



Measuring and modelling evapotranspiration to understand water demands in a dairy farm

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*OzFlux Meeting
July 4, 2012*





NIWA

National Institute of Water & Atmospheric Research Ltd.

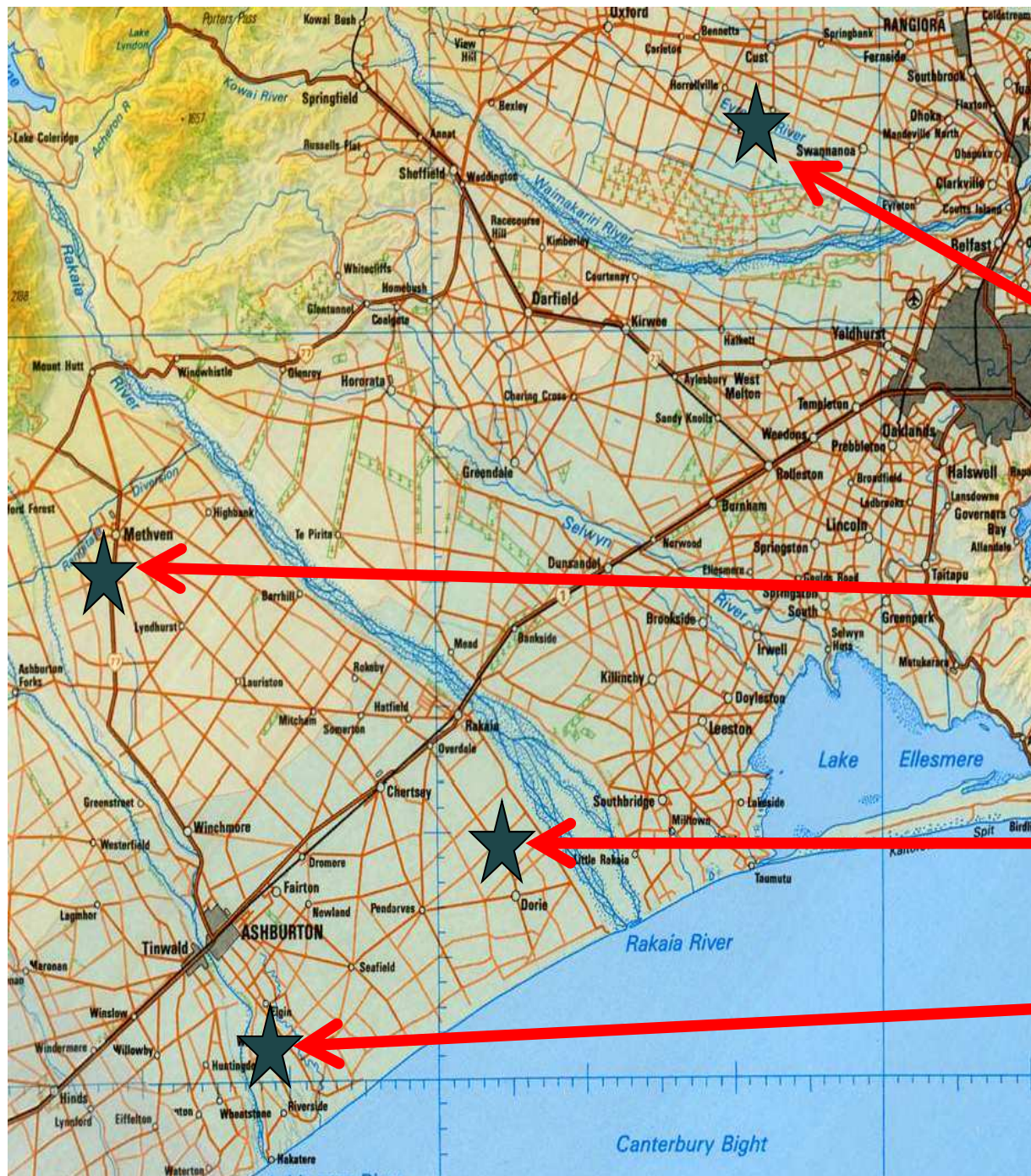
- Drivers: hydrology & water balance
- ET and drainage– least measured among water cycle components
- Initiatives & funding (2010-11)
 - Waterscape MSI & Capex
 - Local regional council's interest in drainage & groundwater recharge

NIWA's Eddy Covariance towers

Methven tower

Wakanui tower





Lysimeter sites

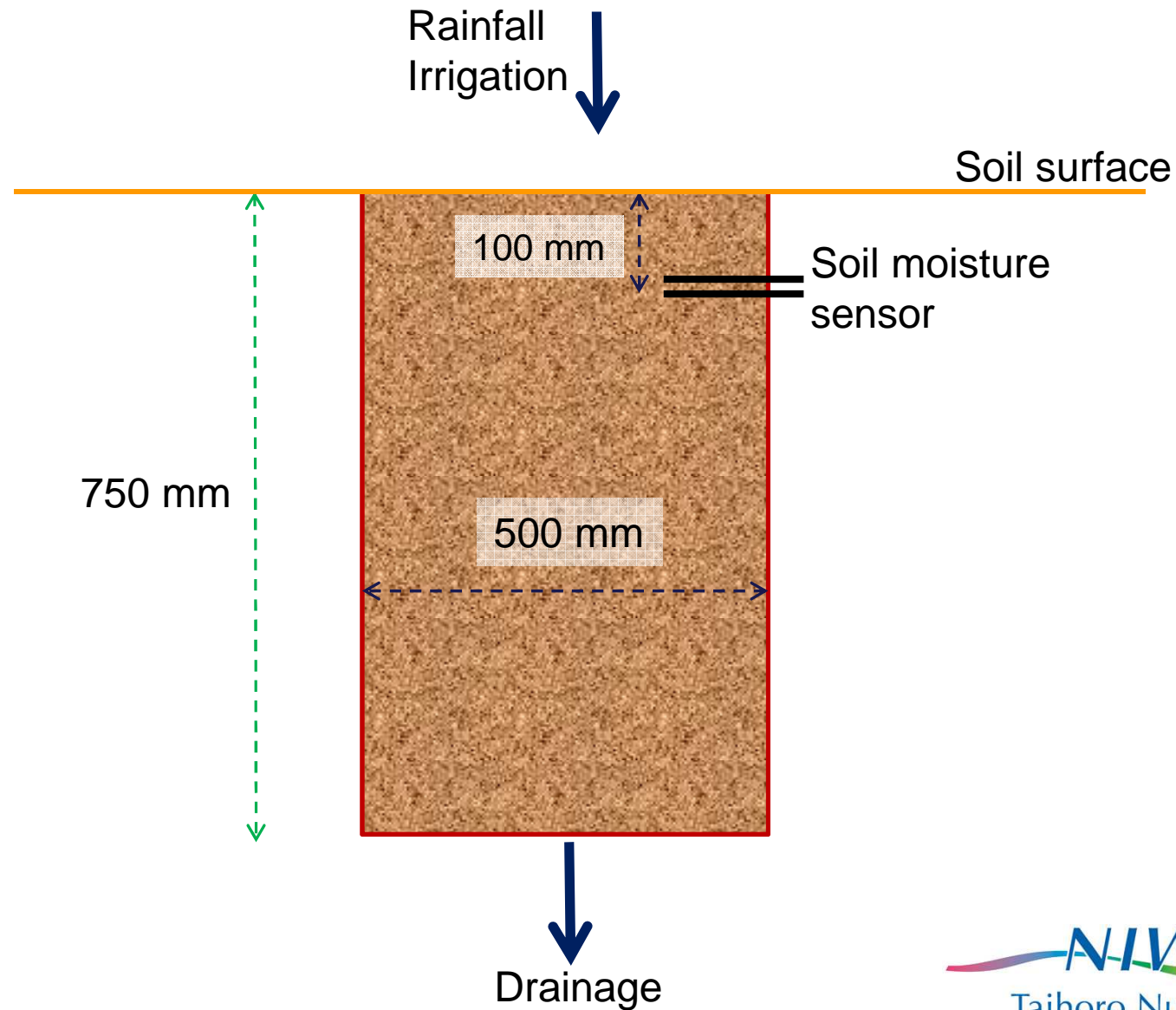
West Eyreton
Rain ~550 mm/y
shallow stony
soils, dairy

