

# Ecological and water-use aspects of beet growing

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- Minimal water requirements
  - Only 10% of beet area in Northern Germany is irrigated
    - New irrigation systems use less water
    - Irrigation leads to very stable yields
- Highly water efficient compared to sugar cane
  - At least 50% less water use than cane
  - Due to the deep rooting (up to 2.5 m), even deep soil water can be used
- Can withstand high temperatures and saline soils
- No groundwater contamination
  - Due to lower and more efficient use of nitrogen
  - Low nitrogen residues in the soil due to the good rooting system
  - Very careful plant protection and strict legal conditions prevent contamination of pesticides in groundwater
  - In case of problems with groundwater, a self restriction was carried out (metabolites of chloridazon)

