

18 October 2016

**Survey on the use of water in the agricultural sector
Year 2014**

**The amount of irrigation water used in the agricultural sector in
2014 increases 4.1% as compared with the previous year**

Water use in farms reached 15,129 cubic hectometres in the year 2014, indicating an increase of 4.1% as compared with the previous year.

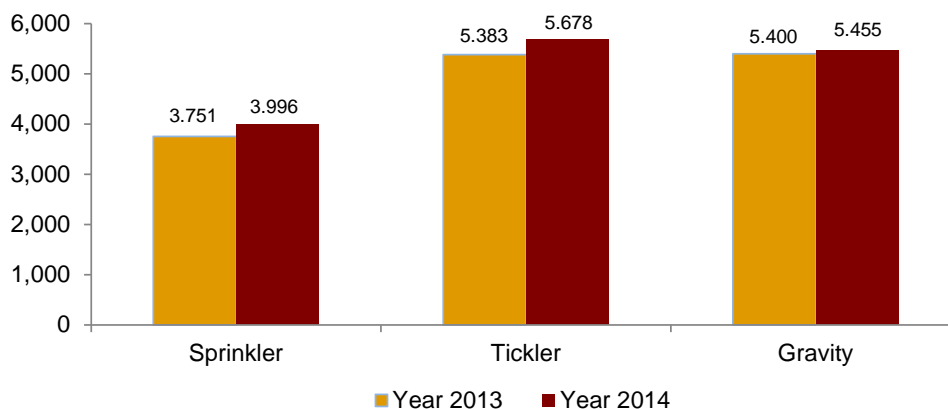
By irrigation technique, the amount of water in techniques applied to sprinkler via localised techniques increased 6.5%. In turn, crops techniques increased by 5.5% and the use of water in gravity increased by 1.0%.

Use of water by irrigation technique

Unit: thousands of m³

	Year 2014	% of the total	% of the total
1 Sprinkler	3,996,423	26.4	6.5
2 Tickler	5,677,825	37.5	5.5
3 Gravity	5,454,884	36.1	1.0
National Total	15,129,132	100	4.1

Use of irrigation water by irrigation technique
(in cubic hectometers)



By type of crop, *herbaceous crops* (cereals, leguminous plants, rice, corn and fodder crops), representing 55.7% of the total amount of irrigation water used in the agricultural sector, increased their water use by 2.6%. Conversely, water use in *potatoes and vegetables* registered an increase by 18.4%

Water use in *Olive grove and vineyard* registered a decrease, 10.4% below that registered the previous year, representing 8.8% of the volume of irrigation water used in 2014.

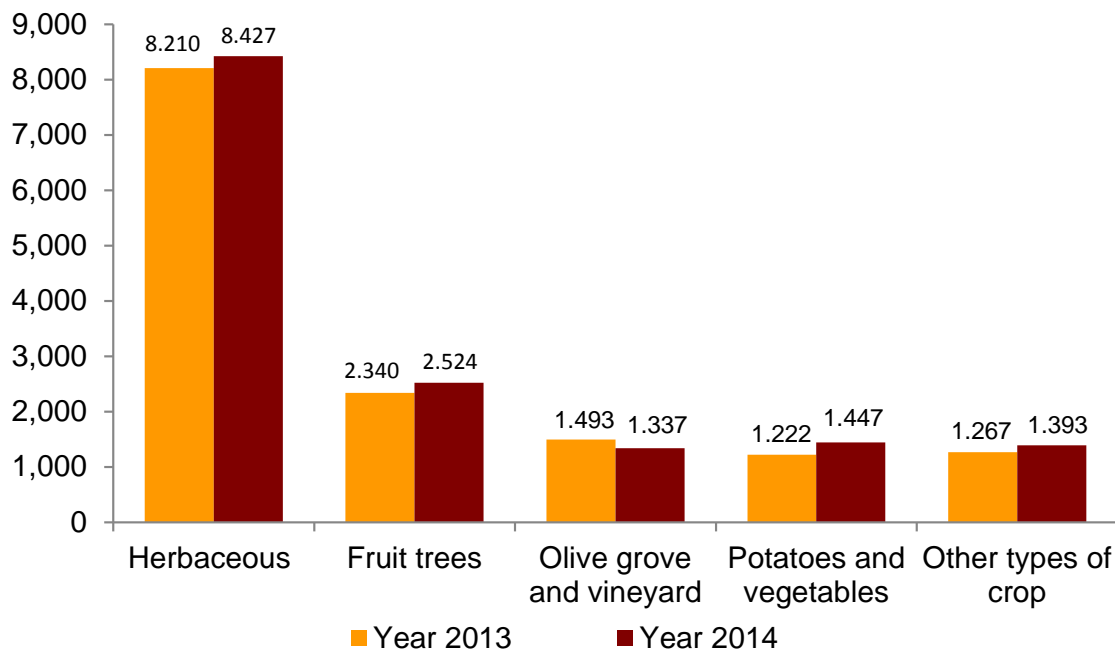
Use of water by type of crop

Unit: thousands of m³

	Year 2014	% of the total	% of the total
1 Herbaceous	8,427,206	55.7	2.6
2 Fruit trees	2,524,319	16.7	7.8
3 Olive grove and vineyard	1,337,503	8.8	-10.4
4 Potatoes and vegetables	1,446,926	9.6	18.4
5 Other types of crop	1,393,178	9.2	9.9
National Total	15,129,132	100	4.1