Methven
Rain ~900 mm/y
shallow stony
soils, dairy

Dorie
Rain ~550 mm/y
deep silt loam
dairy

Wakanui
Rain ~ 550 mm/y,
deep silt loam
cropping

Drainage Lysimeters



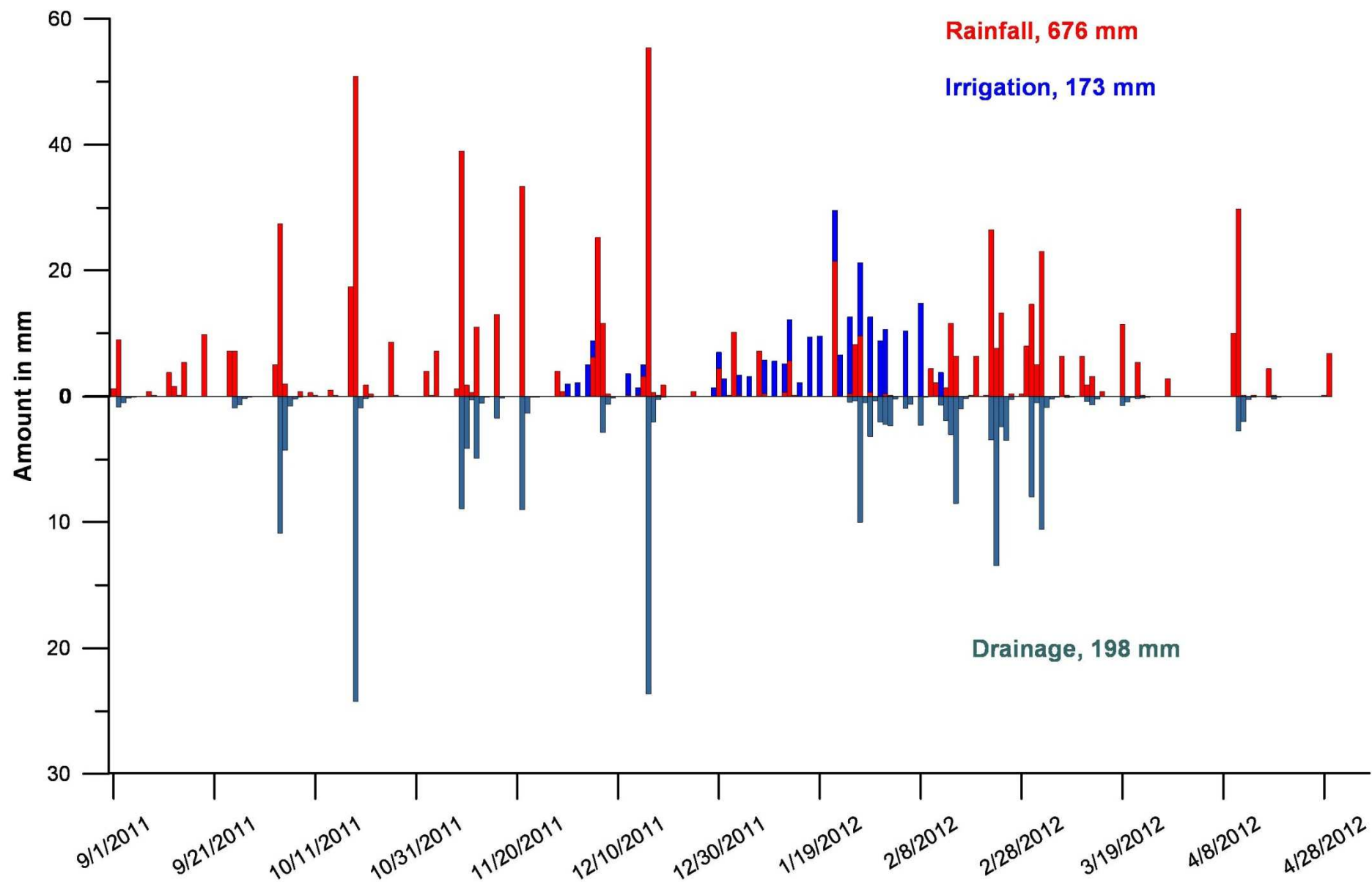


Science opportunities

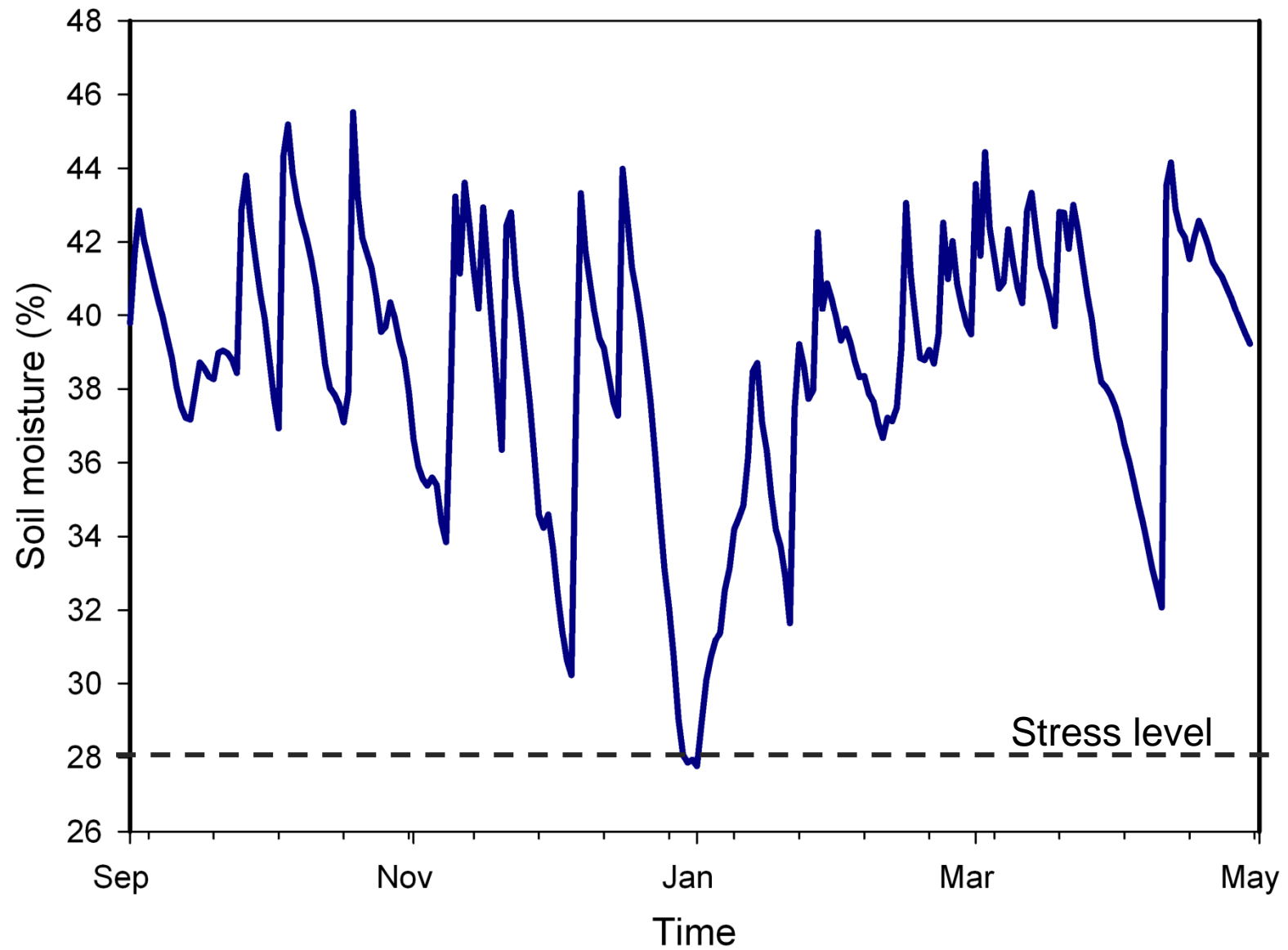
- Unique opportunity to compare evapotranspiration estimates from
 - Lysimeter-based water balance
 - Calculation from meteorological variables (Penman-Monteith, Penman and Priestley-Taylor methods)
 - Direct measurement from eddy covariance tower
- Measurement of groundwater recharge
- Check on irrigation efficiency



Results from 2011-12 for Methven



Soil moisture

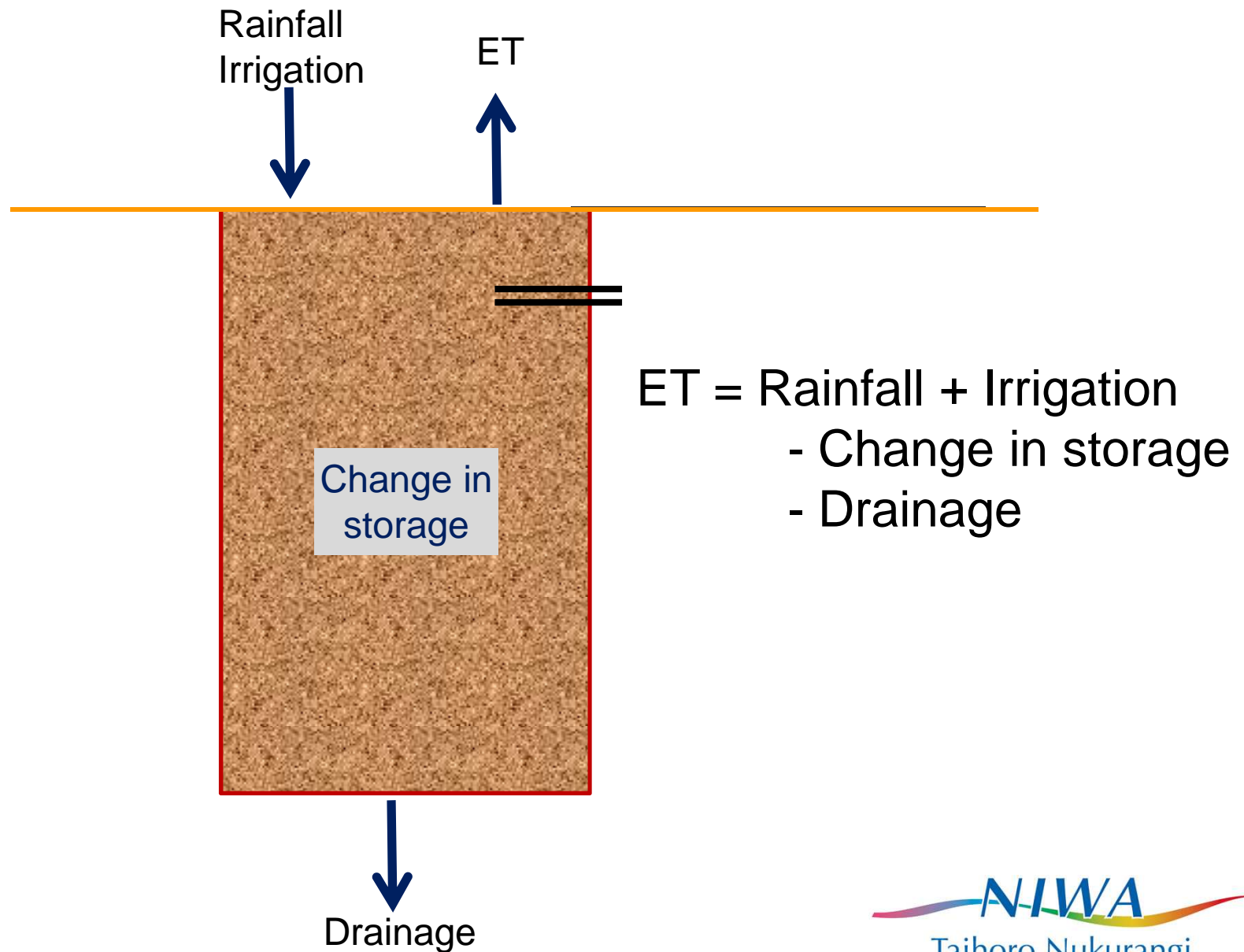




ET over the entire irrigation season (Sep 1, 2011 – Apr 30, 2012)

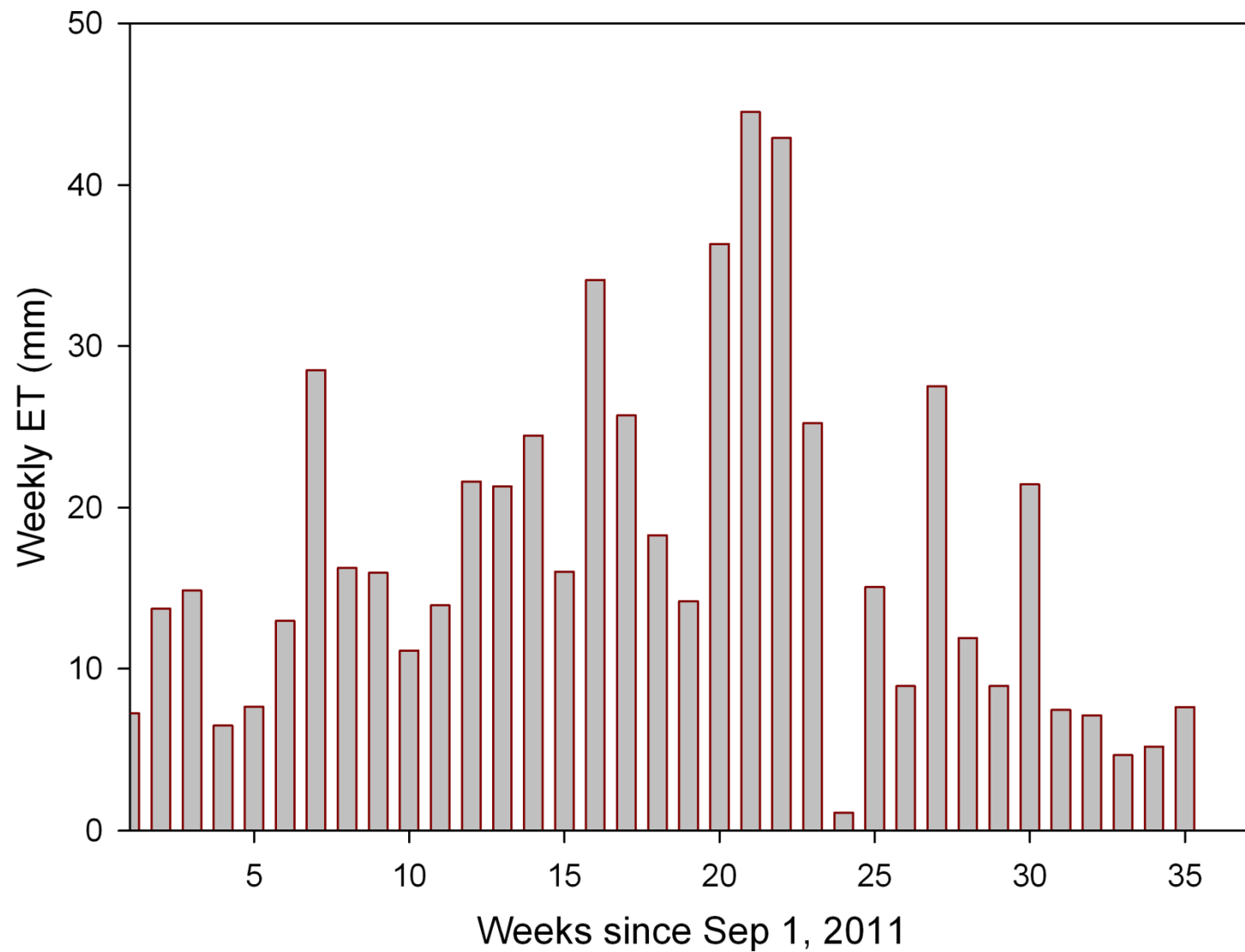
Eddy Covariance tower	542 mm
Water balance approach	659 mm
Priestly-Taylor method	660 mm
Penman-Monteith method	691 mm
Penman method	842 mm

Water balance approach





ET from water balance approach





Priestley-Taylor

- Based on energy balance
- Multiplicative scalar of 1.26, corrects for effect of wind and vapour pressure deficit
- Assumes aerodynamic ET increases linearly with radiation
- Won't pick up night-time ET due to high wind.
- Good when radiation is dominant driver of ET
- Underestimates when wind speed is a significant driver
- Underestimates particularly in winter



Penman

- Combined energy balance and turbulent transfer of heat/moisture
- Considers wind speed and vapour pressure deficit
- Assumes air at leaf surface is saturated
- Assumes resistance to heat and moisture transfers are equal
- Thought to overestimate ET when ET is high



