

Improving water use efficiency

AquaSpy Group has a long history of improving water use efficiency in the Australian cotton industry.

The Australian company designs, manufactures and distributes the world's most advanced soil moisture sensors and smart information technology to dealers across Australia's key cotton growing districts

"We have close ties to the cotton industry and these will only become stronger as our technology evolves," says AquaSpy Group chief executive officer Nigel Hennessy.

"Today, it helps producers to efficiently manage their crop and receive detailed intelligence about conditions deep underground. The technology's remote access capabilities have long been recognised for helping growers across the cotton industry."

Cotton producers have reported increases in yield of 30 per cent and a 30-40 per cent reduction in water use, which translates to water use efficiency gains of 60-80 per cent. AquaSpy Group is working to deliver higher yields at the NSW cotton growing operations of Twynam Agricultural Group and also on family farms through most cotton regions despite reduced water availability.

Stefan Mulligan of Donard Park Farming, Moree agrees. "Water management has become one of the most critical factors in our irrigation operations. The AquaSpy probes allow me to keep a close eye on where my water is going, and to stretch it that bit further without compromising yields."

Broader range of markets

AquaSpy Group is also successfully adapting its latest water-sensing technologies to a broader range of markets – including urban, sports turf and golf – with water savings and efficiency the underlying drivers. This work is built on expertise developed by Agrilink International in the agricultural irrigation sector over 10 years.

Agrilink expanded its Australian base to establish operations in the US and Latin American agricultural markets, reinforcing the company's successful combination of user-friendly technology with innovation and ideas.

Much of this expansion was driven by the success of the original AquaSpy C-Probe. The recently released 4th generation AquaSpy probe builds on the heritage of the C-Probe but provides the grower with a more complete picture of soil water dynamics by incorporating a sensor every 100 mm.

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