OVERVIEW

Half of the world’s population relies on rice as their staple food supply, and over 80 million Ha, utilizing more than half the available freshwater, is dedicated to growing rice in flooded fields. The current and future potential for water scarcity applies pressure on the techniques rice farmers use to grow rice crops sustainably.

Knowing the current availability of water allows users to make decisions about actions and their immediate impact which can prevent financial loss or more serious consequences. On a large scale, knowing the water availability and usage allows for predictive analysis of future water availability and long-term impacts on a region’s ability to sustain itself. This is absolutely critical for informed policy decisions, investment and future growth.

The IntelliRice monitoring system incorporates affordable, reliable technology into a simple design that continuously monitors water resources within the rice field in which it is deployed. The sensors within the device track ponding water levels so that evaporative losses can be countered timely with flooded water inputs.

For those utilizing an alternate wet and dry technique (AWD) to reduce water loss, the water level sensor will also monitor water levels below the ground surface, while the moisture sensor will track any changes in soil moisture that might increase crop stress.

FACTS

Proper application of water is the most important variable in crop production

Seeing the big picture often leads to better decisions at the field level

The value of water is local; scarcity and access drive most of the perceived value

Monitoring
IntelliRice uses a non-contact sensing solution to monitor water levels to allow for the most versatile deployment options.

Communication
The system operates utilizing the 2.4GHz frequency RPMA network available globally.

Environmental
The system can operate for up to 24 months on battery or be upgraded to solar for longer life.

Water is the basis for life and growth. Not fully knowing how much you have makes it really hard to guess how long it will last.