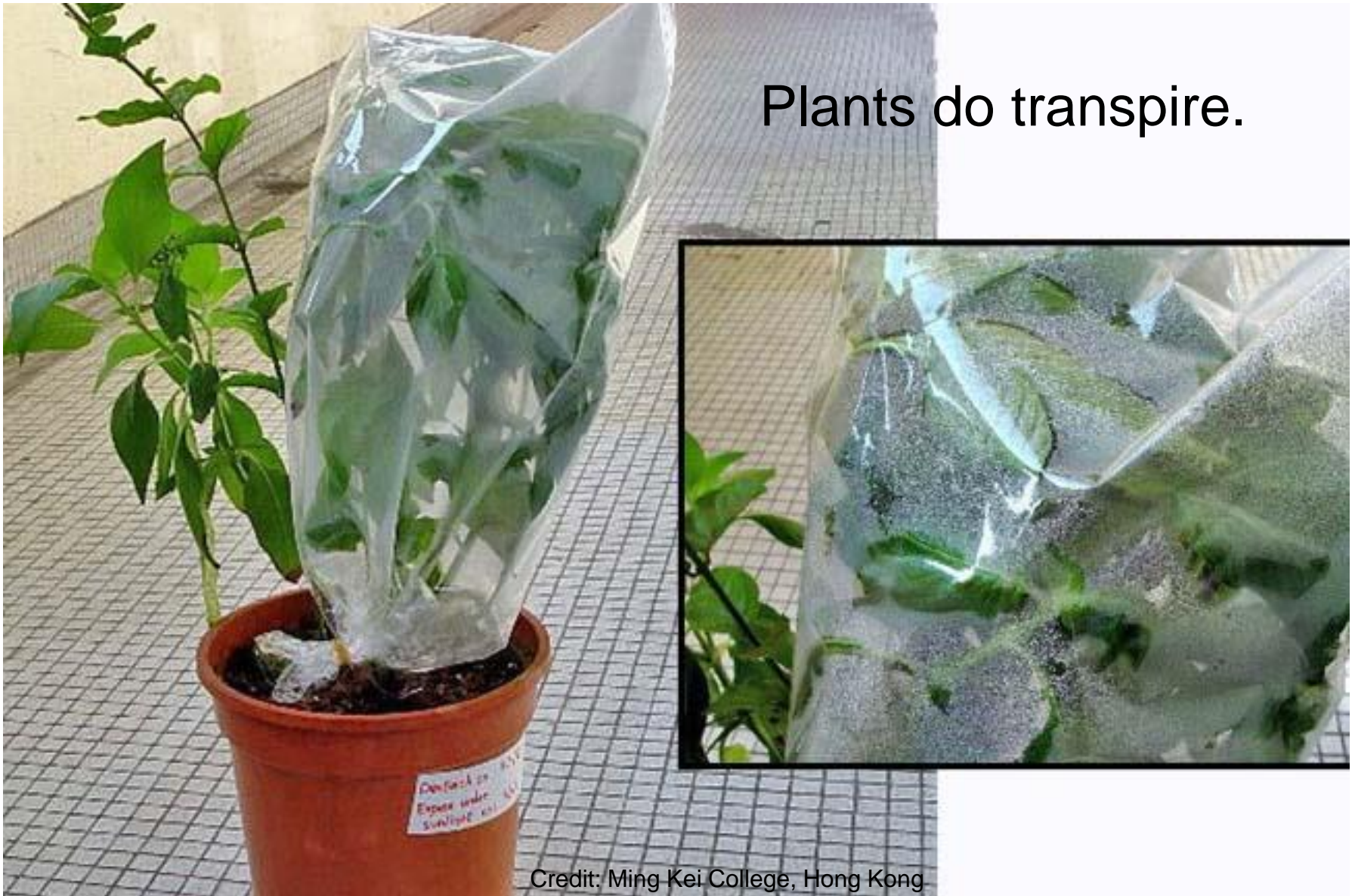


# Evapotranspiration monitoring with Meteosat Second Generation satellites: method, products and utility in drought detection.

Nicolas Ghilain  
Royal Meteorological Institute  
Belgium

# Evapotranspiration

Plants do transpire.



Credit: Ming Kei College, Hong Kong





Corn field (100x100 m<sup>2</sup>): ??

150 liters in 1 day

1 500 liters in 1 day

15 000 liters in 1 day

Plants do transpire a lot.



large oak tree:

151 000 liters in 1 year

With plausible large  
consequences



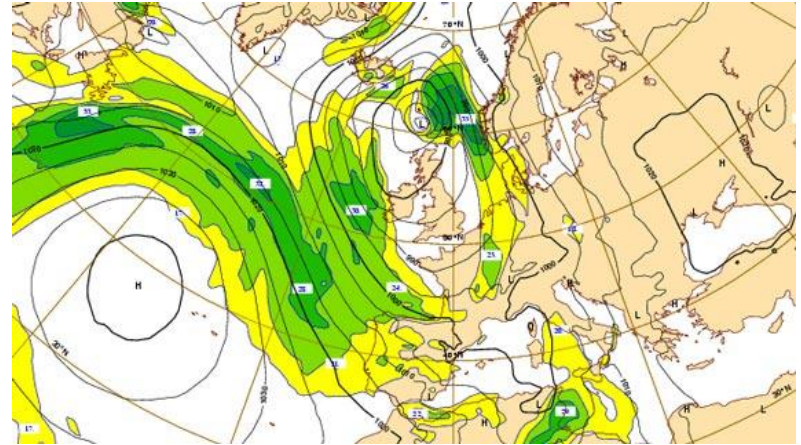
**Evapotranspiration monitoring  
can be essential for  
drought detection.**



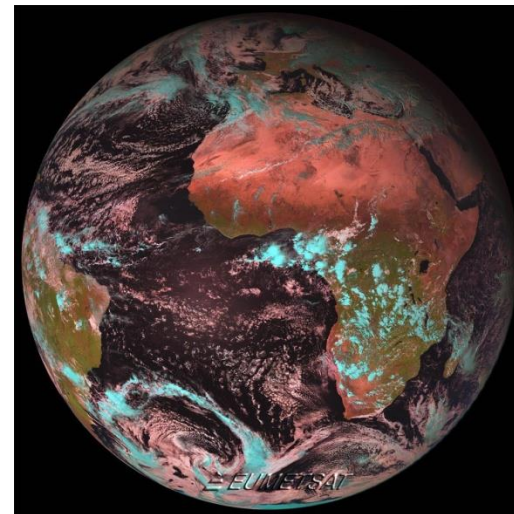
Evapotranspiration can be measured !  
Indirectly, though ...



Models compute evapotranspiration



Satellite observation complement models !





## Royal Meteorological Institute of Belgium

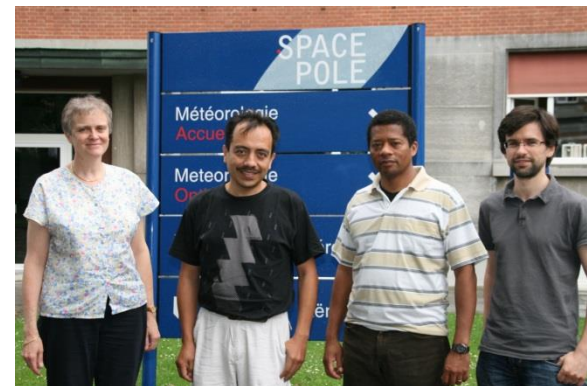
**“... services supported by research and long term standardised meteorological, climatological and geophysical observations ...”**

(<http://www.meteo.be>)

**“Reliable public service realised by empowered staff and based on research, innovation and continuity.”**



## HydroMeteorology group on modelling& remote sensing



F. Meulenberghs

A. Arboleda

J.M. Barrios



# Where are you ?





# Who are you ?

I'm a researcher

I work for governmental decision planning

Other:

# Who are you ?

I plan to use EUMETSAT products

I am here for general interest

I'm already a EUMETSAT user

I'm already using remote sensing products from other agencies

I'm prospecting for satellite products

Other:



# **Outline**

1. What is evapotranspiration (ET) ?
2. The role of satellites for ET monitoring
3. LSA-SAF ET: algorithm & product
4. Utility of ET in drought monitoring

