

Southern Farming Systems (SFS) moisture probe network agreement

Background:

In 2013 SFS installed and have managed a network of soil moisture and temperature capacitance probes through branches at Inverleigh, Streatham, Hamilton, Gippsland and Tasmania. The initial cost of the probe hardware and data management was funded by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries & Forestry and the GRDC. This project funding has now ceased and new arrangements need to be put in place to continue operating the probe network.

SFS have recently developed a new web based platform for growers to interact with the probes. The new platform is very intuitive and allows users to look at soil moisture and temperature in relation to time. A subscription based login will allow subscribers to interrogate the probes and manage alerts for a range of moisture & temperature levels.

A series of meetings were held to consult with growers who currently host probes on their properties. From these meetings a new management structure and cost schedule were developed. These are detailed in the following text and in table 1. Probe hosts (property owners where the probes are located) pay the most but get the value of the measurements being relevant to their property. They also have a lot more options available in regard to information sharing and alerts from the platform. Current SFS members can access information on two levels. Full access or limited access. All members and the public are eligible to purchase and install probes which will be accessible via a subscription to the platform. Non-members can also purchase access to the platform at levels indicated below.

Table 1:

Subscriber levels	Probe host \$400	SFS member full access \$200	SFS member limited access \$50	Non-member subscriber \$400	Non- subscriber Free
Probe on farm	Yes	No	No	No	No
Access to additional probes*	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Moisture & temperature graphs	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No
Extra login. (eg. Agronomist or son)	Yes	No	No	No	No
Shared alerts (x 2 nominated people)	Yes	No	No	No	No
Unlimited alerts	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	No
Unlimited summaries	Yes	Yes	No	No	No
Weekly summary only			Yes	Yes	No
Eligible probe host	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
Moisture map view	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes

An instructional demonstration video of the new web platform is available on the SFS YouTube channel for growers to preview its capabilities. Go to the SFS web site and select the moisture probe tab and follow the link to the video. Queries on platform capabilities and subscriptions can be directed to:

SFS Project Coordinator Paul Breust. Mob: 0417 154945. Email: pbreust@sfs.org.au

For members who are considering purchasing & installing a probe on their properties we have provided an indicative price list for probe and weather station hardware. Weather station data can be a valuable asset for spray records, delta T parameters and frost incidence. Future upgrades of the platform are planned to collect & report on additional data collected by other sensing equipment. If you wish to purchase and or install probe and weather monitoring equipment you can add it to this subscription form below.

Additional equipment cost & request

Equipment	Costs (GST inc.)	Number	Total
Soil moisture probe 80cm	\$1089.00		
RTU & upgraded solar panel	\$3148.20		
Davis auto rain gauge (with bird spikes)	\$159.50		
Tekbox wind speed & direction sensors	\$1980.00		
Tekbox temperature & relative humidity sensors	\$599.50		
20m cable extension	\$66.00	1*	
10cm single moisture sensor	\$253.00	1*	
Wiring junction box	\$256.00	1*	
Total (inc GST)			

**Must be used for all installations*

Level of access requested + probe numbers required

Probe host (1 or 2)..... + (\$400 + \$50 for each additional probe) **Total \$**

Probe name:..... Additional probe name/s:..... Cost:\$.....

SFS member full access + (\$200 + \$50 for each additional probe)

Probe name:..... Additional probe name/s:..... Cost:\$.....

SFS member limited access + (\$50 + \$50 for each additional probe)

Probe name:..... Additional probe name/s:..... Cost:\$.....

Non-member subscriber + (\$400 + \$50 for each additional probe)

Probe name:..... Additional probe name/s:..... Cost:\$.....

The agreement

This agreement is between SFS and of

Address: Town:..... Postcode:.....

Mobile:..... Email:.....

Conditions

The subscriber (named above) agrees to:

- Pay an annual subscription for nominated level (indicated above) on the date of lodgement.
- Share any data collected under the administration of SFS.
- Maintain security of all login information. Sharing login information with a third party will void the agreement. All funds will be retained by SFS and the offending subscriber will be excluded from future software access.
- Replace any probes or ancillary hardware damaged as a result of mismanagement or neglect.
- Allow data collected from their equipment to be shared at the discretion of SFS for research and development opportunities.

The service provider (SFS) agrees to:

- Provide access to moisture probe information at nominated level to view and interact with data on PC's and selected hand held devices.
- Establish subscriber log in access at nominated level.
- Maintain a reliable SMS and email messaging service via the moisture probe interface
- Maintain probes at full operational capacity where it is their capacity to do so
- Repair (make good) any software or hardware failure within seven days of notification. SFS commit to providing a reliable web based software
- Maintain security of any data generated by the probes and instruments.
- Install upgrades or new equipment purchased by subscribers within 30 days of request (dependent on unavailability)

Payment information

Direct deposit	NAB A/c name: Southern Farming systems Ltd	
BSB: 083 585	Account number: 48502 8326	Reference (your name)
Credit card	Card type	Name on card
Card No. <input type="text"/>	Expiry M/Y __ / ____	CCV ___ Amount: \$.....

I (Print name) agree to all terms and conditions outlined above.

Signed by subscriber

Date.....

(Print name SFS representative)

Signed on behalf of SFS

Date.....