



Researchers study pros and cons of drip irrigation



The subsurface drip irrigation systems that have enhanced water use efficiency and increased yields in processing tomatoes may also have long-term effects on soil life that are worth monitoring.

Because drip emitters running down the center of the bed beneath the ground target irrigation delivery to the plants with precision, they may also leave important living organisms near the edges without a source of water. "Subsurface drip is used on 80 percent of the processing tomatoes in California," said Deirdre Griffin, UC Davis, soil chemist.

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