

Use Case: Berry Smart! Grower Uses Wireless Sensor Network to Optimize Irrigation



Problem

Aware of the importance of optimizing his irrigation techniques to ensure bountiful harvests while conserving a limited water supply, a California strawberry farmer with decades of experience found that although his traditional methods had been working, they might not be sufficient to take his farm to the next level.

In the face of climate change, the imperative for sustainable agriculture, and increasingly strict water use regulations, he realized he needed to explore advanced farming practices. So, he set out to find a solution that could help him more efficiently manage irrigation at his farm, ensure the proper amount of soil moisture – even in times of drought – for the shallow root systems of strawberry plants, and secure his operation's long-term viability.

Solution

After learning about the benefits of smart monitoring technologies, the farmer selected the cost-effective [HOBOnet Wireless Sensor Network](#). This highly reliable remote monitoring solution enables users to connect up to 50 wireless sensors to a main cellular station, which then transmits data to [HOBOLink cloud software](#). With the easily installed HOBOnet system, users get: 24/7 access to crucial soil moisture, climate, and water level data; real-time alerts when conditions exceed set thresholds so they can react quickly to protect specialty crops; and the ability to generate reports that demonstrate compliance with local water use regulations.

Results

Since having installed the HOBOnet system – with wireless sensors deployed throughout his strawberry fields and at his water pump station – the grower has anytime access to the real-time data he needs to make informed decisions. He’s now able to pinpoint precise irrigation requirements, react quickly to issues like drainage problems and leaks, monitor water level & flow to ensure compliance, enhance water planning and demand forecasting, and protect his crops from disease and frost damage.

Overall, HOBOnet is providing the farmer with the critical data he needs to be able to navigate the complexities of modern agriculture, save money, optimize his resources by watering only where and when needed, and ensure sustainable and profitable strawberry farming practices for generations to come.

Thanks to HOBOnet, I’m not just growing strawberries, I’m growing them smarter! I’m optimizing my water usage, protecting my plants from dry soil, and protecting them from frost damage – all while maximizing my yield.

-California strawberry farmer

Products Used

Product	How it was used
HOBOnet Wireless Sensor Network	To remotely monitor soil, water, and climate conditions
HOBOLink Remote Monitoring Software	To get 24/7 access to data that enables informed decision-making that improves irrigation management

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