

The leaf patch clamp pressure probe – a new tool for the water management of crop plants.



přednášející: **Prof. Dr. F.-W. Bentrup**
(University of Salzburg, Austria)

Irrigation of crop plants consumes about 80 % of the worldwide usable water. Hence there is urgent need to optimize the water management of crop plant irrigation. In this lecture features will be outlined of a recently introduced non-invasive pressure probe which allows online-monitoring of the water status of leaves. The output signal of this leaf patch clamp pressure probe may be calibrated to indicate the cell turgor, i.e. the key parameter of the plant water status. The data may be transmitted from the probe in the crop field to an internet server and eventually processed to control irrigation regimes.

References: Journal of Experimental Botany 2008 59: 3157-3167. Plant Biology 2009 11: 701-712

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