# **Outline**

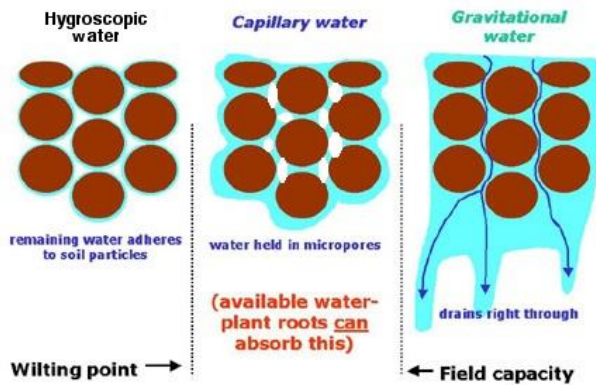
- 1. What is evapotranspiration (ET) ?**
2. The role of satellites for ET monitoring
3. LSA-SAF ET: algorithm & product
4. Utility of ET in drought monitoring



# The transpiration process

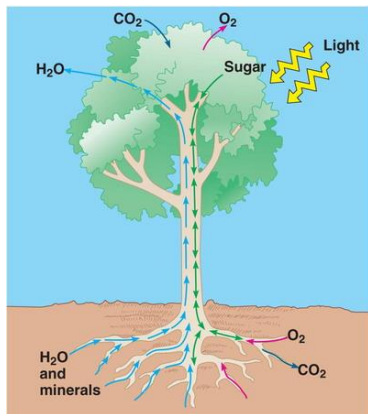
## Plant « Breathing » and the Transpiration Process

### 1. Root-zone water



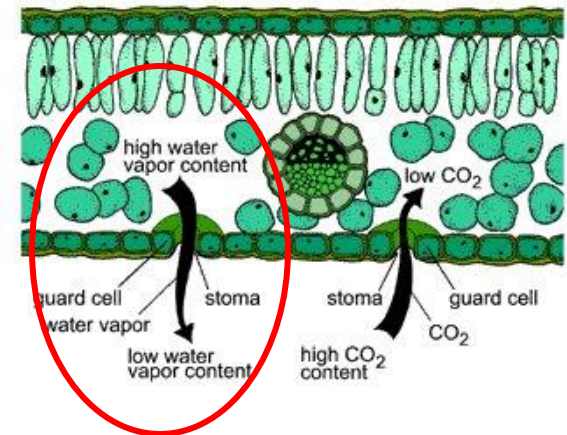
For transpiration to occur, there must be water available !

### 2. Root water uptake



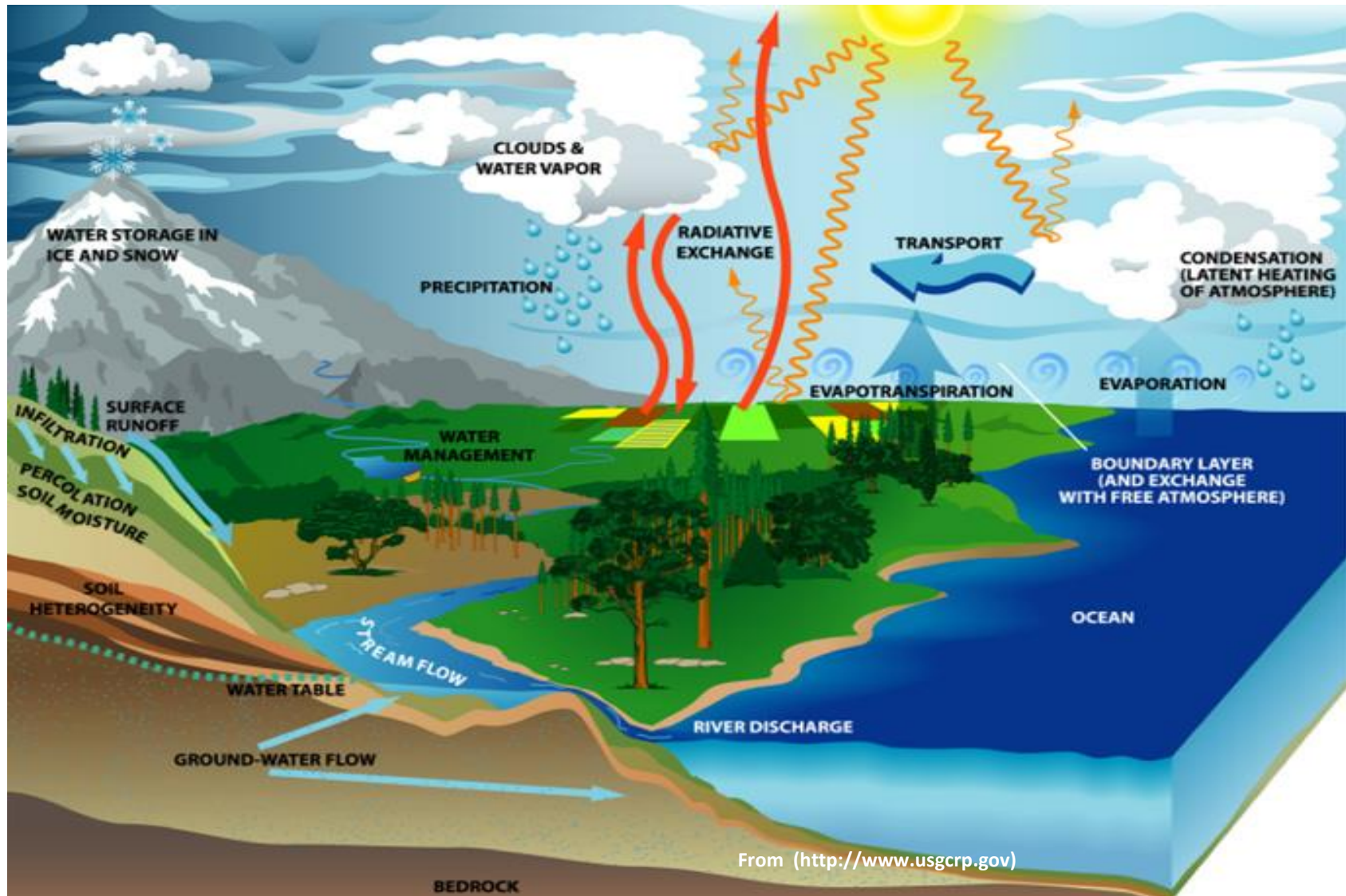
- Water taken to leaves through roots
- Light is necessary

### 3. Exchange plant-atmosphere



Water vapour is released into the air through leaves stomata

# The water cycle



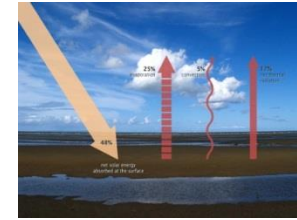
On land, ET returns 58% of precipitation !



# Evapotranspiration: List of ingredients

Energy

Surface net radiation



Interface

Soil occupation



Plant type & characteristics

Water

Soil moisture



Ambiant  
atmosphere

Wind



Air movement

Air humidity



Air temperature



# Outline

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- 2. The role of satellites for ET monitoring**
3. LSA-SAF ET: algorithm & product
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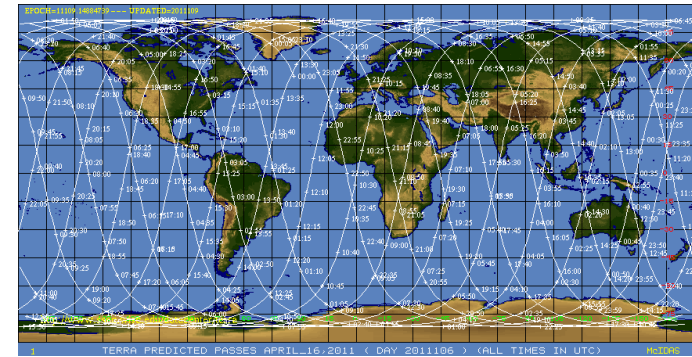
# Remote Sensing Opportunities

## Orbits preferred for earth monitoring

### 1. (Near-) Polar orbiter, sun-synchronous

- low orbit (~1000 km)
- earth revolution in ~100 min

Need of several ground receivers for the data flow



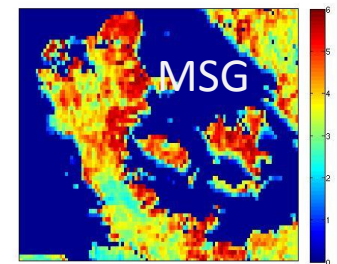
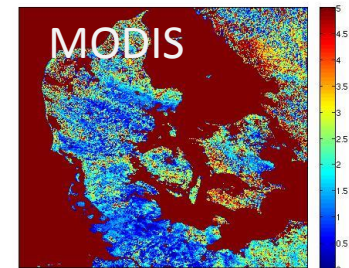
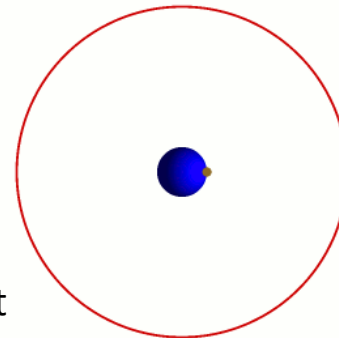
**Polar orbiters:** Terra, Aqua, METOP, ...

