

SSA 10 (Pertuis sea and Charente river basin) Agriculture-Irrigation



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Cemagref Bordeaux – ADER unit

Science and Policy Integration for COastal Systems Assessment





- How to describe the agriculture on the Charente watershed in a simple way ?
- Contribution to the definition of scenarios
- Contribution to the extend model (from the specific agro-hydrological model SWAT)



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Typology of farming systems



Data used : OTEX database, agricultural statistics, at the commune level

5 main types

livestock system : permanent grass and animal fodder.

mixed system : cattle farming, cereal farming and vineyard.

cereal system : cropping plan is essentially cereals (50%) and protein oil crops (25%). 60% of irrigated area and nearly 50% of water uptake. **grapevine system** : More than 50 % of the cropping plan is grapevine. It is the

Cognac vineyard. **mixed crop system** : cereal, protein

oil, grapevine. (19% of the irrigated area and 25% of the water uptake).



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Water uptake and irrigated crops Irrigate depending on the types of farming systems



85 000 ha of irrigated area and 3000 irrigated farms,

- Maize is the main irrigated crop and represents 80 % of the irrigated area.
- 60% of the maize area is irrigated.
- Irrigated farms usually have a bigger usable farm area and a higher yield.
- Watering uptake is variable (climate - average close to 90 Mm3 -
 - An average 156 mm is brought to the maize



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Defining crop management sequences and contribution to scenarios

Surveys →experts : agricultural advisers, chambers of agriculture

All the river basin area is concerned (samples)

Data collected :

- detailed agricultural practices (N, P, K, pesticides, irrigation)
- -- crop management sequence :

Dates of sowing, harvest, beginning and end of irrigation, date of treatments or runs on the plot,... \rightarrow one CMS/crop/system/area

- crops rotations \rightarrow main rotations
- Perception about scenarios of evolution of agriculture (2020)



Classification of the hydrological units using 43 variables (soil occupation, types of crops, types of soil, drainage, slopes) = 8 types



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Contribution to the definition of scenarios

Some predictable scenarios for agriculture :

-Irrigation measures (Irrig01/Irrig02) applied to a percentage of farmers

-- Substitution of main irrigated crop (corn) by other crops requiring less water (corn \rightarrow sorghum or winter crops)

- change in farming system irrigated \rightarrow non irrigated system

-New reservoirs/hydrographic units \rightarrow increase in available resources for irrigation \rightarrow less uptake in the river

-Decrease in irrigated area (more constraints from local policies, limitation of irrigating period)

-New crop rotations on the area -Increase in the usable farm area (more production)

One global scenario (example decreasing irrigated corn on the Charente river basin) = different local scenarios for each of the sub-basins in the hydrological model (in this case depending on the irrigated corn area and the agricultural system)



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From SWAT model

to Extend model

- Propositions to include in the extend model some main functions
- calculation of the need in irrigation /crop
- function of production and decrease of production if the need of the crop is not satisfied
- taking in account the different types of uptakes (river, reservoirs, groundwater) for irrigation
- Policy constraints (values of thresholds) limitation of irrigation





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- We provide aggregated data about agriculture on the watershed
 Level : Commune/HU → sub-basin of the hydrological module
- We provide simplified functions to be include in the extend model
- SWAT model is a specific agro-hydrological tool able to run combined agricultural scenarios (substitution of crops, rotation)→ we can provide expertise to improve the extend model



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