Penman-Monteith

- Adaptation of Penman method
- Defines a surface resistance for water movement between inside plant and air (depends on stomatal resistance and 'active' leaf area index)
- Defines an aerodynamic resistance for moisture movement away from plant which depends on roughness of surface

$$HT = \frac{D}{D + \gamma} (R_n - G)$$

$$PET_{PT} = 1.26 \frac{HT}{\lambda}$$

$$PET_{PEN} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \left(HT + \left(\frac{\gamma}{D + \gamma} \right) \left(6.43 \times vpd \times (1 + 0.0062 \times \text{WindRun}) \times \frac{\text{timestep}}{3600 \times 24} \right) \right)$$

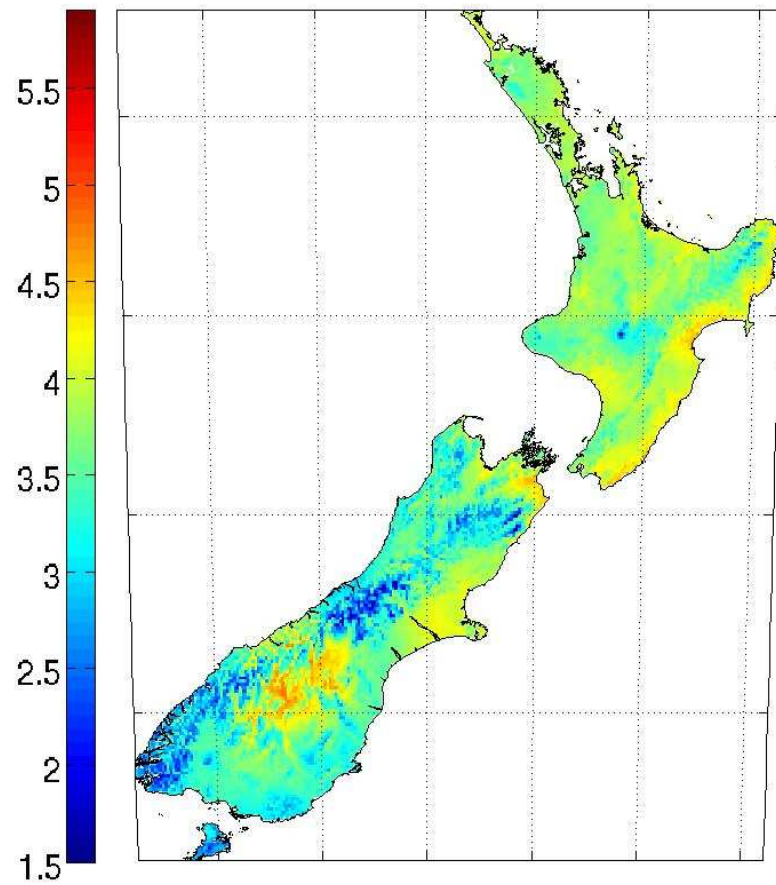
$$PET_{PM} = \frac{1}{\lambda} \frac{D(R_n - G) + \frac{\rho \times c_p \times vpd \times \text{timestep}}{r_a}}{D + \gamma \left(1 + \frac{r_s}{r_a} \right)}$$

$$r_a = \frac{\ln \left(\frac{z_m - d}{z_{0m}} \right) \times \ln \left(\frac{z_h - d}{z_{0h}} \right)}{k^2 \times U}$$

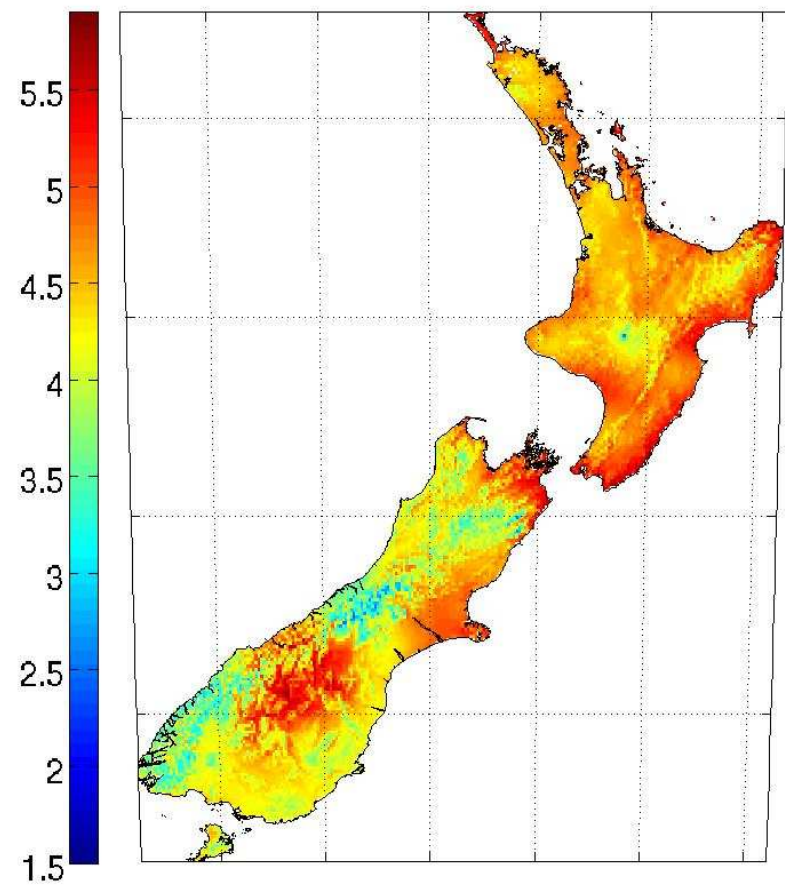
$$\rho c_p = \frac{\gamma \epsilon \lambda}{T_v R}$$

$$r_s = \frac{LAI}{r_{stomatal}}$$

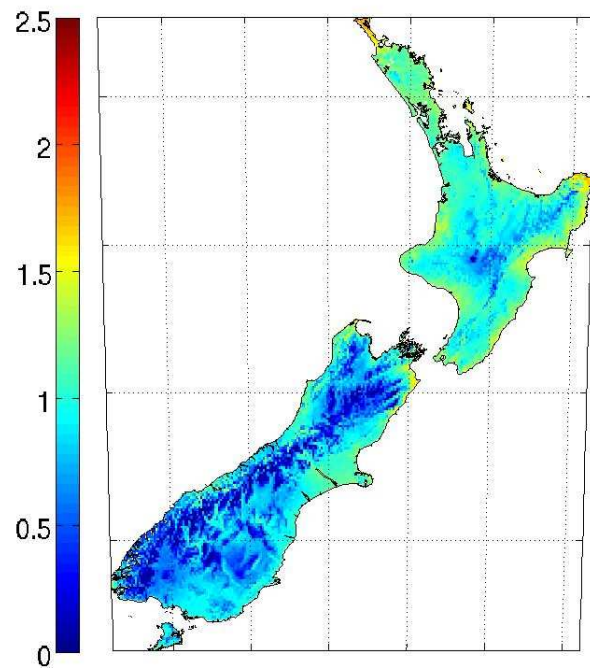
Mean Summer Daily Evapotranspiration in mm/day
Penman-Monteith



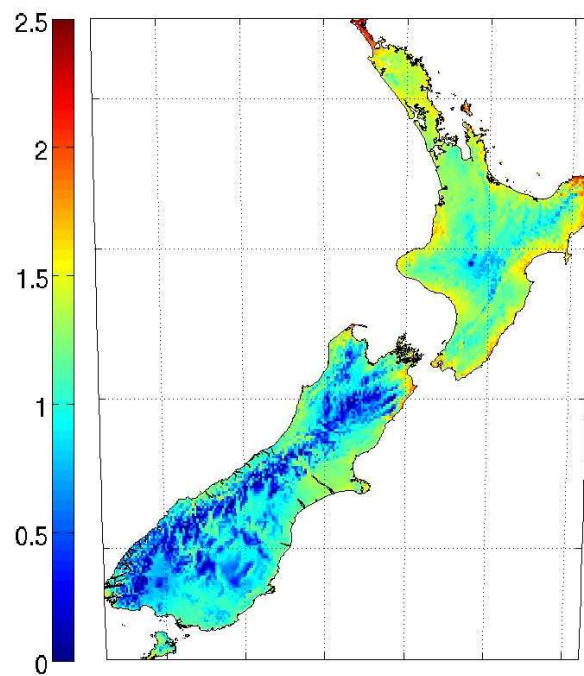
Mean Summer Daily Evapotranspiration in mm/day
Penman



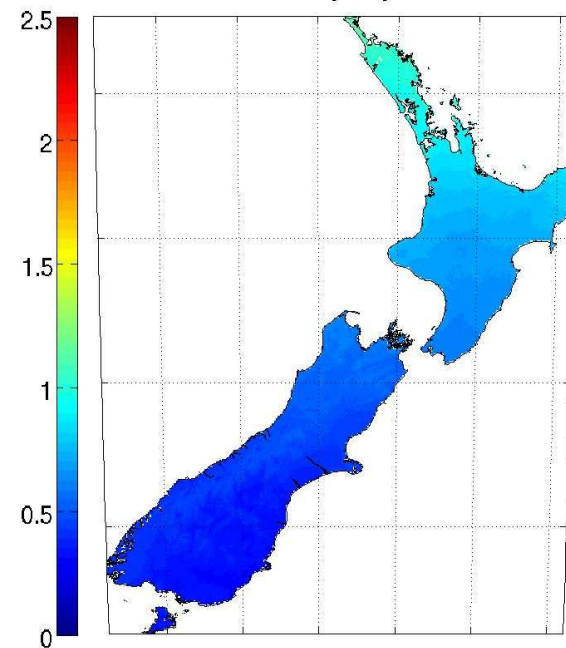
Mean Winter Daily Evapotranspiration in mm/day
Penman-Monteith

