

4 Irrigation - Drip systems

4.1 Drip irrigation with rope pump



Description:

Low pressure drip systems like the KB drip can be coupled directly to a treadle pump or rope pump.

Advantages compared to a bucket or hose:

- Less work to irrigate a certain area;
- Can irrigate 200 tomato plants in 10 minutes;
- More efficient water use, less water per plant.

Disadvantages compared to a bucket or hose:

- More expensive;
- More complicated to manage;
- Installation requires skilled people.

Treadle pumps and sprinkler irrigation

With the high pressure of a treadle pump a sprinkler system can be connected.

Information:

- Drip irrigation can irrigate surfaces of 10 to 10,000 square meters.
- Maximum area to be connected to a treadle pump or rope pump 1,000 square meters.
- Cost depend on surface and system used.
- Cost indication: **USD 15 - 25/100 square meters** (for KB drip directly connected to a rope pump).
- Producers: Info at SMART Centres Tanzania and Malawi.



Top photo: Rope pump directly connected to a drip irrigation system of 100 - 200 square meters.

Bottom photo: Drip irrigation with a pedal rope pump.