Use of irrigation water by type of crop

(in cubic hectometers)



Availability of water

75.7% of the water available for irrigation and other uses in 2014 came from surface water sources.

In turn, 22.4% came from groundwater sources and 1.9% from other water sources, such as desalinated water (marine or salubrious) or reused water (from waste water treatment plants).

Amount of irrigation water by origin

Unit: thousands of m³

	Year 2014	% of the total
Surface water	14,905,915	75.7
Groundwater	4,424,694	22.4
Other water resources	372,139	1.9
National Total	19,702,748	100

Results by Autonomous Community

The three Autonomous Communities that increased the most the volume of irrigation water in 2014 were Comunidad Valenciana (29.3%), Castilla y León (16.9%) and Región de Murcia (14.7%).

Conversely, the Autonomous Communities that decreased the most the volume of irrigation water were Comunidad Foral de Navarra (-13.3%), Castilla-La Mancha (-13.1%) and Extremadura (-11.1%).

Use of irrigation water by Autonomous Community

Unit: thousands of m³

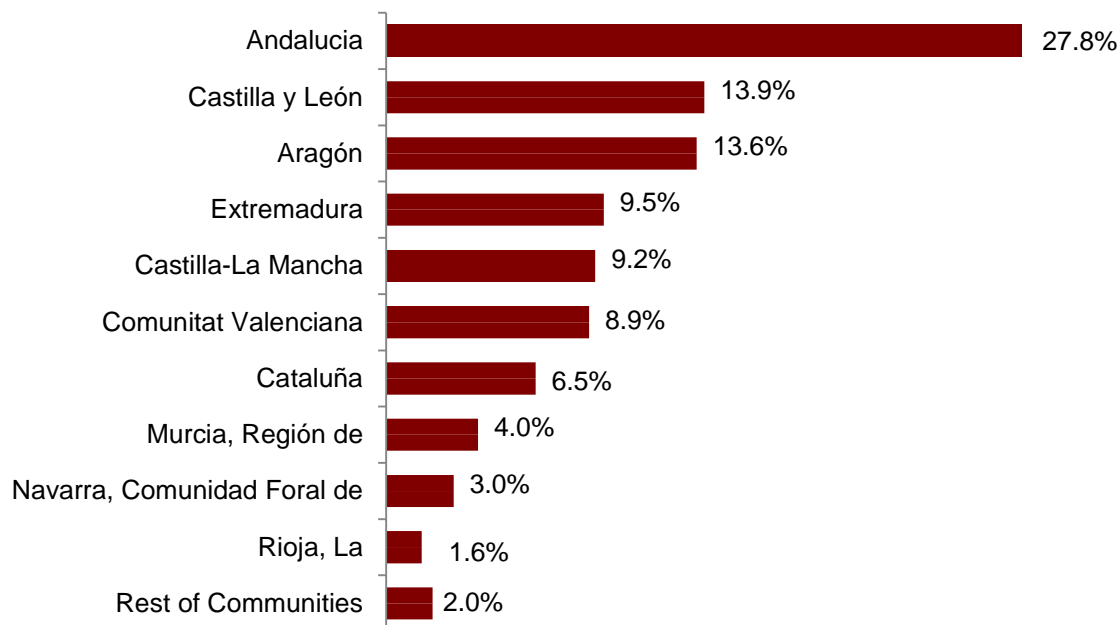
	Year 2014	% of the total	% of annual variation
Andalucía	4,204,812	27.8	11.7
Aragón	2,056,367	13.6	2.6
Castilla y León	2,107,261	13.9	16.9
Castilla-La Mancha	1,384,978	9.2	-13.1
Cataluña	990,328	6.5	-10.8
Comunitat Valenciana	1,343,012	8.9	29.3
Extremadura	1,441,677	9.5	-11.1
Murcia, Región de	609,319	4.0	14.7
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	446,784	3.0	-13.3
Rioja, La	236,462	1.6	-10.8
Rest of communities ¹	308,132	2.0	6.5
National Total	15,129,132	100.0	4.1

The Autonomous Communities that used the most water in 2014 were Andalucía (27.8% of the total), Castilla y León (13.9%) and Aragón (13.6%).