### 2. Geostationary (geo-synchronous)

- altitude (~36000 km)
- over equator

Depending on longitude, need to correct longitudinal drift

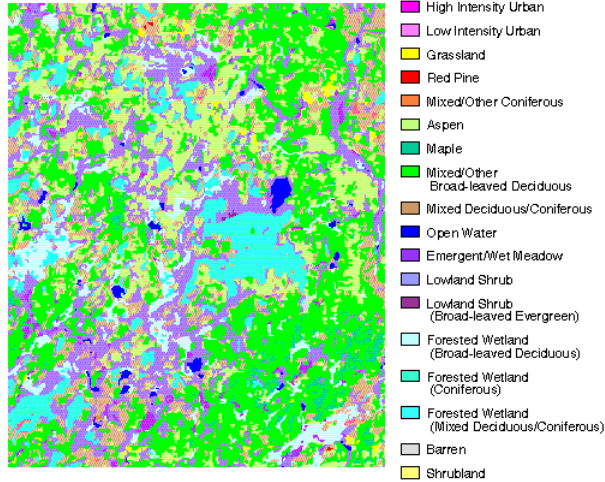
**Geostationary satellites:** Meteosat, GOES, ...



# What useful variables derived from remote sensing ?

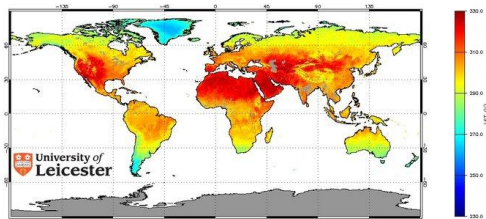
## 1. Describe surface properties

### Land cover

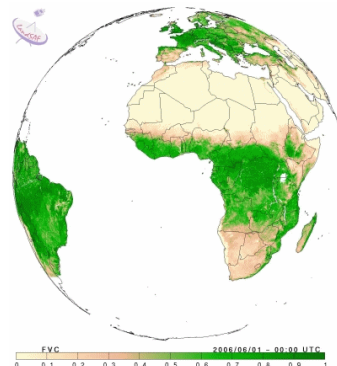


## 2. Surface variables

### Surface temperature



### Greenness of vegetation



## 3. Atmosphere

### Cloudiness



### Snow cover





# EUMETSAT SAF on Land Surface Analysis

EUMETSAT SATELLITE APPLICATION FACILITIES  
(SAF'S)

LSA -SAF Land Surface Analysis

OSI -SAF Ocean and Sea Ice

GRAS -SAF Meteorology

O3M Ozone Monitoring

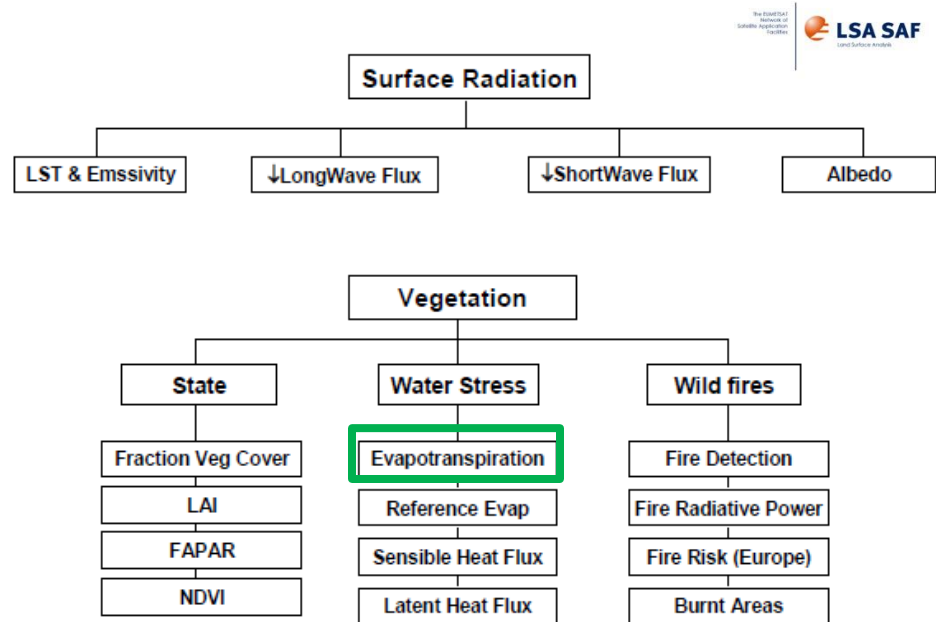
NWP -SAF Numerical Weather Prediction

CM -SAF Climate Monitoring

NWC-SAF - Nowcasting and very Short Range Forecasting

## LSA -SAF OBJECTIVES

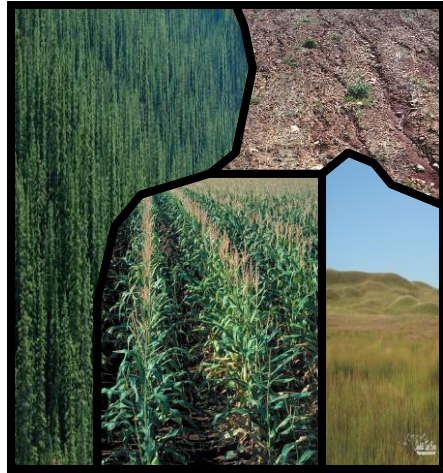
Develop techniques to retrieve parameters related to land, land-atmosphere interactions and biospheric applications, by using data from MSG and EPS satellites



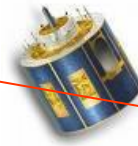
# Outline

1. What is evapotranspiration (ET) ?
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- 3. LSA-SAF ET: algorithm & product**
4. Utility of ET in drought monitoring

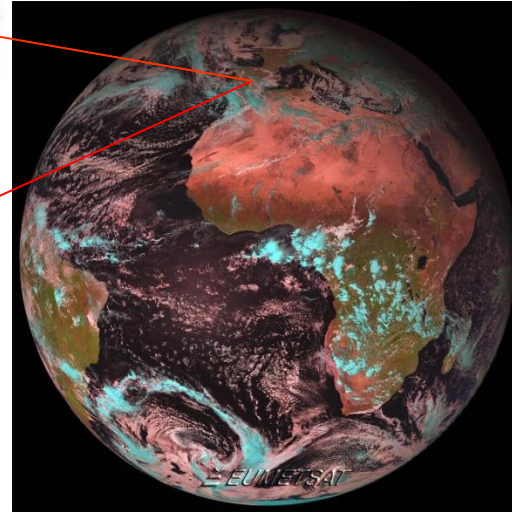
# The LSA-SAF evapotranspiration model



MSG/SEVIRI pixel



Meteosat Second Generation



$$\text{Energy balance: } (1-\alpha).S + \varepsilon.(L-\sigma.T_{sk,i}^4) + H_i + LE_i - G_i = 0$$

$$ET \sim \Sigma LE_i (\text{Land Cover, LAI, Wind, } T_{air}, Q_{air}, \text{ Soil Moist})$$

