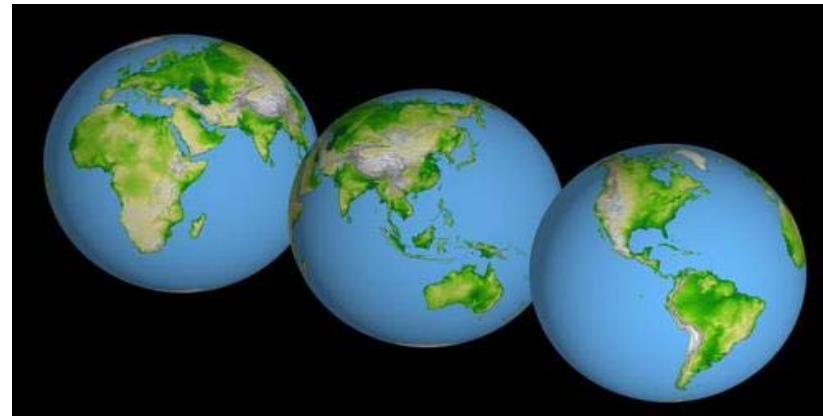




### The Planet's water reserves, allocation and use

EcoCover conserves precious water

The planet's largest fresh water waste is in agriculture and horticulture



Water covers 74% of the Earth's surface

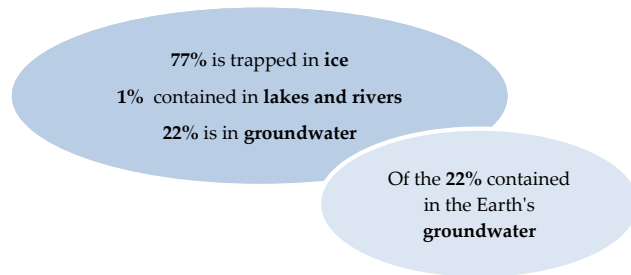
Oceans hold 97% of the Earth's water

The balance of 3% is fresh water

Of the 3% available fresh water.....

77% is trapped in ice  
1% is contained in lakes and rivers  
22% is in groundwater

### The fresh water continuum:



Of this 22% groundwater reservoir, from just 3% of the total Planet's water:

10% available for **domestic use** (Earth's pop. approx. 6.8bn);

20% available for **industrial use**;

70% available for **agriculture / horticulture** (the Planet's food chain).

**Agriculture / horticulture uses 7 times over the Planet's entire available supply of clean domestic water (drinking, etc)**

### Comment on agriculture / horticulture water use:

Water losses in agriculture are in the vicinity of 50 - 80% depending on 5 key factors

- crop choice - soil type, climate, hydrology
- technology - type of irrigation and delivery system determines efficiency of water usage
- type of control structure for water delivery - fixed, moving
- the farmer's skill level and knowledge
- central agency and its policy. Free or low cost water offers the farmer no incentive to save

**Such losses are unsustainable due to shrinkage and contamination of groundwater reserves and climate change**

### The EcoCover water conservation solution for row, vine and tree farmers:

Refer <http://www.ecocover.com/research-and-development.php> University R&D report, section 2.4 Water Conservation

**EcoCover conserves up to 80% of water in the soil by minimising evaporation losses - less water is therefore required**