

Water saving tips

A number of areas in South Africa experienced severe droughts during the first part of 2010, and in some areas the drought is continuing. Here are some water-conservation techniques for your farm and vegetable gardens.



Use correct watering techniques

- Water early in the day to reduce the loss of water through evaporation.
- Water less frequently, but for longer. This will allow for good root development.
- Check your hosepipes for leaks and be sure that sprinklers are positioned correctly, so that they water the grass or plants and not dirt roads or sidewalks.
- Remove weeds, as they use up valuable water meant for your vegetables.
- Use barrels or buckets to collect rainwater from gutters and roofs.

Mulch the soil surface

A 5 cm layer of mulch or compost in your vegetable garden can help to prevent water evaporation.

Install a drip irrigation system

An irrigation system can save up to 60% of all water used in a vegetable tunnel. 