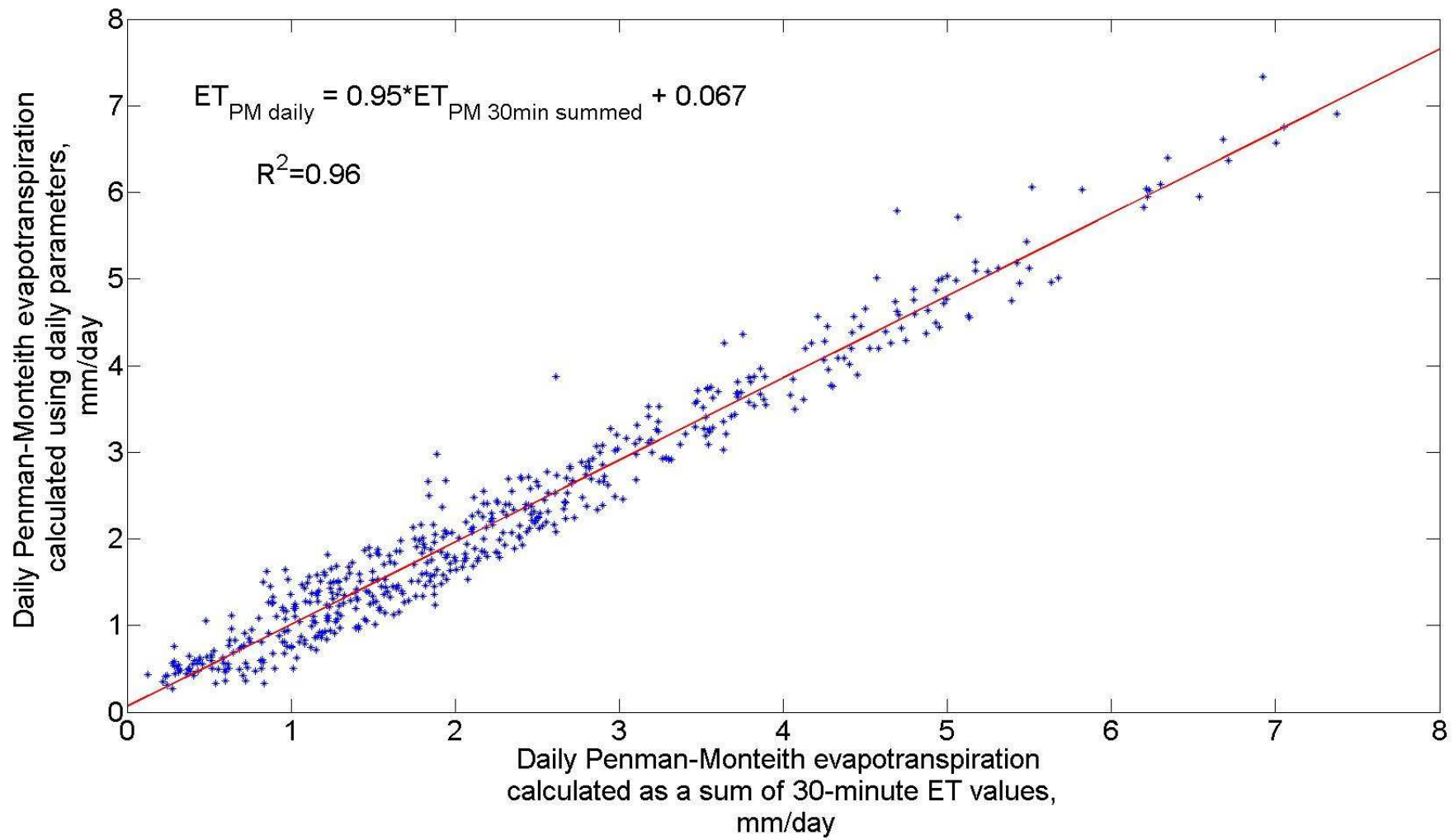


Mean Winter Daily Evapotranspiration in mm/day
Penman

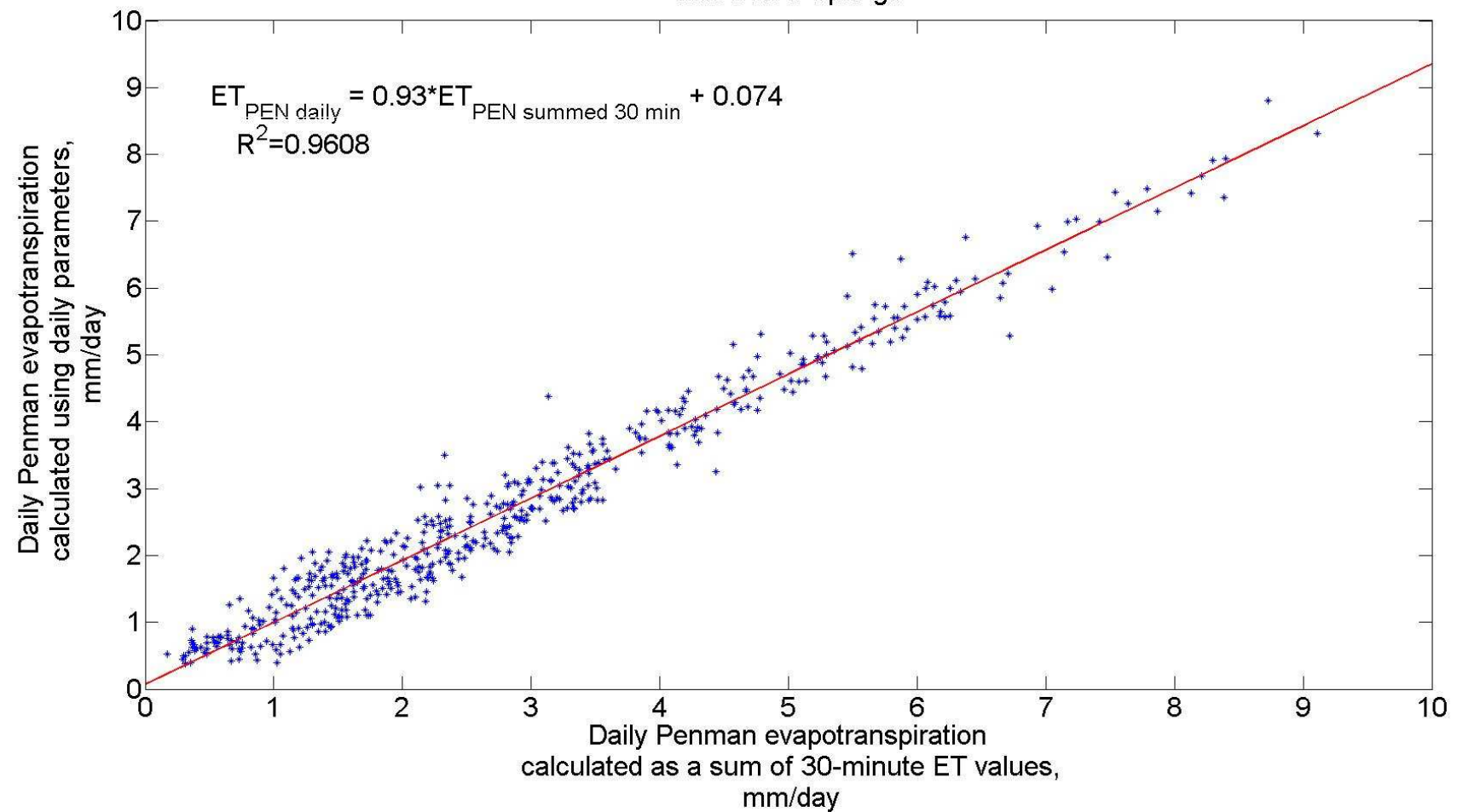


Mean Winter Daily Evapotranspiration in mm/day
Priestley-Taylor

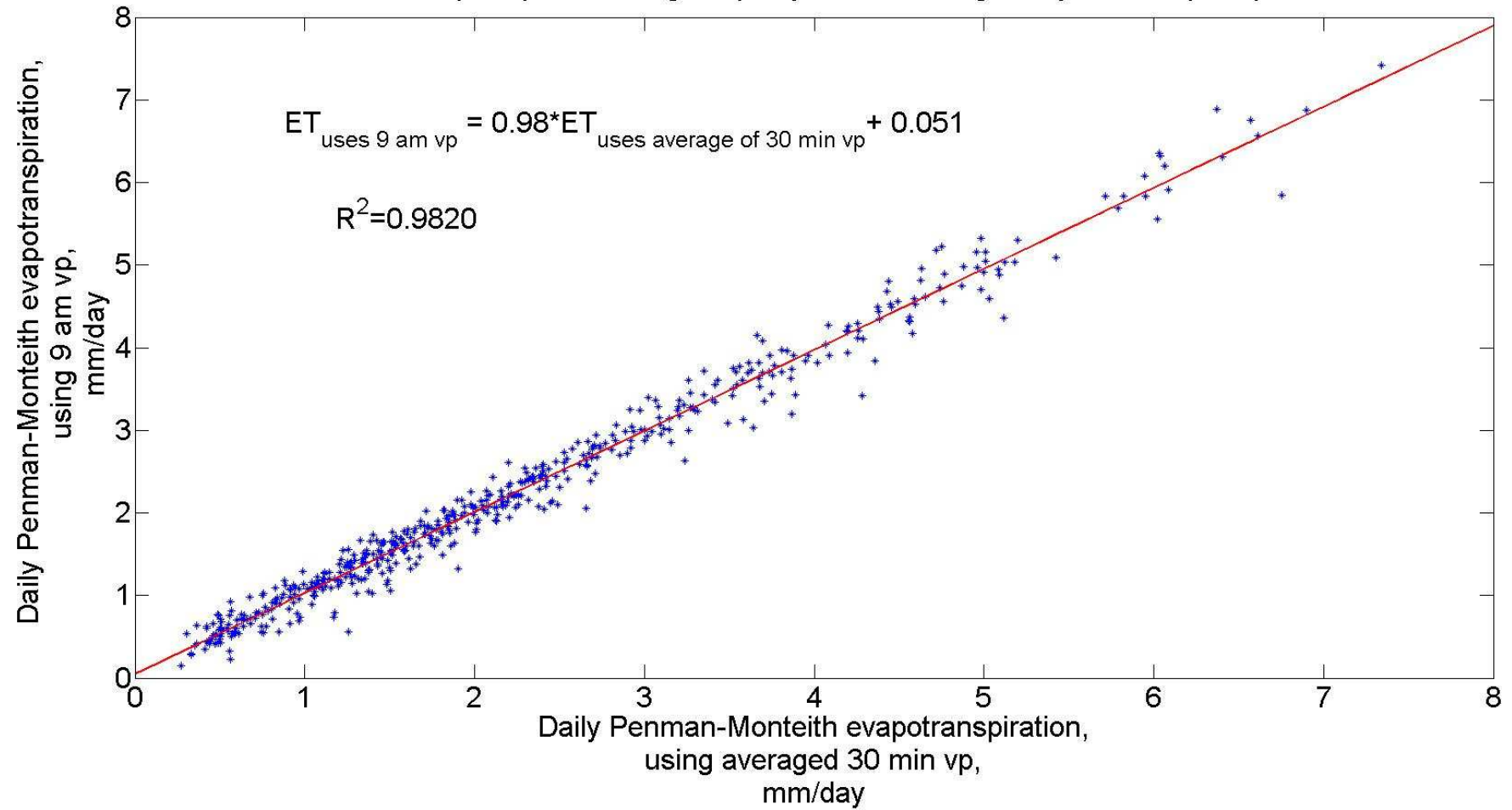


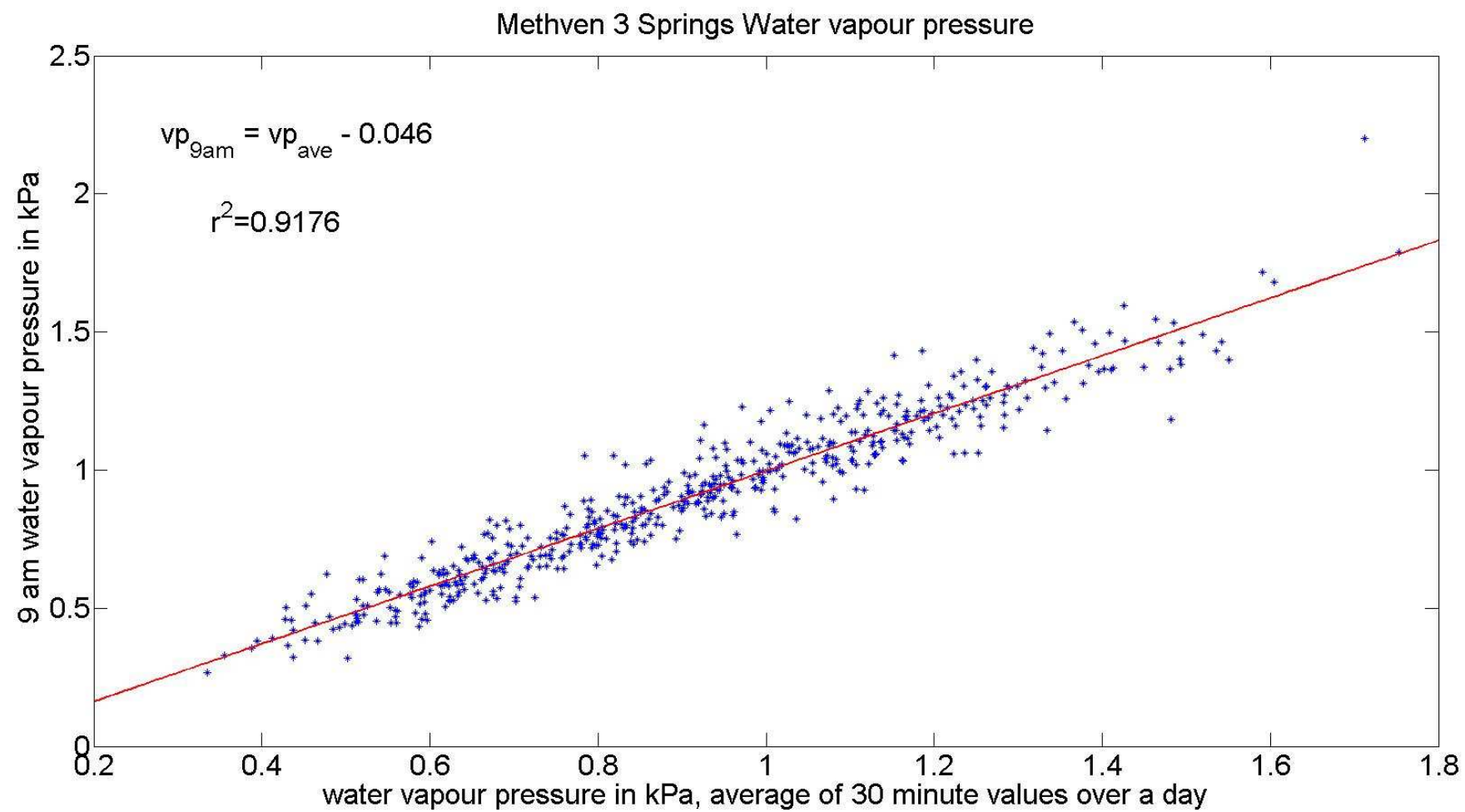


Penman daily ET vs Penman summed 30min ET