ECCLIMAP-I



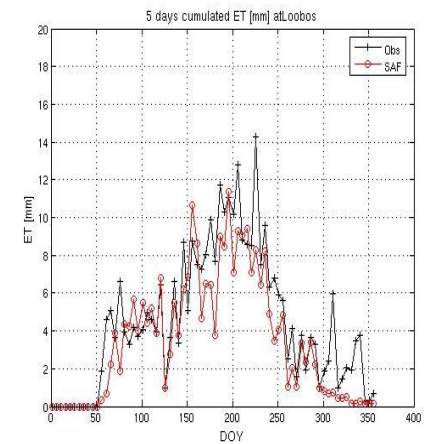
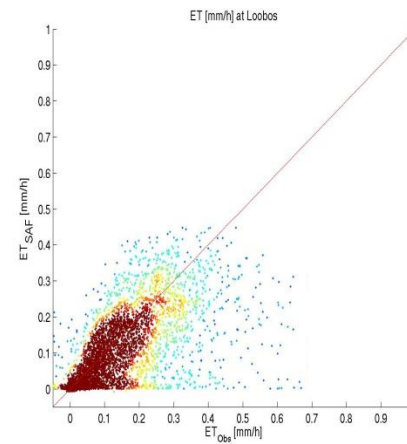
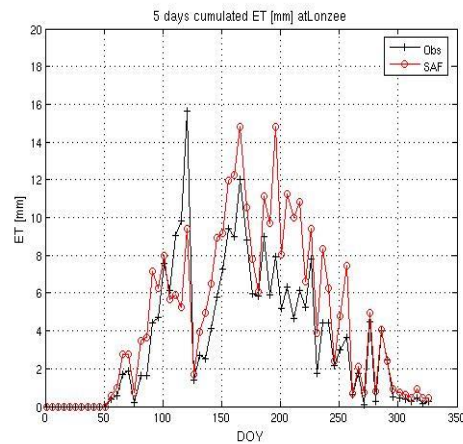
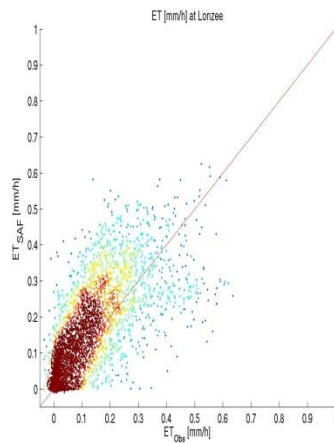
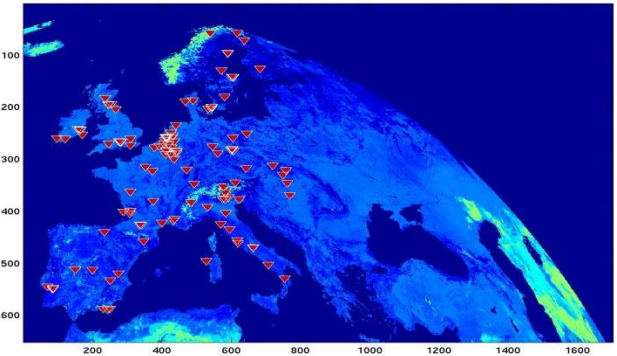
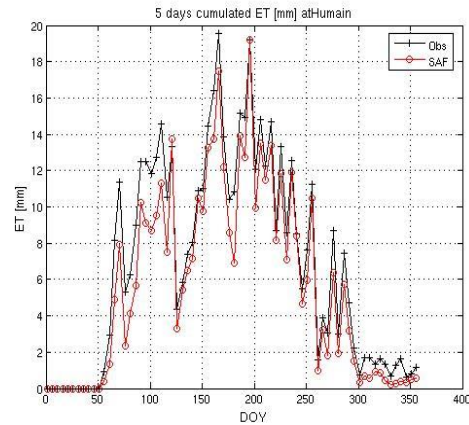
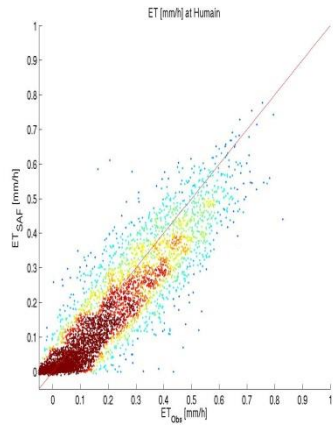
ECMWF weather forecasts

(Ghilain N., Arboleda A., Gellens-Meulenberghs F., 2011, Hydrol. Earth Syst. Sci.)

# The LSA-SAF evapotranspiration model

## Examples validation LSA-SAF MET product

Dataset: 2007



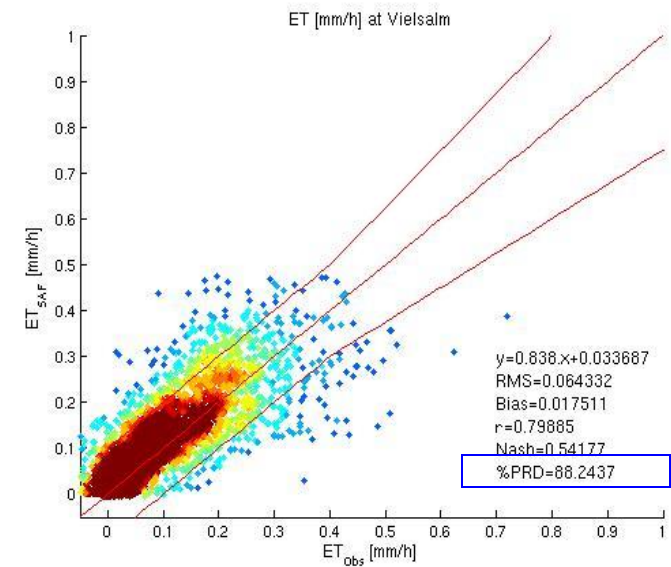
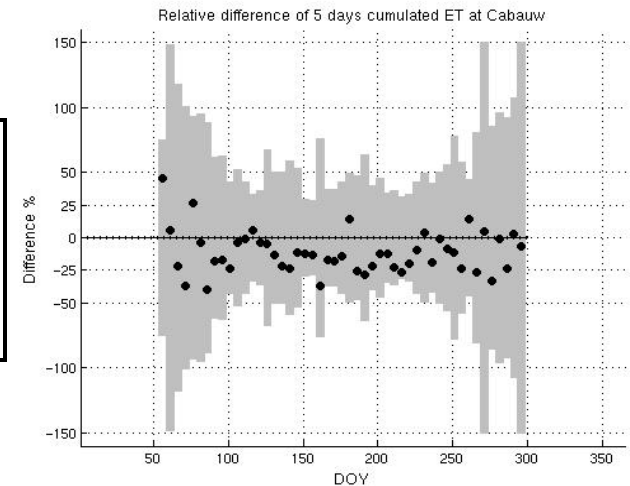
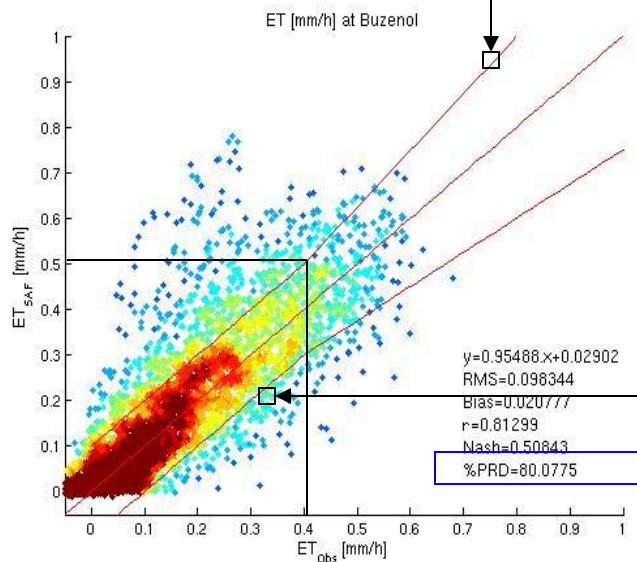


# The LSA-SAF evapotranspiration model

## Product Required Accuracy (LSA-SAF MET)

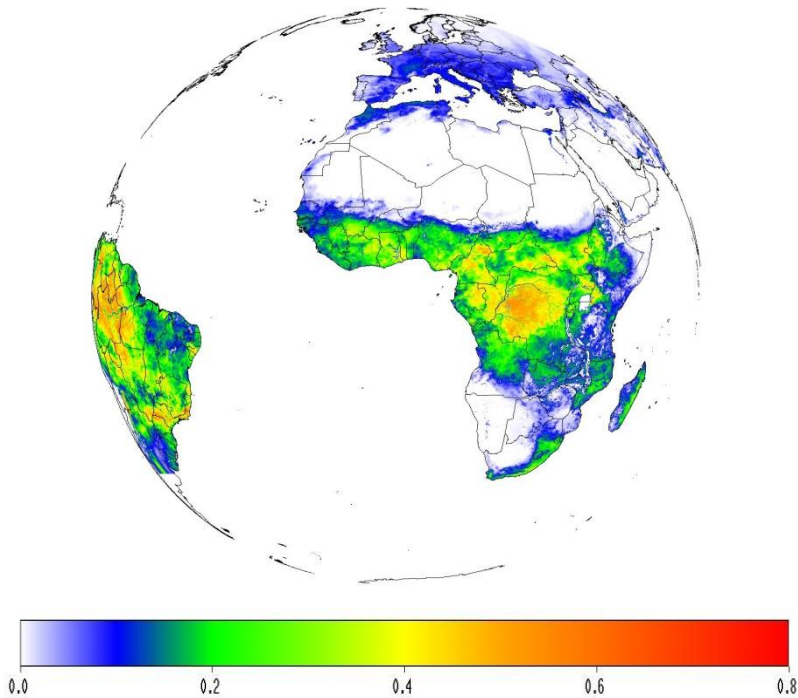
if  $ET > 0.4 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$   $\longrightarrow$  Error  $< 25\%$

if  $ET < 0.4 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$   $\longrightarrow$  Error  $< 0.1 \text{ mm h}^{-1}$

