuring Shade with Visual Estimation

- Sample at solar noon
- Lay "ruler" in shaded area
- Estimate the Gap Fraction
  - Amount of light within the shade area subtracted from the shaded area
- Percent shade =

(Length of shade / Row width) X Gap Fraction X 100



### Measuring Shade with Visual Estimation

8 ft. row 2 ft. shaded area 25% gaps

Means 25% shaded area, but only 75% of that is shade.

0.25 X 0.75 X 100 = 18.75% shaded area

Equals a K<sub>c</sub> of 0.32

## **Estimating Vine Water Use:**

### The Quest for the Elusive K<sub>c</sub>