Methven 3 Springs

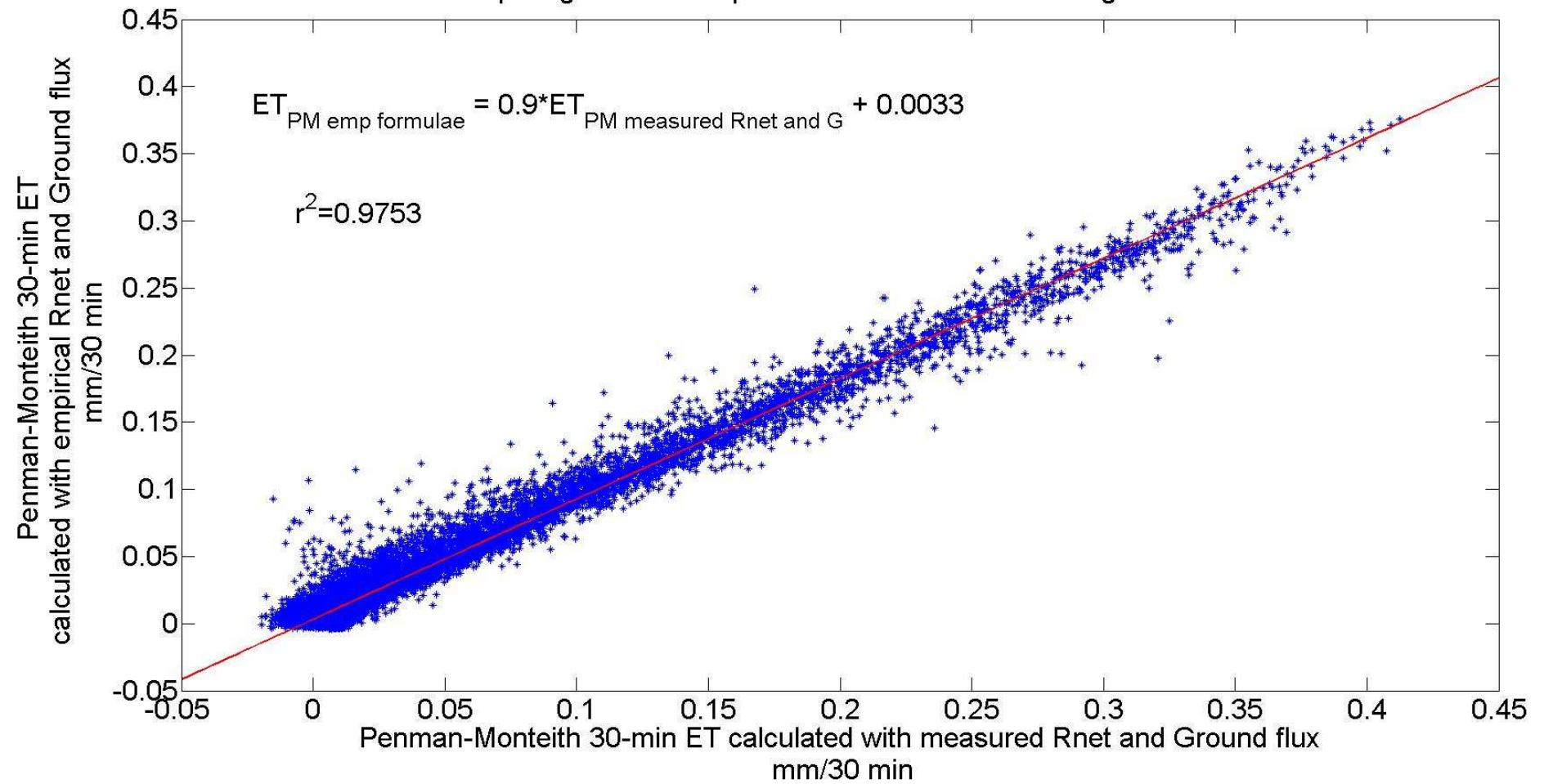


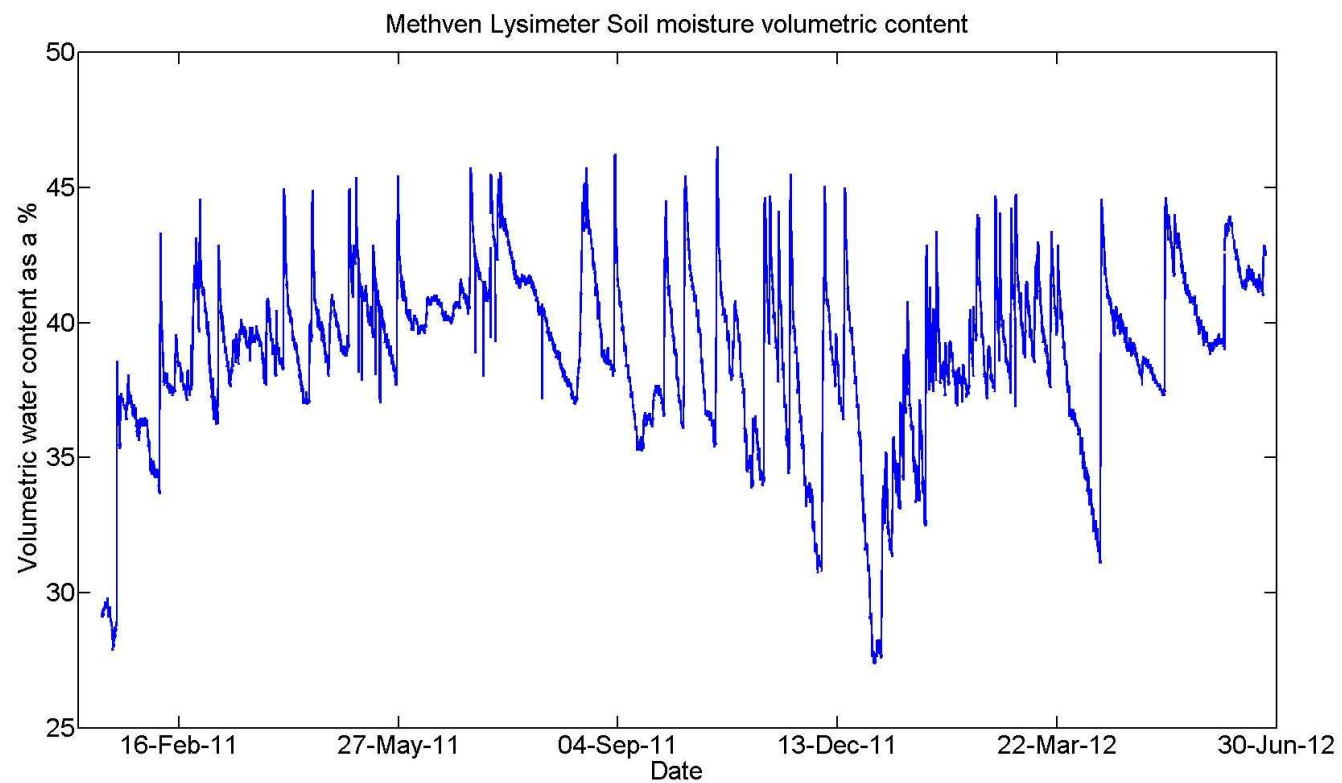
Is 9 am water vapour pressure a good proxy for the average daily water vapour pressure?





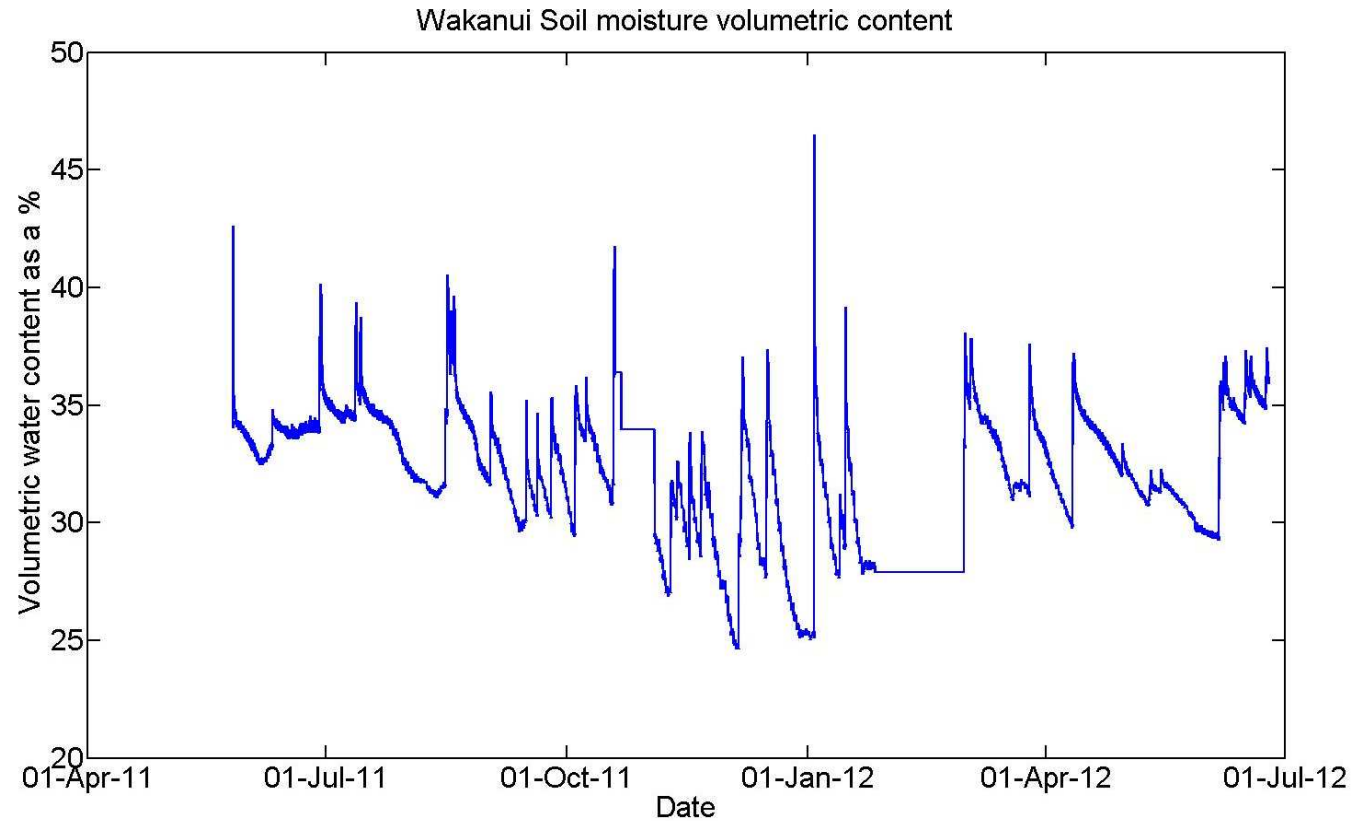
Comparing effect of empirical vs measured Rnet and ground flux