At the other end of the scale were La Rioja (1.6%), Comunidad Foral de Navarra (3.0%) and Región de Murcia (4.0%).

¹ All the Autonomous Communities with an irrigating area below 1% of the national total are grouped under the heading "Rest of the communities".

Percentage distribution of the amount of irrigation water by Autonomous Community



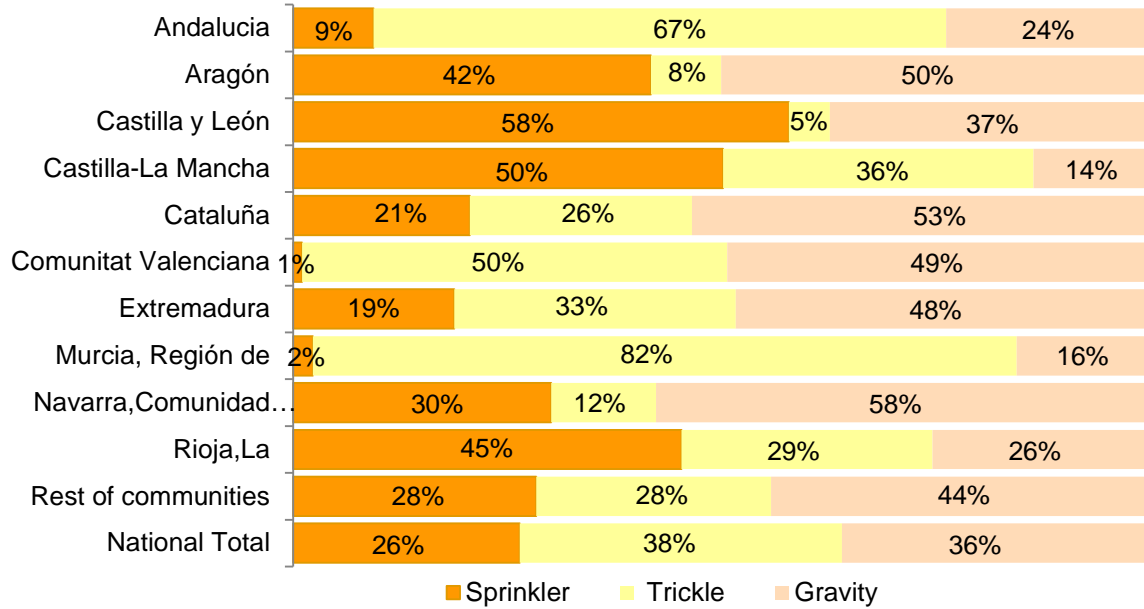
By irrigation technique, Castilla y León was the Autonomous Community that used the greatest volume of water in sprinkler. Regarding trickle irrigation, Andalucía registered the greatest volume of water. Finally, regarding gravity irrigation, Aragón registered the greatest use of water.

Amount of irrigation water by Autonomous Community and irrigation technique. Year 2014
Unit: thousands of m³

	Sprinkler	Trickle	Gravity	Total
National Total	3,996,423	5,677,825	5,454,884	15,129,132
Andalucía	395,252	2,804,610	1,004,950	4,204,812
Aragón	857,505	168,622	1,030,240	2,056,367
Castilla y León	1,217,524	100,765	788,972	2,107,261
Castilla-La Mancha	693,874	501,362	189,742	1,384,978
Cataluña	204,007	256,495	529,826	990,328
Comunitat Valenciana	14,312	665,400	663,300	1,343,012
Extremadura	271,035	472,870	697,772	1,441,677
Murcia, Región de	13,996	499,785	95,538	609,319
Navarra, Comunidad Foral de	134,482	54,507	257,795	446,784
Rioja, La	107,065	69,153	60,244	236,462
Rest of communities ¹	87,371	84,256	136,505	308,132

¹ All the Autonomous Communities with an irrigating area below 1% of the national total are grouped under the heading "Rest of the communities".

Percentage distribution of the amount of irrigation water by Autonomous Community and irrigation technique



Methodological note

The INE has been carrying out the *Survey on the use of water in the agricultural sector* in order to estimate the volume of irrigation water used by farms. The survey for 2014 is aimed at 532 irrigation communities.

The INE Central Companies Directory (CCD) is used as a reference framework, along with other supplementary information from administrative registers of the Ministry of the Environment, and Rural and Marine Environment.

The selection is exhaustive for those irrigation communities that include farms with a total area greater than 2,000 hectares. The irrigation communities with an area less than this magnitude are studied by sample, selecting a quota of entities previously stratified by size, using a commitment allocation that is either uniform or proportional.

For further information see [INEbase-www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm](http://www.ine.es/en/welcome_en.htm) All press releases at: www.ine.es/en/prensa/prensa_en.htm

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