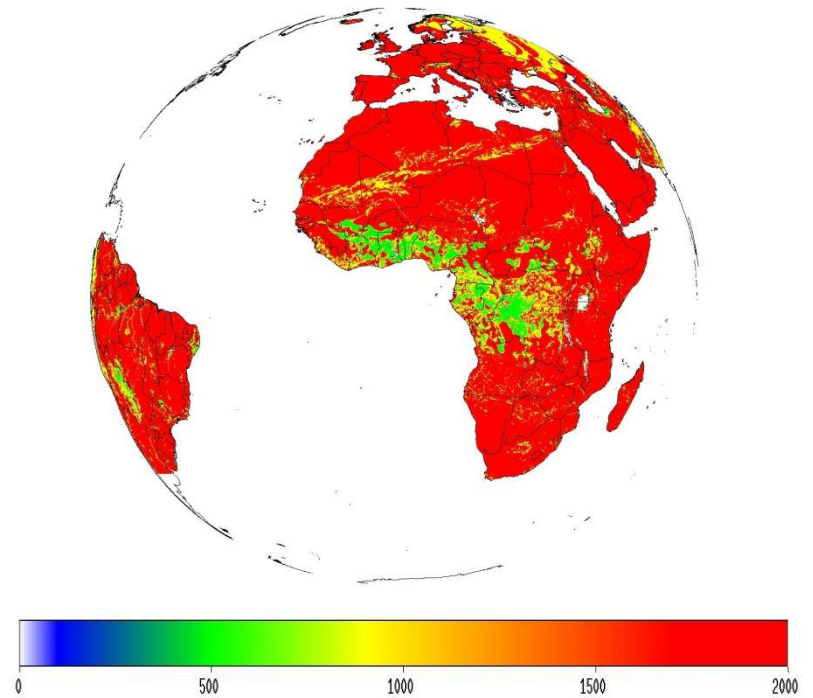


# The LSA-SAF evapotranspiration products

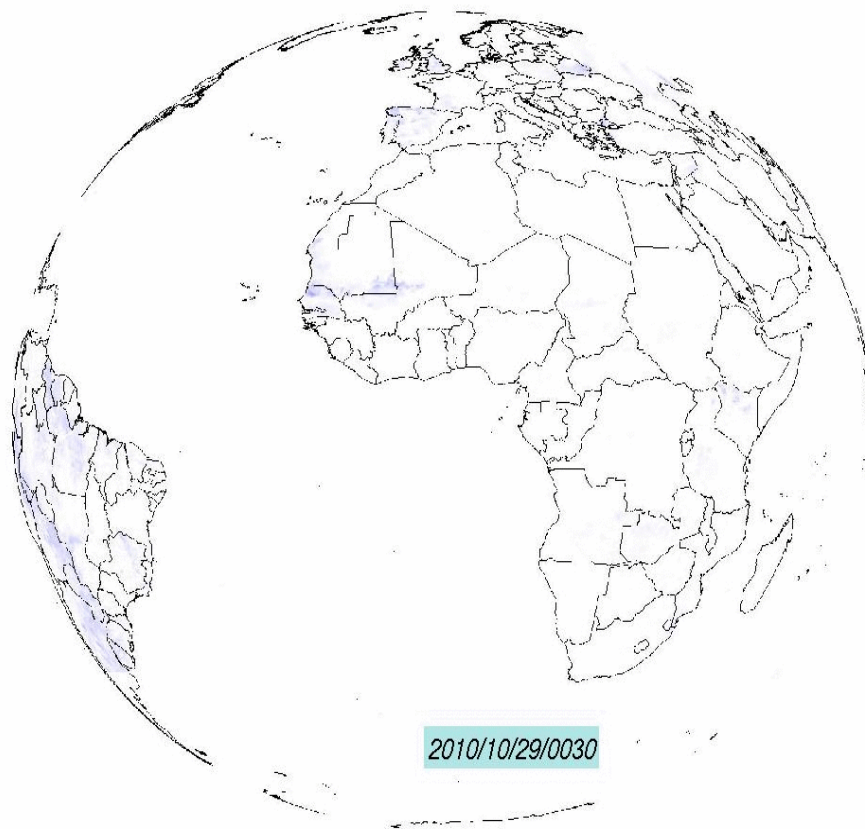
Two images are generated: the first one contains instantaneous ET estimates in mm/h while the second one is the quality flag image, provides information on the quality of estimates pixel by pixel



ET (mm/h) for 2010/10/29 at 12:00 UTC



Associated quality flag (-)



2010/10/29/0030

# Instantaneous ET

## LSA-SAF MET

Surface type

Quality input data

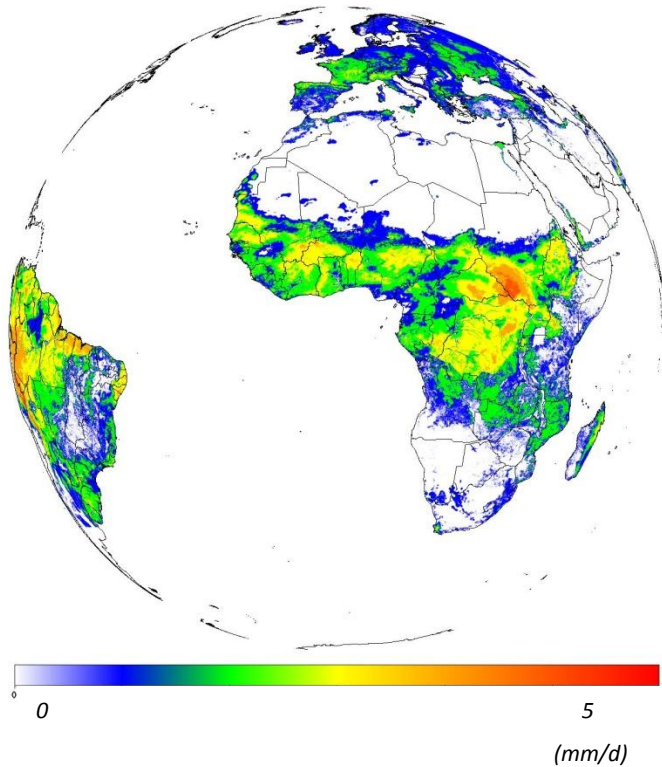
Overall quality

Bit	Field	Category	Binary code	Description
00-00	Land/Sea	Sea	0	
		Land	1	
01-01	Land cover		0	IGBP
			1	ECOCLIMAP
02-02	Cloud cover		0	Covered
			1	Clear / partially covered
03-04	Snow cover		00	Not processed
			01	Snow covered
			10	Partially covered
			11	Snow-free
05-06	SM		00	Corrupted / not processed
			01	SM from LSAF-SAF
			10	SM from other source (ECMWF)
07-07	AL		0	Albedo from data base
			1	Albedo from AL product
08-09	LST		00	Not used by now
			00	
			00	
10-11	DLSF		00	Corrupted / not processed
			01	Below nominal
			10	Nominal
			11	Above nominal
12-13	DSSF		00	Corrupted / not processed
			01	Below specified angle of view
			10	Cloudy sky method
			11	Clear sky method
14-15	ET confidence		00	Corrupted / not processed
			01	Poor quality
			10	Below nominal
			11	Nominal

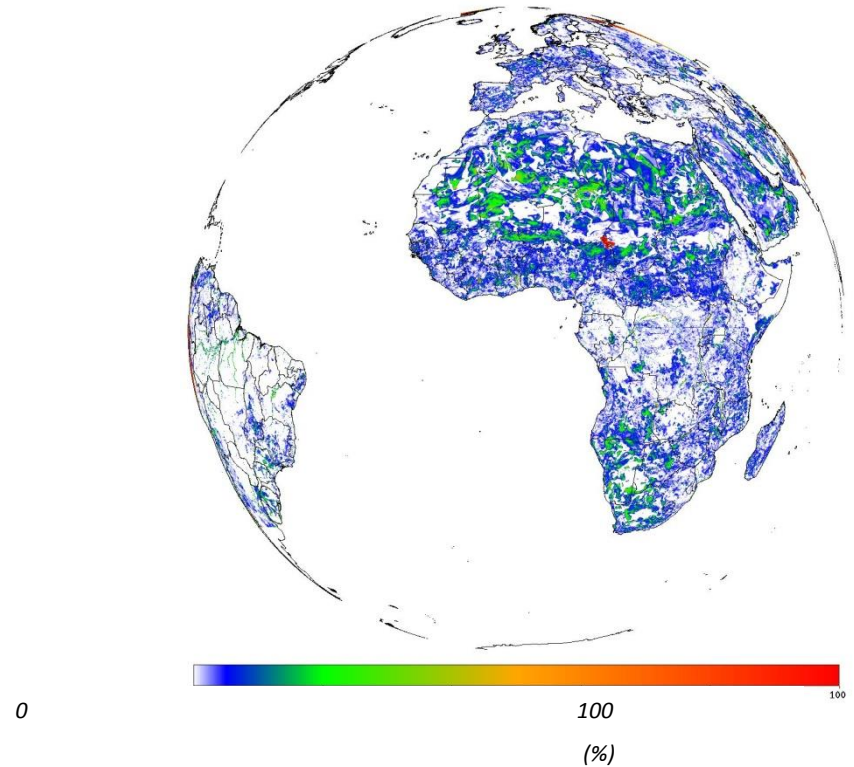


# The LSA-SAF evapotranspiration products

a) DMET (mm/day)