Saturation 46%
Field Capacity 40%
Minimum 27%

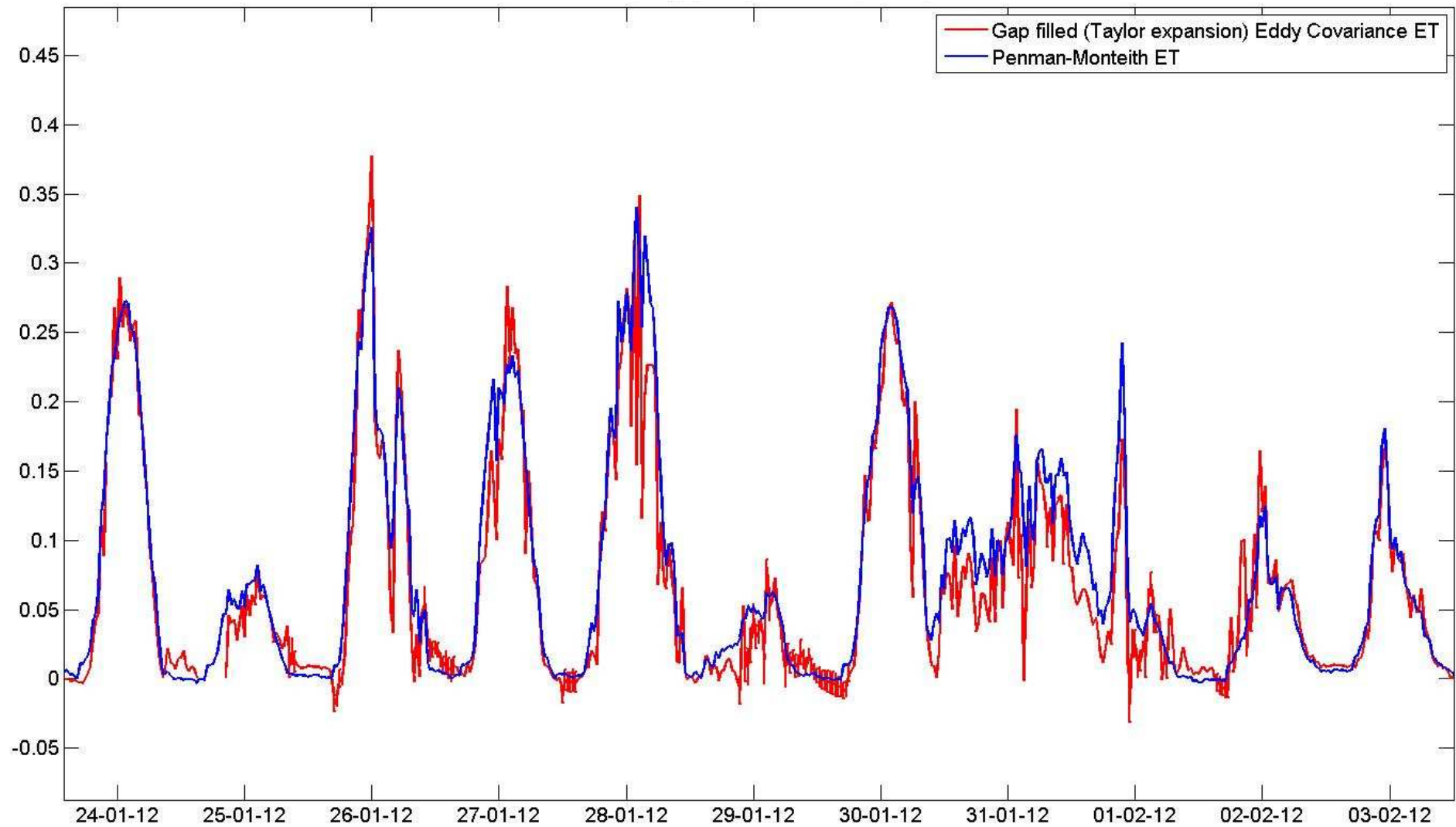
Not water limited

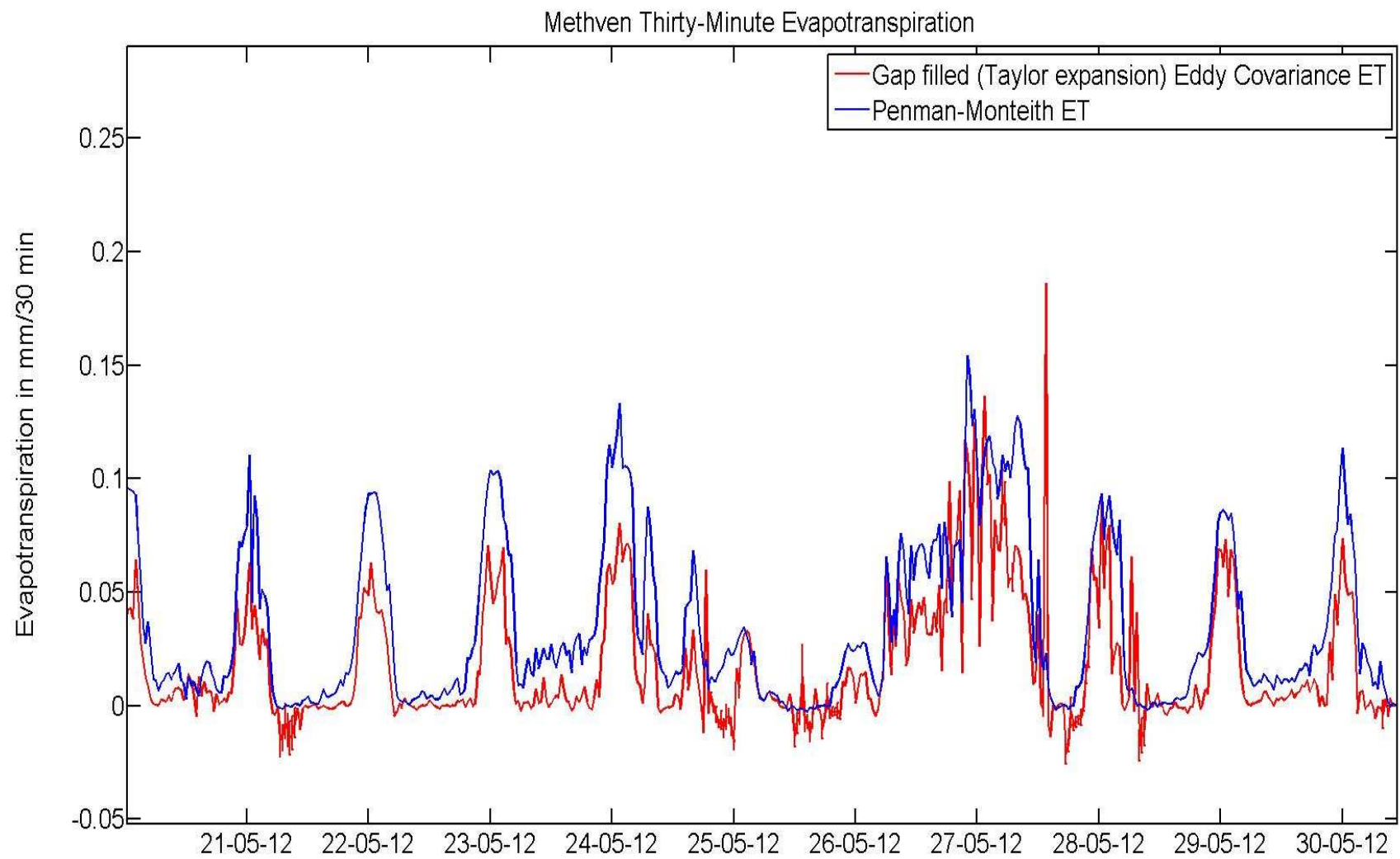


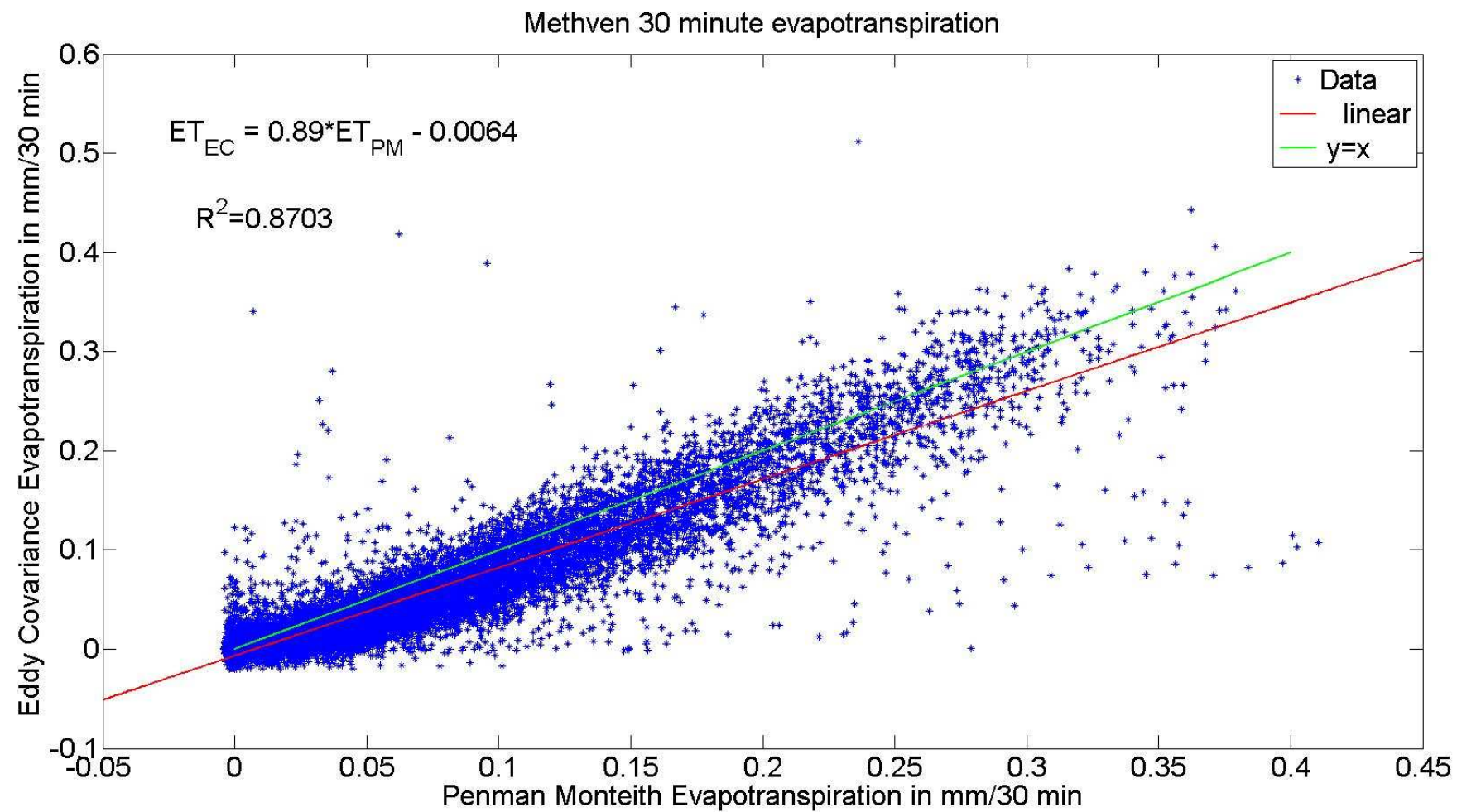
Saturation >46%
Field Capacity 30-34 %
Minimum 24%

