



Thirsty Plants

Soil-net.com

Where do plants go when they're thirsty?

Nowhere actually. They can't move so they need to be able to reach water from where they are.

It's all in the soil!!

Water gets into soil from rain or snow. Plants produce roots that grow through soil as wide as possible so they can reach water even in dry weather.

How do the plants get the water?

Plant roots mainly take water in near the tips where there are lots of root hairs.

Getting the balance right

Too much water...



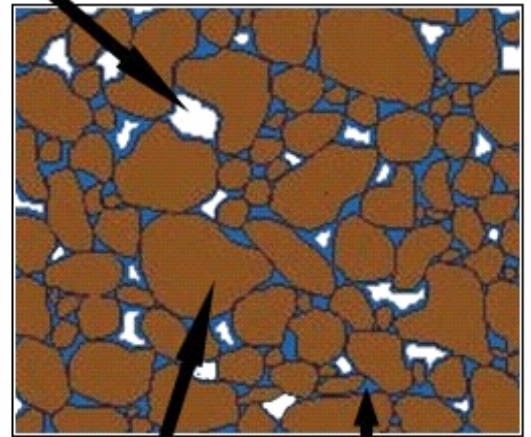
...requires **drainage**

Too little water...



...requires **irrigation**

Air filled pore



Soil particles

Water filled pore

Soil can hold water like a sponge!

Water is held in soil in pores, with organic matter and around soil grains.

Different types of soil hold different amounts of water. Some hold too much, some hold too little, and some are just right (these are prized for gardening and food production)!