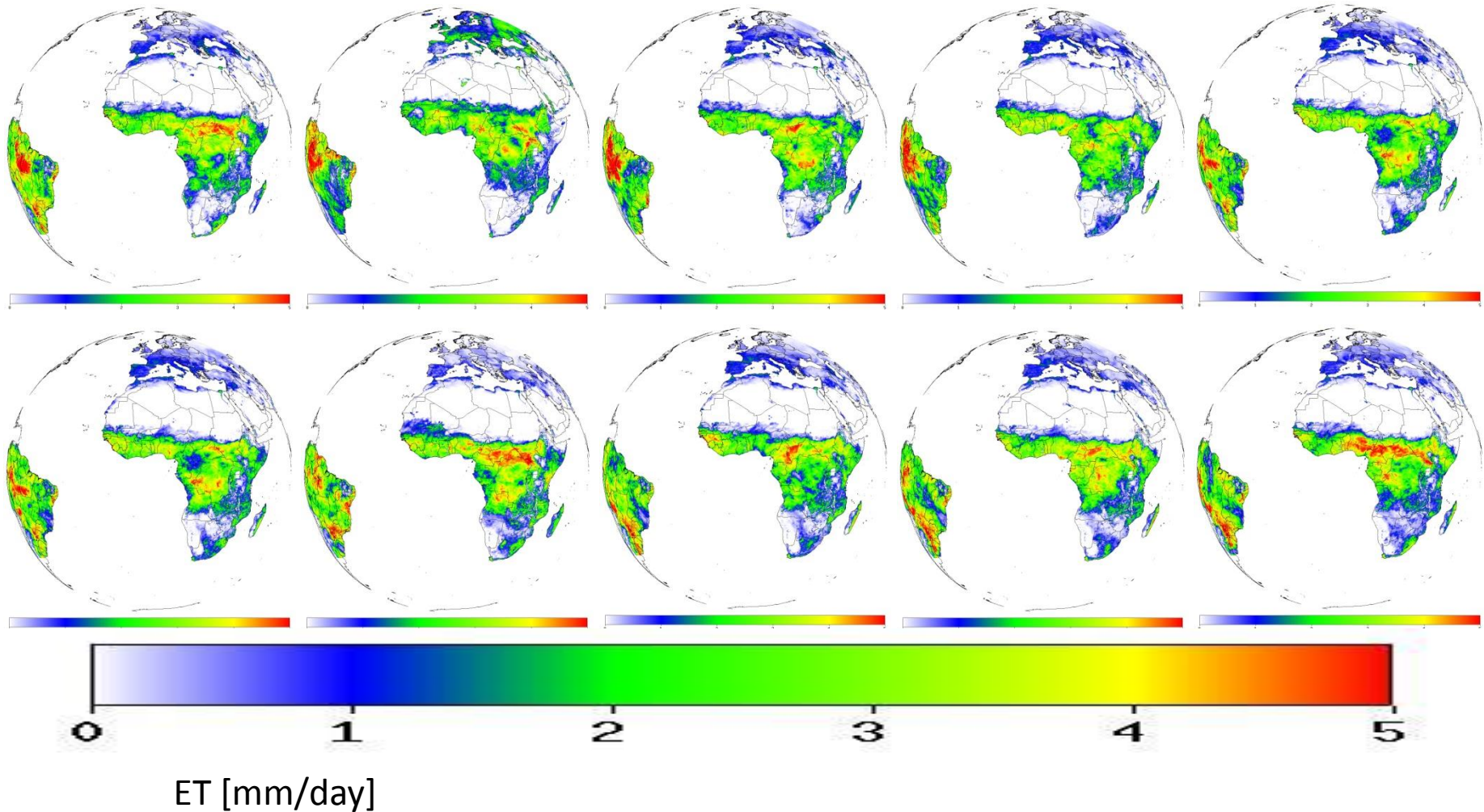


b) Percent of missing values for every pixel

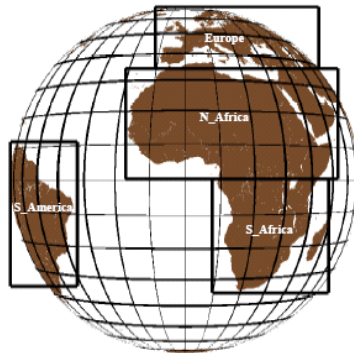
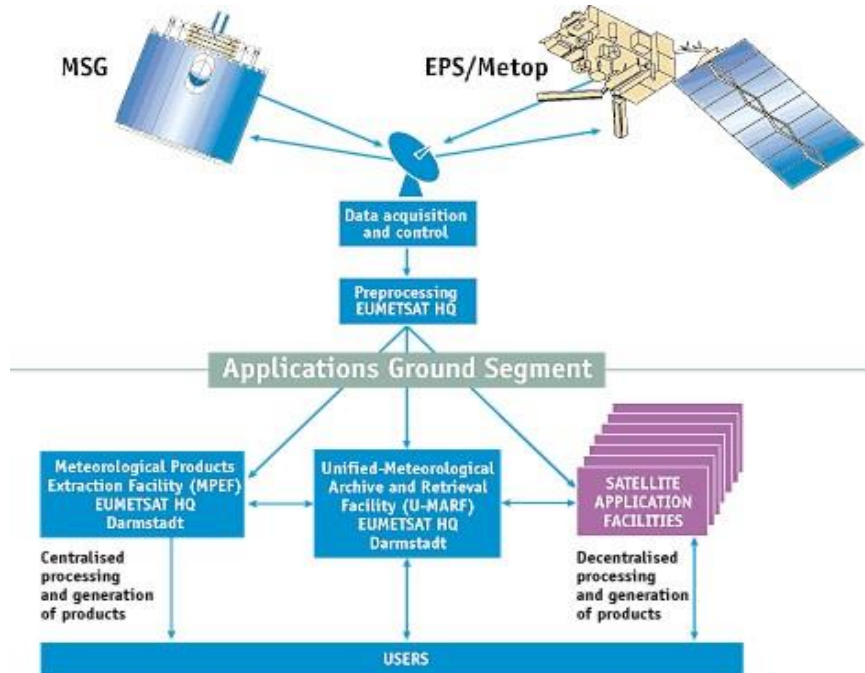


# The LSA-SAF evapotranspiration products

DMET images from 06/09 to 15/09 2009



# Near-real time production: how it works



1. Acquisition of MSG/SEVIRI corrected radiances and Clouds mapping (from EUMETSAT, Darmstadt, Germany)
2. Computation of radiation components (Land SAF computing facility)
3. Acquisition of the global weather forecasts (ECMWF), reproject and interpolate
4. Computation of ET over 4 areas (Europe, North/South Africa and South America)
5. Compute a quality index
6. Creation HDF5 files
7. Distribution through web or satellite to users
8. Distribution of regular update of User Manual and Validation Reports

## Guest

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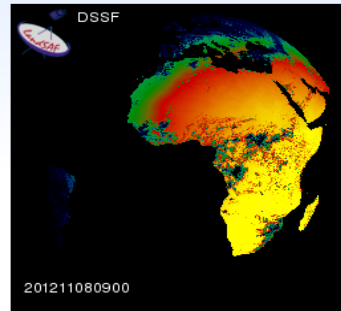
The scope of Land Surface Analysis Satellite Applications Facility (LSA SAF) is to increase benefit from EUMETSAT Satellite (MSG and EPS) data related to:

- Land
- Land-Atmosphere interaction
- Biospheric Applications

The LSA SAF performs:

- R&D Programs.
- Operational Activities

- Generation
- Archiving
- Dissemination



[See colour legends...](#)

of land surface related products.

