

The need for a groundwater buffer to store excess rain water for later use.

First Lessons from the TOPSOIL project

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Challenge

Need for a groundwater buffer to store excess rain water for later use

- In periods of drought (summer) there is a higher need for groundwater.
- Find a balance between demands of society, agriculture and the environment.



Impact Summer 2018



News articles:

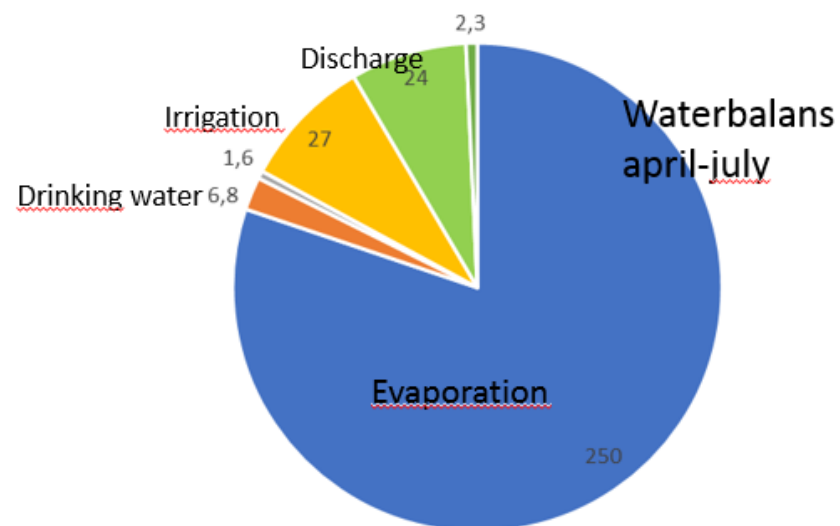
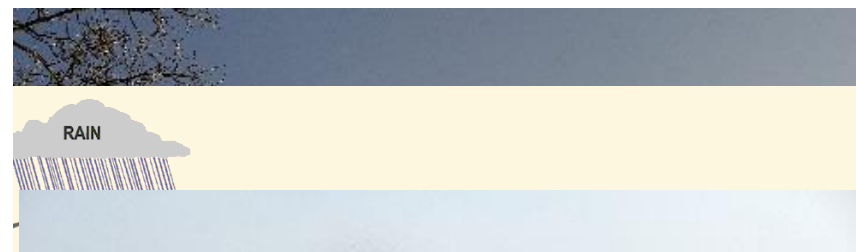
“1 Million houses at risk because of foundation problems due to low groundwater levels”

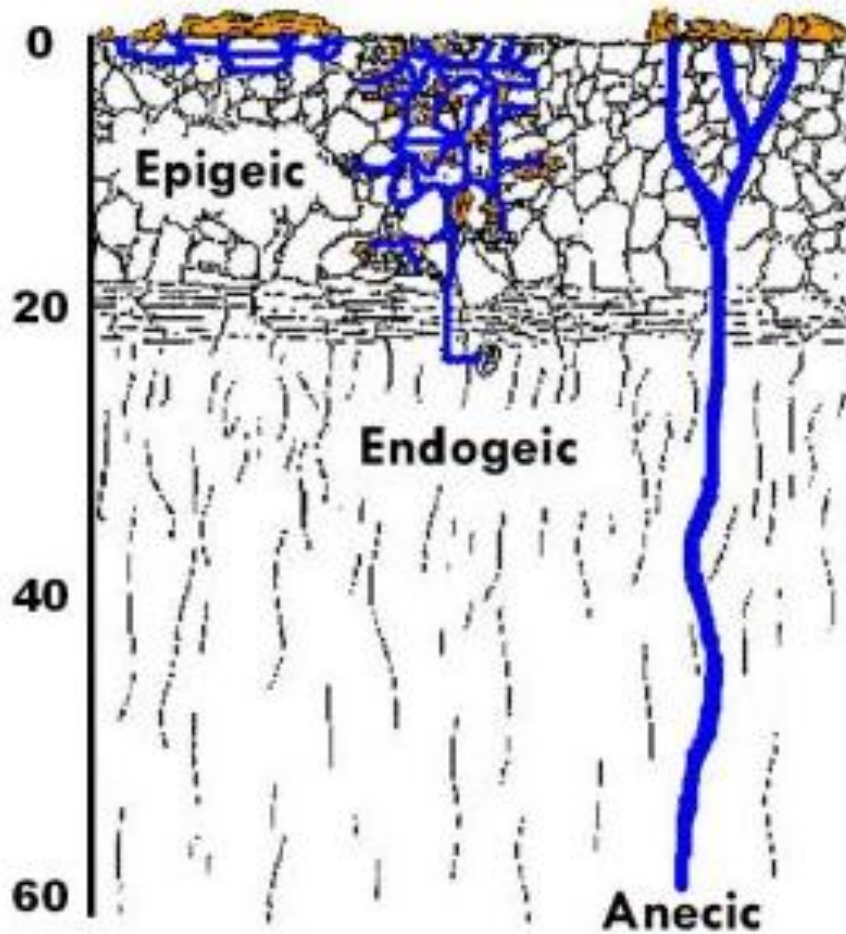
“Dry summer leads to subsidence”



What is the added benefit from Topsoil?

- We used new techniques to map the subsoil;
- Stakeholders should be confident with the model which is used;
- Be alert with licensing for extracting groundwater;
- There are no simple solutions to increase the amount of groundwater;
 - infiltration of water during wintertime + good soil practice.





Don't stick your head in the sand
but look more often
under the grass sward



Key recommendations

- Make ground(water) data free available;
- Climate change should be included in the EU goals on the WFD and N2000;
- Develop a long term strategy on shortage of groundwater;
- Encourage farmers to infiltrate more water more often.