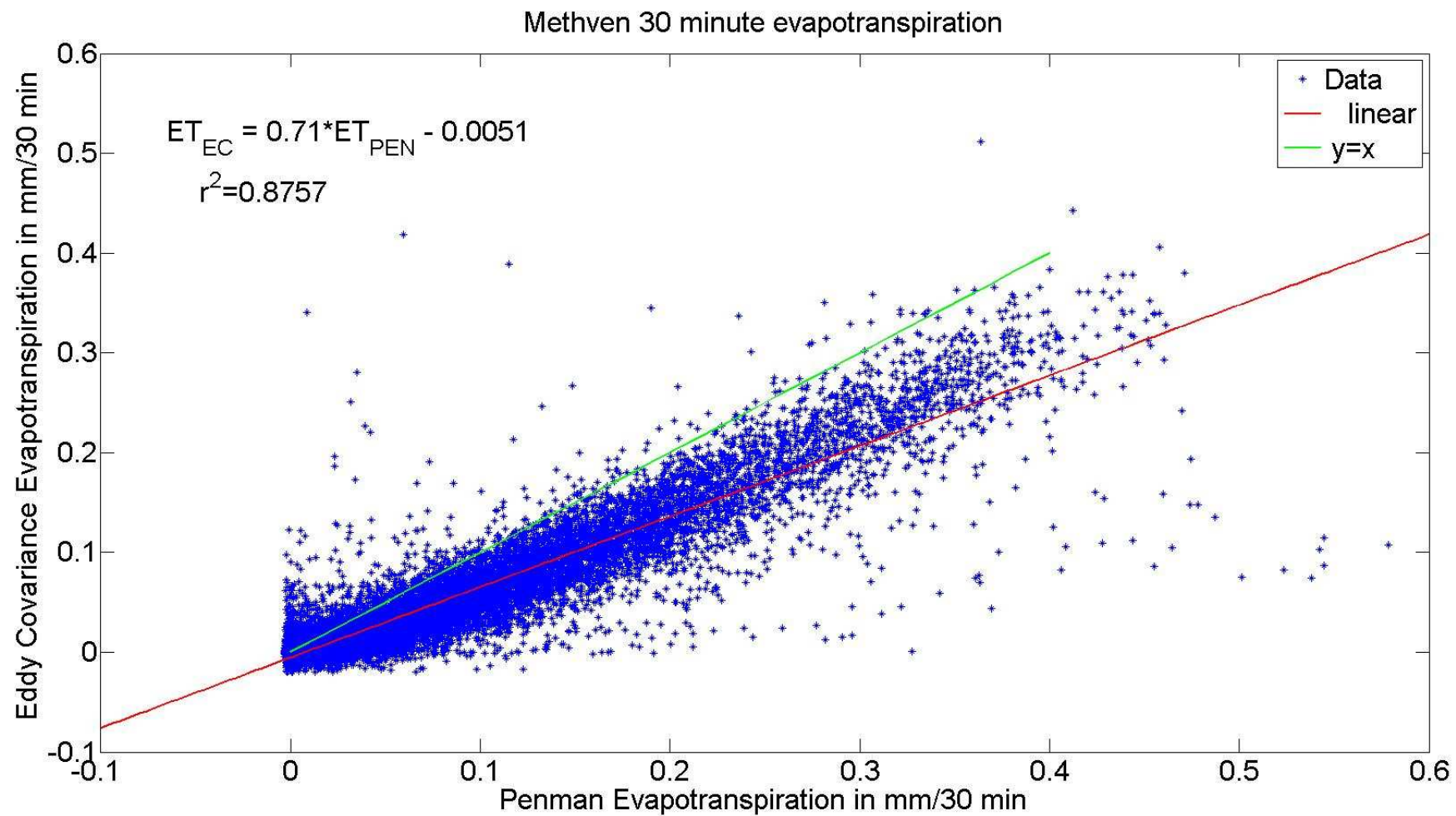
Not water limited

Methven 30 minute Evapotranspiration in mm/ 30 minutes

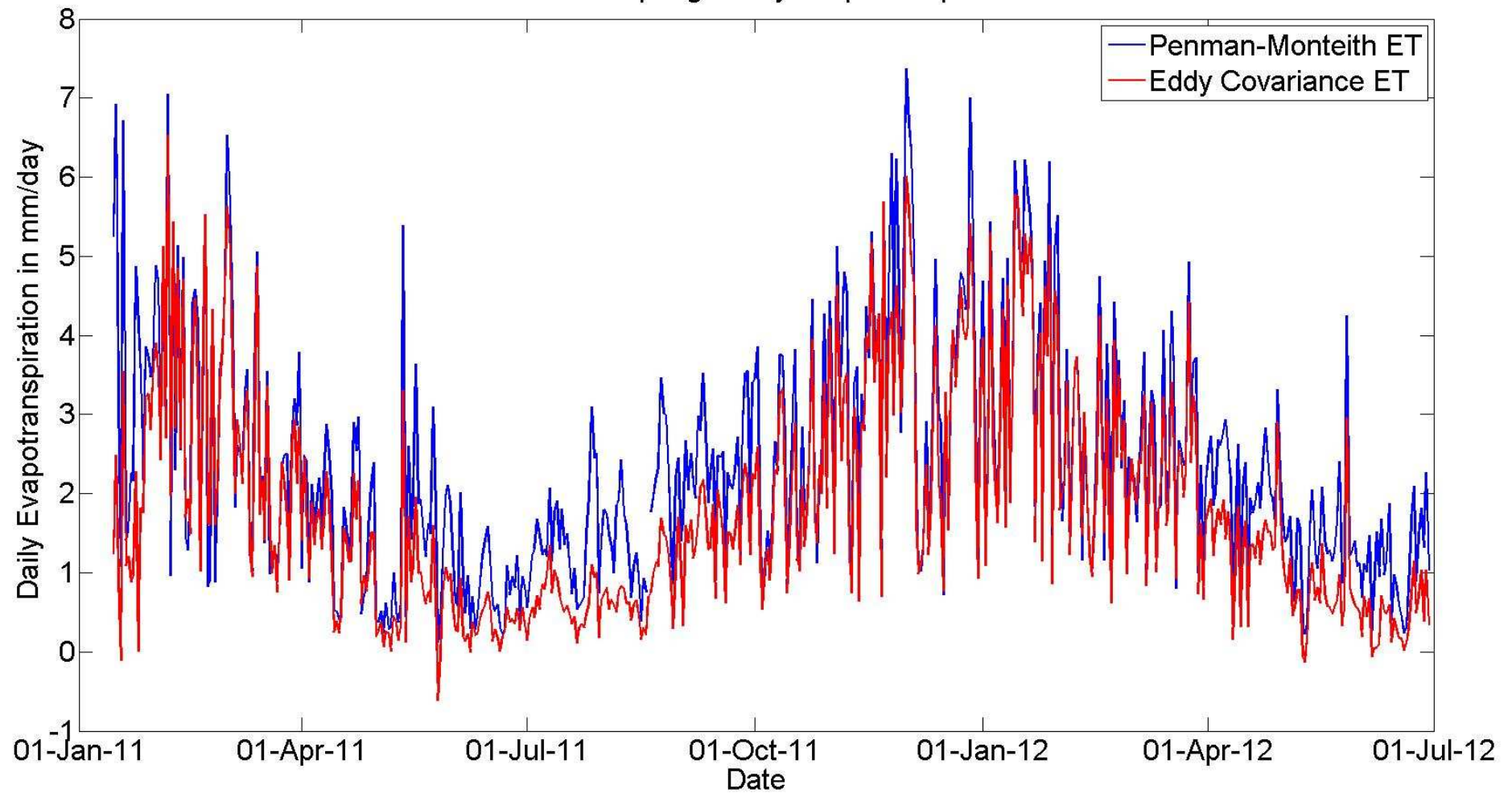




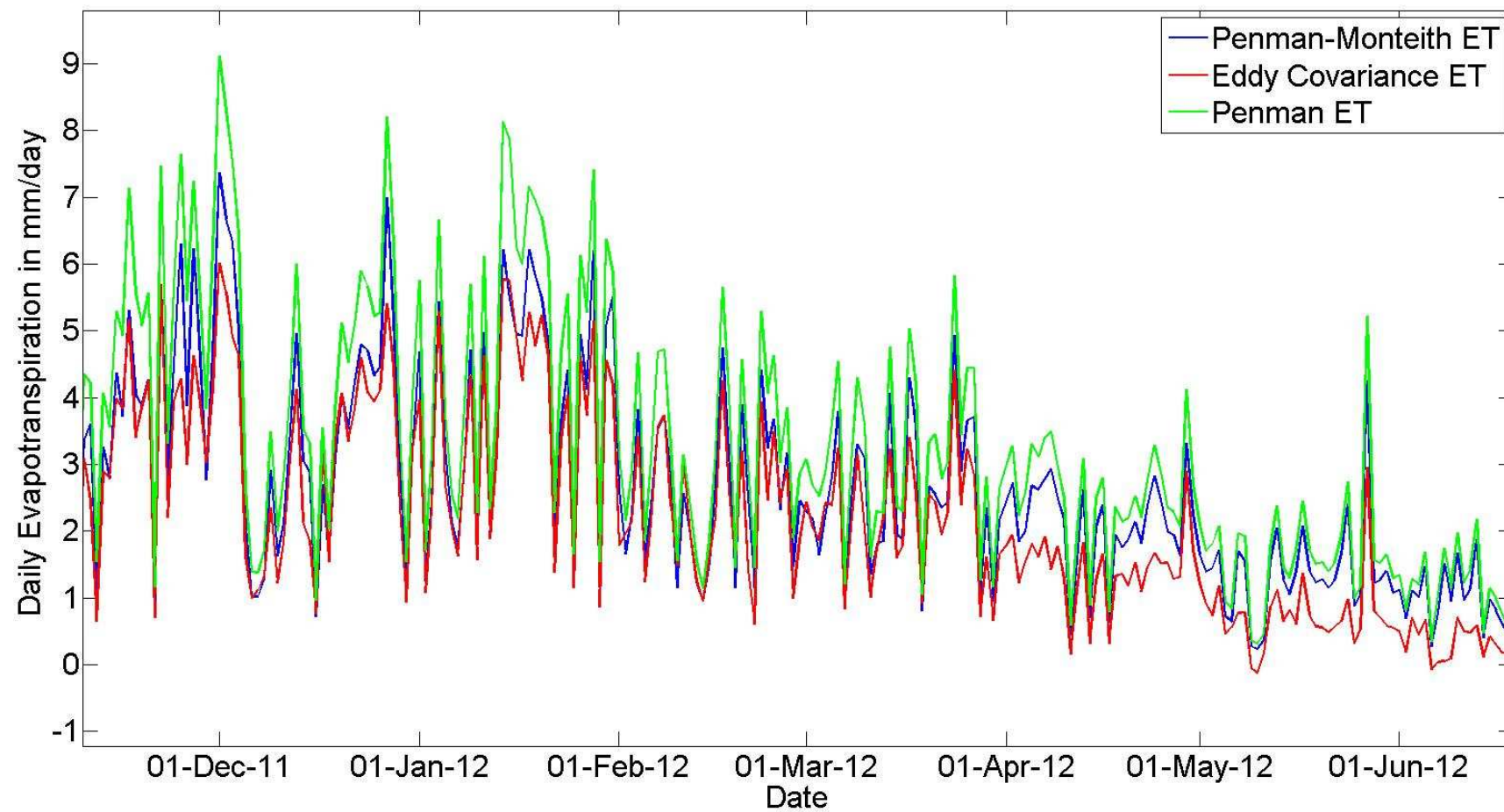




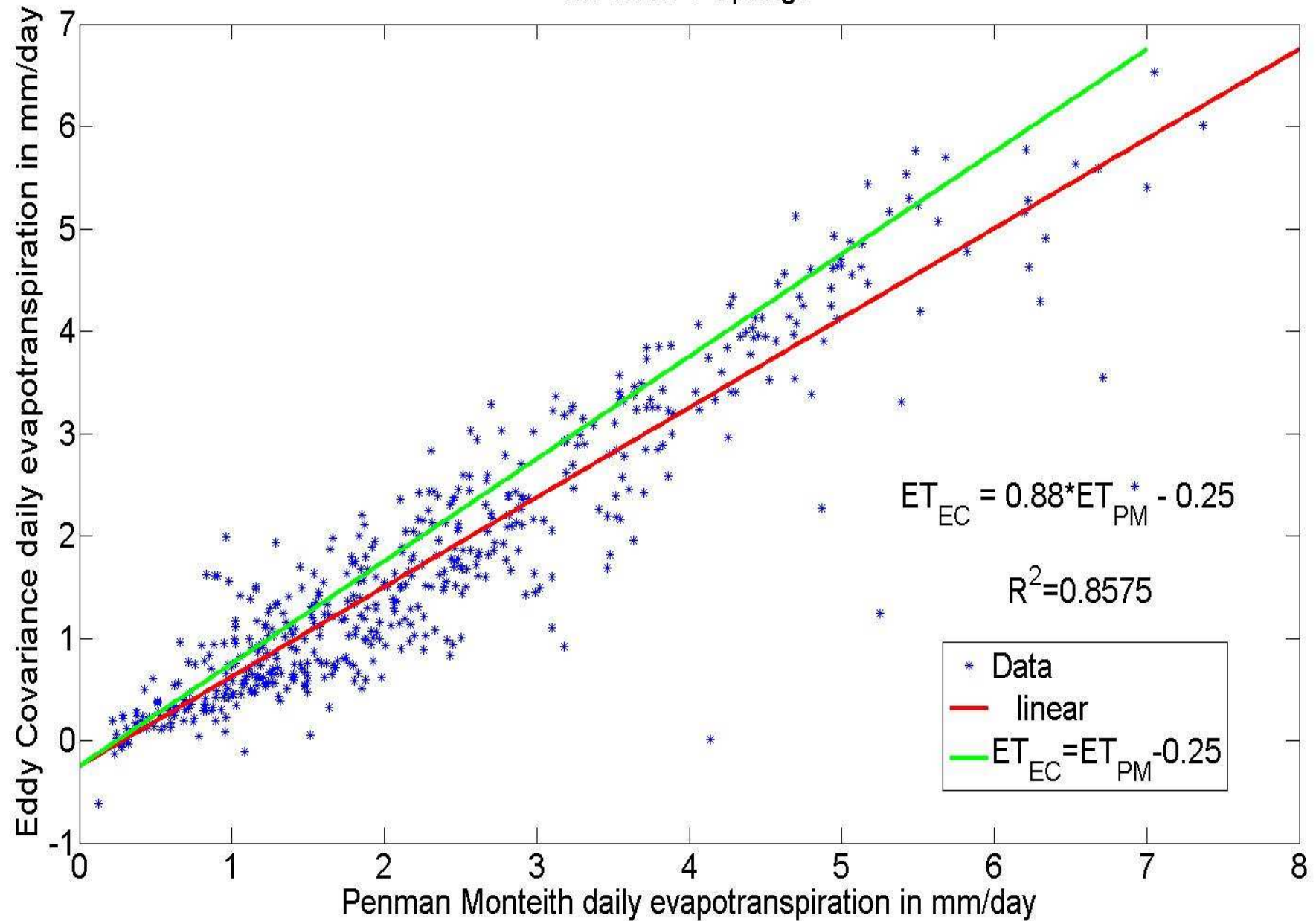
Methven 3 Springs Daily Evapotranspiration