### Latest News:

- Important** Change in LSA SAF lead NMS name [see more...](#)
- Important** LSA SAF Products web dissemination service resumed. [see more...](#)
- Warning** LSA SAF Products WEB Dissemination service stopped [see more...](#)
- Information** LSA SAF Products web dissemination service resumed. [see more...](#)
- Update** LSA SAF Products web dissemination service stopped. [see more...](#)
- Information** Fire Risk Map [see more...](#)

### Product Development Status:

#### MSG/SEVIRI based products Wild Fires

Fire Radiative Power - PIXEL  
Fire Radiative Power - GRID  
Fire Risk Map  
Fire Detection and Monitoring

#### Vegetation Parameters

Fraction of Vegetation Cover  
Leaf Area Index  
Fraction of Absorbed Photosynthetic Active Radiation

#### Snow Cover

Snow Cover (daily)  
Snow Cover (15 mins)

#### Other

Bi-Directional Reflectance Factor  
Land Surface Emissivity

#### Albedo

Surface Albedo  
MSG Ten Day Surface Albedo

#### Land Surface Temperature

Land Surface Temperature (15 mins)

#### Down-welling Surface Fluxes

Down-welling Surface Short-wave Radiation Flux  
Down-welling Surface Long-wave Radiation Flux  
Daily Downward Surface Shortwave Flux  
Daily Downward Surface Longwave Flux

#### Evapotranspiration

Evapotranspiration (30 mins)  
Daily Evapotranspiration

#### MetOp/AVHRR based products

#### Land Surface Temperature

EPS - Land Surface Temperature

#### Down-welling Surface Fluxes

Down-welling Surface Long-wave Radiation Flux

### Caption

Internal Develop. Demo. Pre-Operat. Operat.

LSA SAF is an initiative of:



LSA SAF consortium in CDOP (2007-2012):





# Outline

1. What is evapotranspiration (ET) ?
2. The role of satellites for ET monitoring
3. LSA-SAF ET: algorithm & product
4. **Utility of ET in drought monitoring**

# **Clarification of concepts**

## **Natural Evapotranspiration (ET)**

**= Actual evapotranspiration (AET)**

**= Real evapotranspiration (ETR)**

Evaporation of natural surfaces + plant transpiration

## **Potential Evapotranspiration (PET)**

Maximum evapotranspiration for a given climate and continuous vegetated surface (no hydric stress)

## **Reference Evapotranspiration (ET<sub>0</sub>)**

Used for agricultural irrigation management (FAO standard).

Evapotranspiration (can be potential) of a well-watered grass patch.

## **Crop Evapotranspiration (ET<sub>c</sub>)**

Optimum evapotranspiration of a given crop (productivity not affected by hydric stress).

# Clarification of concepts

**Natural Evapotranspiration**

= Actual evaporation (AET)

= Real evaporation (ETR)

Evaporation of surfaces + plant transpiration

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Used for agricultural irrigation management (FAO standard).

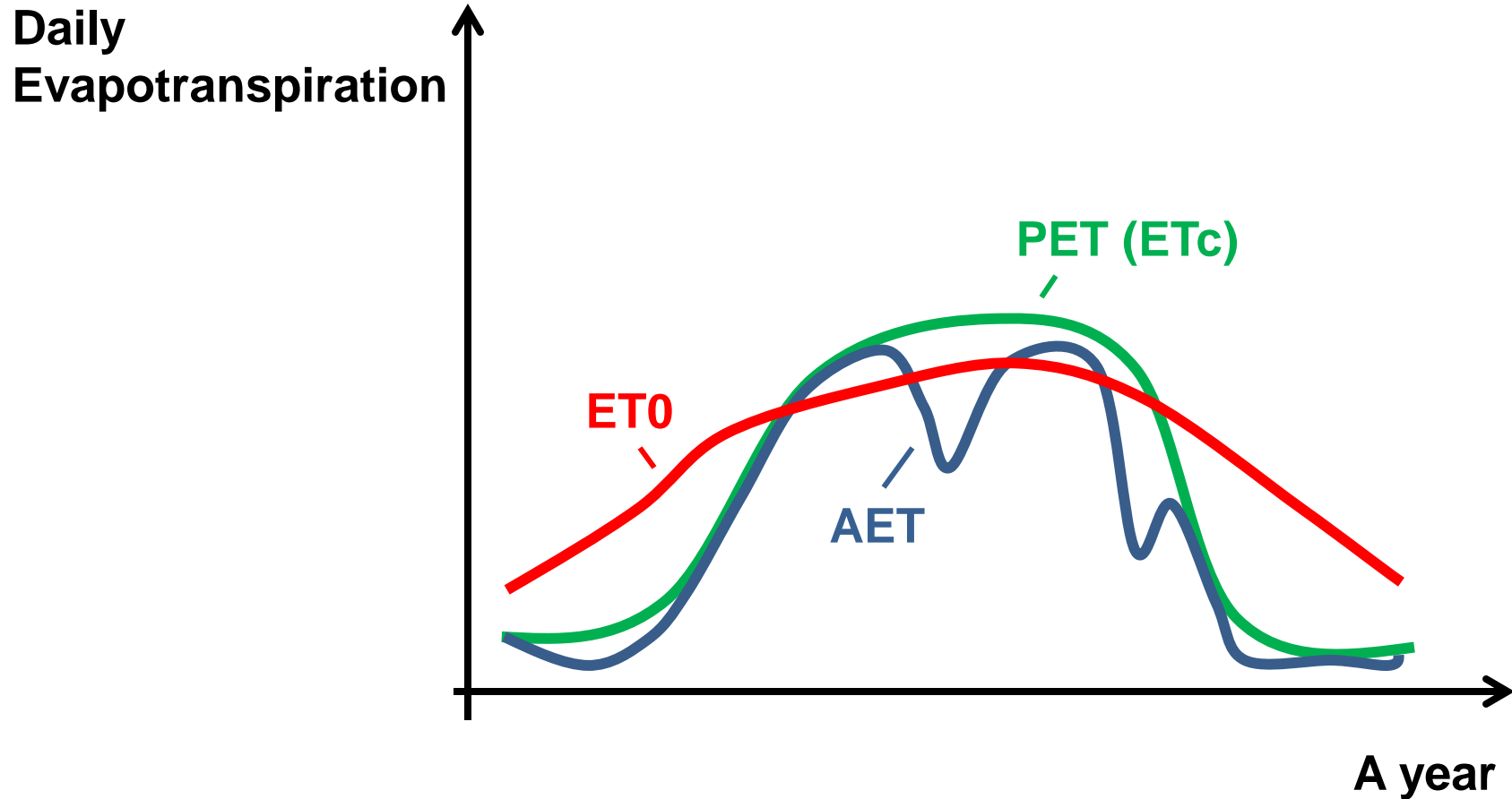
Evapotranspiration (canopy) of a well-watered grass patch.

**Crop Evapotranspiration (ETc)**

Optimum evapotranspiration of a given crop (productivity not affected by hydric stress).

