

**Project #9078 Improving Irrigation Water Use Efficiency
In Fresh Vegetables**

BRIEF

DESCRIPTION

Organize a series of soil moisture monitoring sites across several farm operations within a region of fresh vegetable production to evaluate the applicability of soil moisture monitoring techniques, particularly within a plastic mulch production system. The various soil moisture monitoring methods would be used to assist in scheduling irrigation. This would allow the involved growers and agri-business personnel a hands-on opportunity to examine and work with several means of scheduling irrigation and compare against their current irrigation scheduling strategy. The goal is to increase irrigation water use efficiency which will have beneficial impacts on production costs and reduce the impact on the environment.

PROJECT

OBJECTIVE

Up to 5 soil moisture monitoring sites will be established and maintained by a summer student based out of the Ridgeway OMAFRA location. Information gathered at these sites will be shared with the involved growers and interested agri-business through direct fax/email for the involved growers and through articles in OMAFRA Vegetable Crops Updates and newsletters. The information generated will be included in any field tours also.