# Clarification of concepts

## For crops



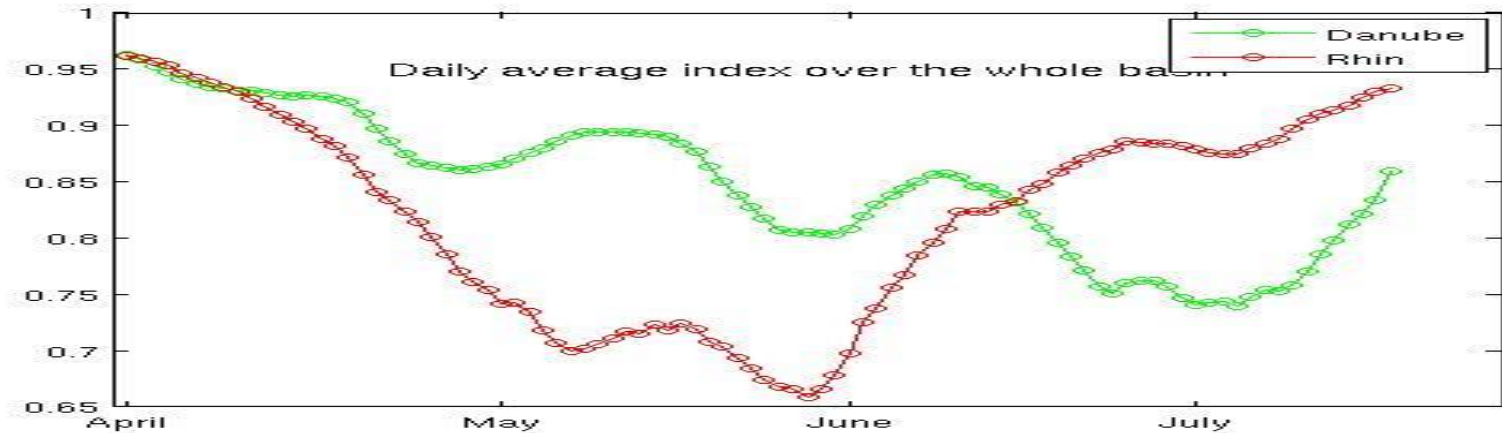
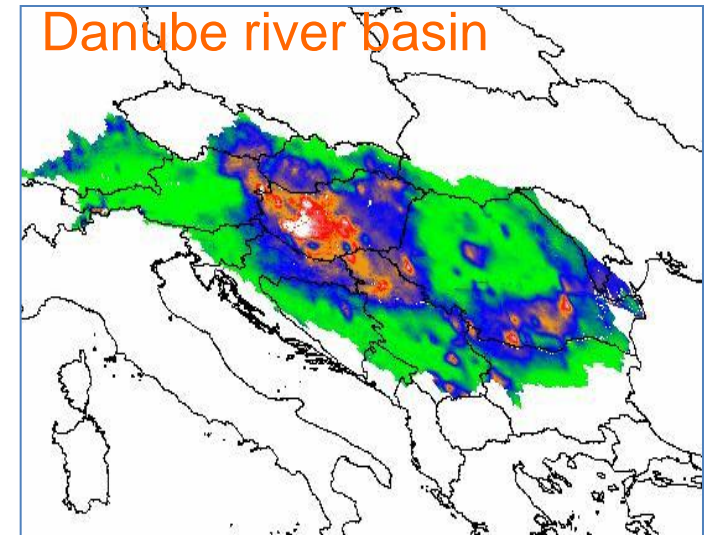
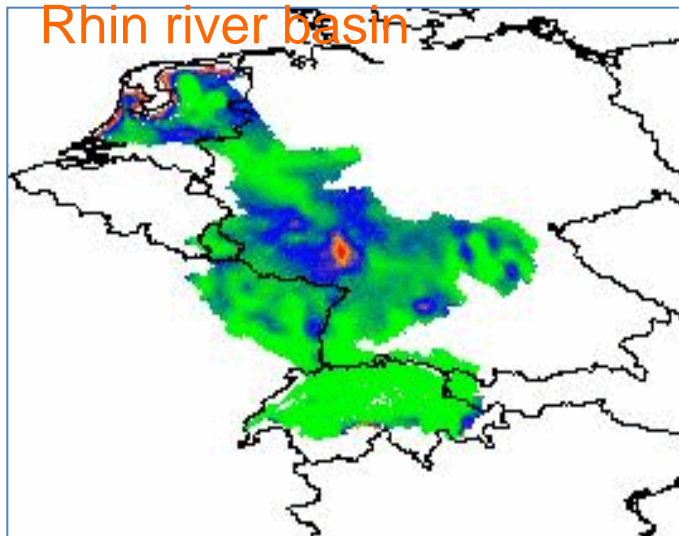
For a given crop:  **$ETc = Kc \times ET0$**



# Application perspectives

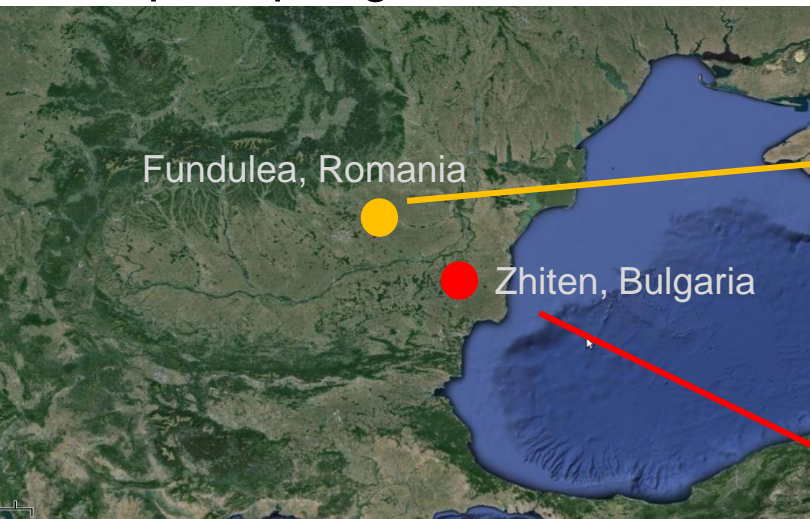
Meteorological drought  
Europe, Spring 2011

$$\text{Drought index (\%)} = \frac{\text{AET}}{\text{PET}}$$

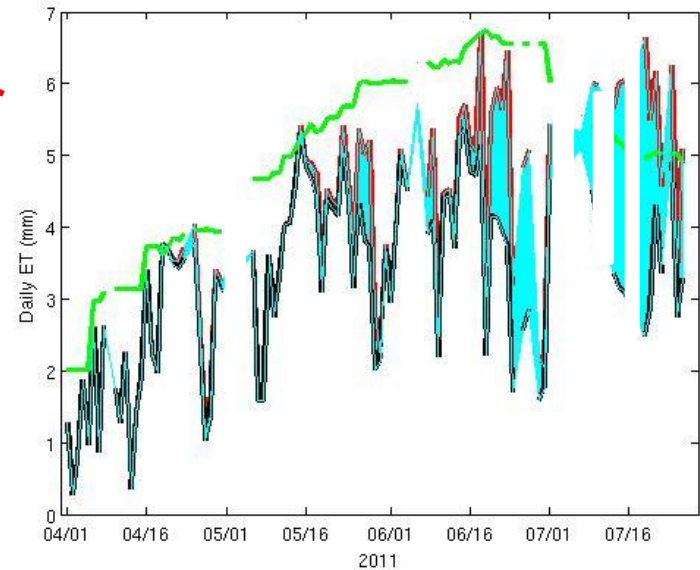
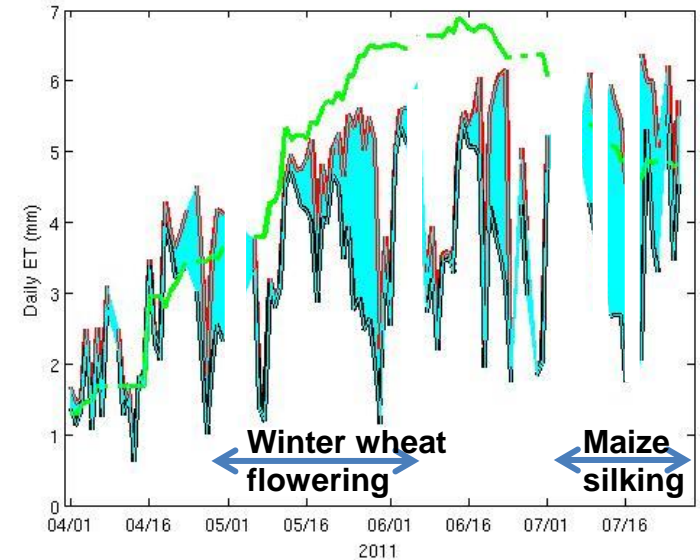


# Application perspectives

Agricultural drought  
Europe, Spring 2011



**PET - AET = Water deficit**



# Summary

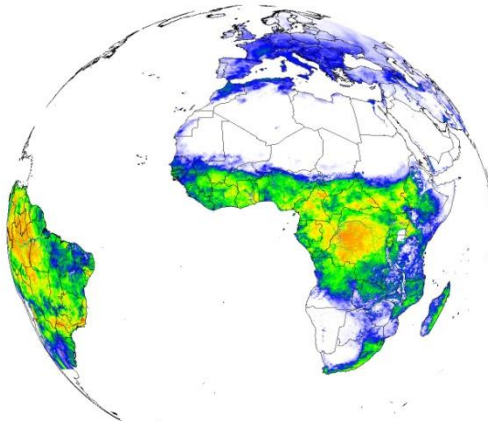
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Operational production in near-real time:

every 30 min & daily

3 km sub-satellite

(<http://landsaf.meteo.pt>)



(Provided by A. Arboleda)



ET [mm/h] for 2010/10/29 at  
12:00 UTC

- Evapotranspiration estimation over **wide** and **remote areas** in **near-real time**, thanks to remote sensing.
- LSA-SAF evapotranspiration products **monitor quantitatively the water loss** from the surface into the atmosphere.
- **Available products have been checked** and show good comparison with in-situ observations (at least) over Europe.
- **LSA-SAF ET products could be a useful tool for drought monitoring.**

Contact:            [nicolas.ghilain@meteo.be](mailto:nicolas.ghilain@meteo.be)