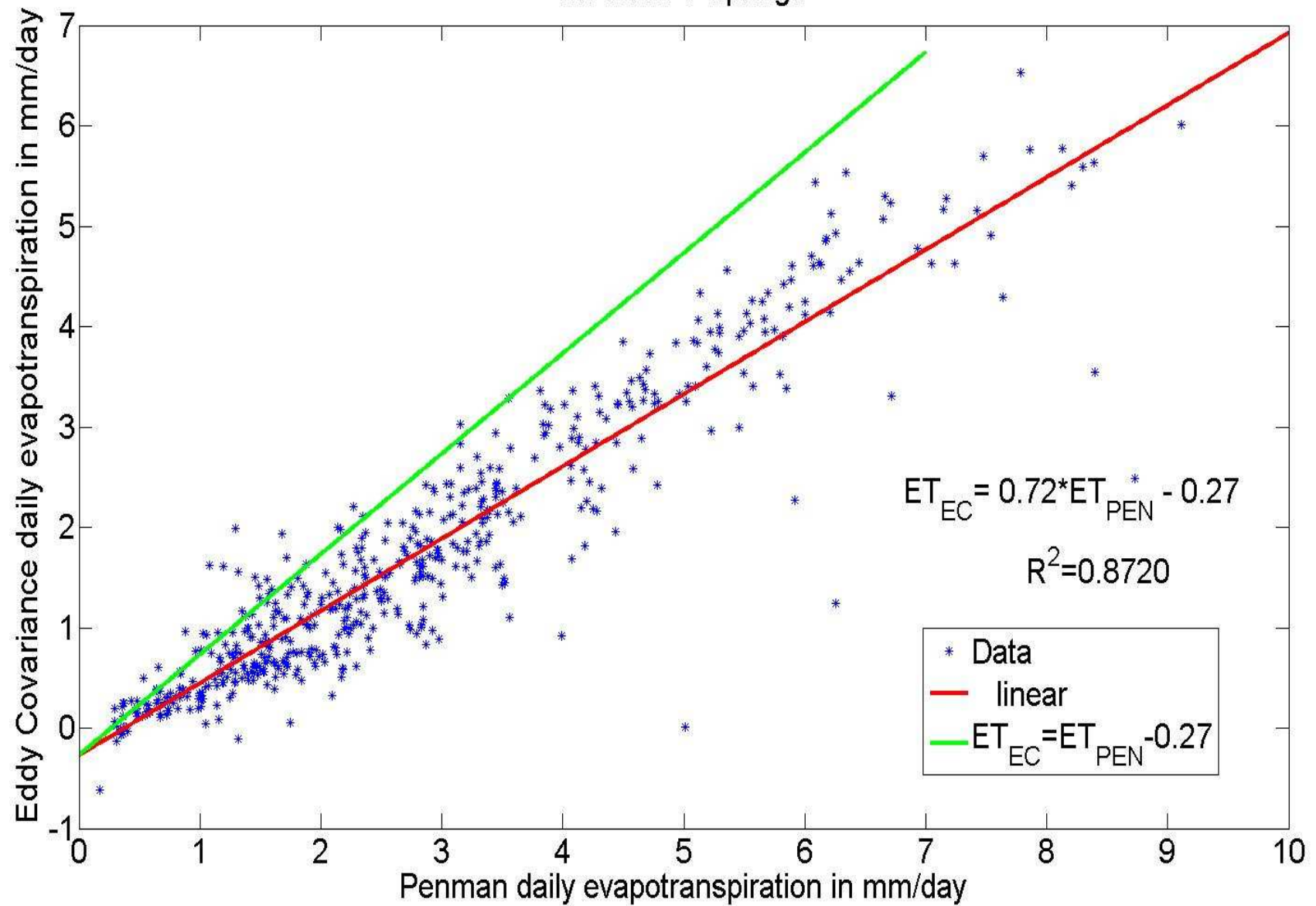
Methven 3 Springs Daily Evapotranspiration

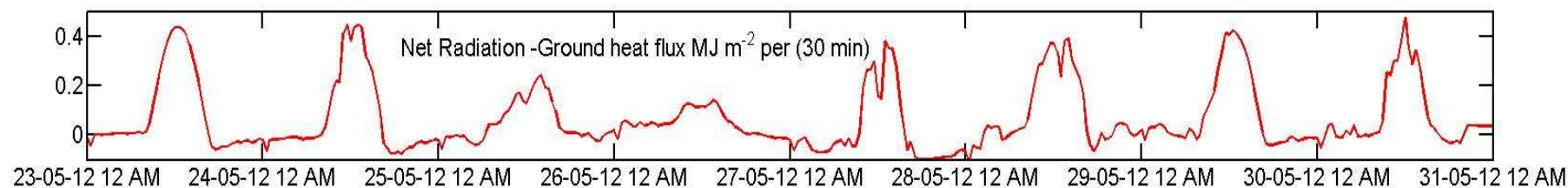
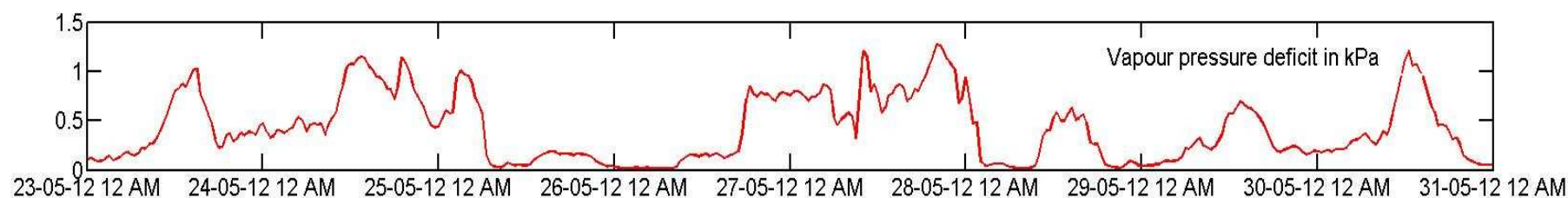
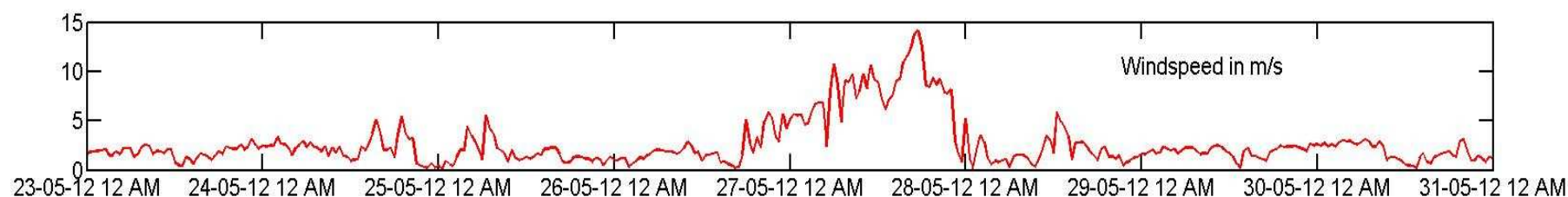
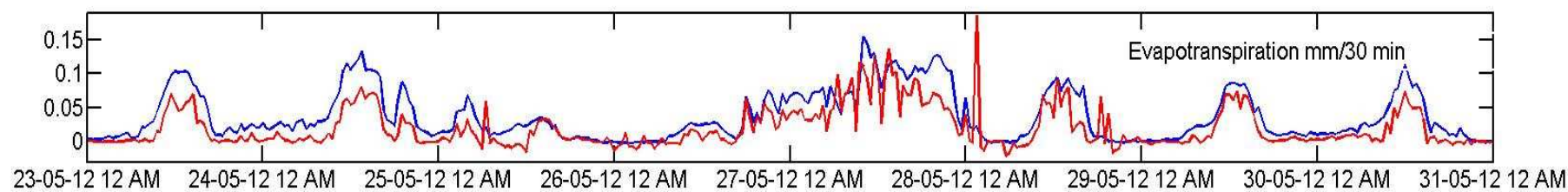


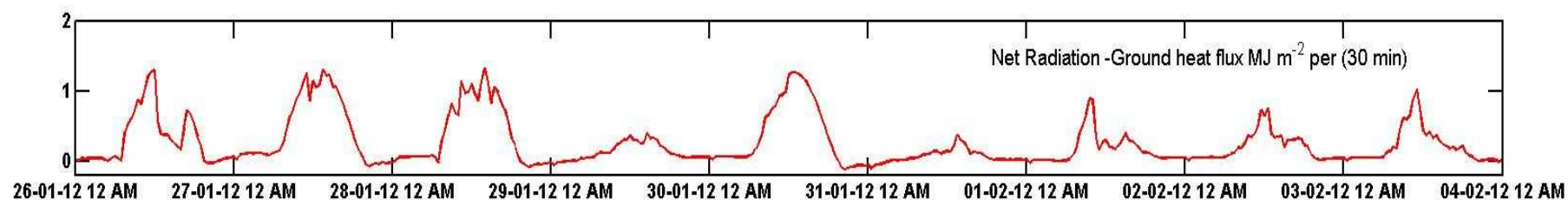
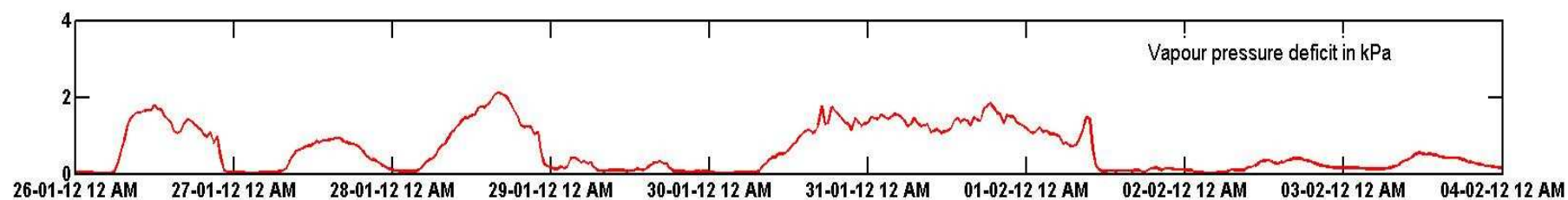
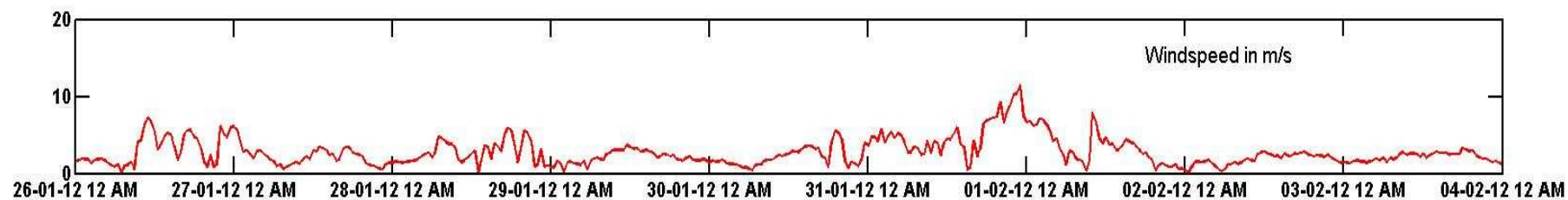
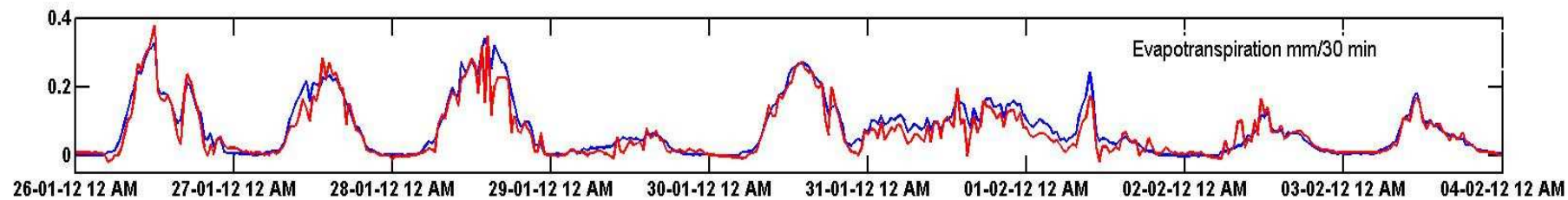
Eddy covariance daily ET vs Penman-Monteith daily ET
Methven 3 Springs



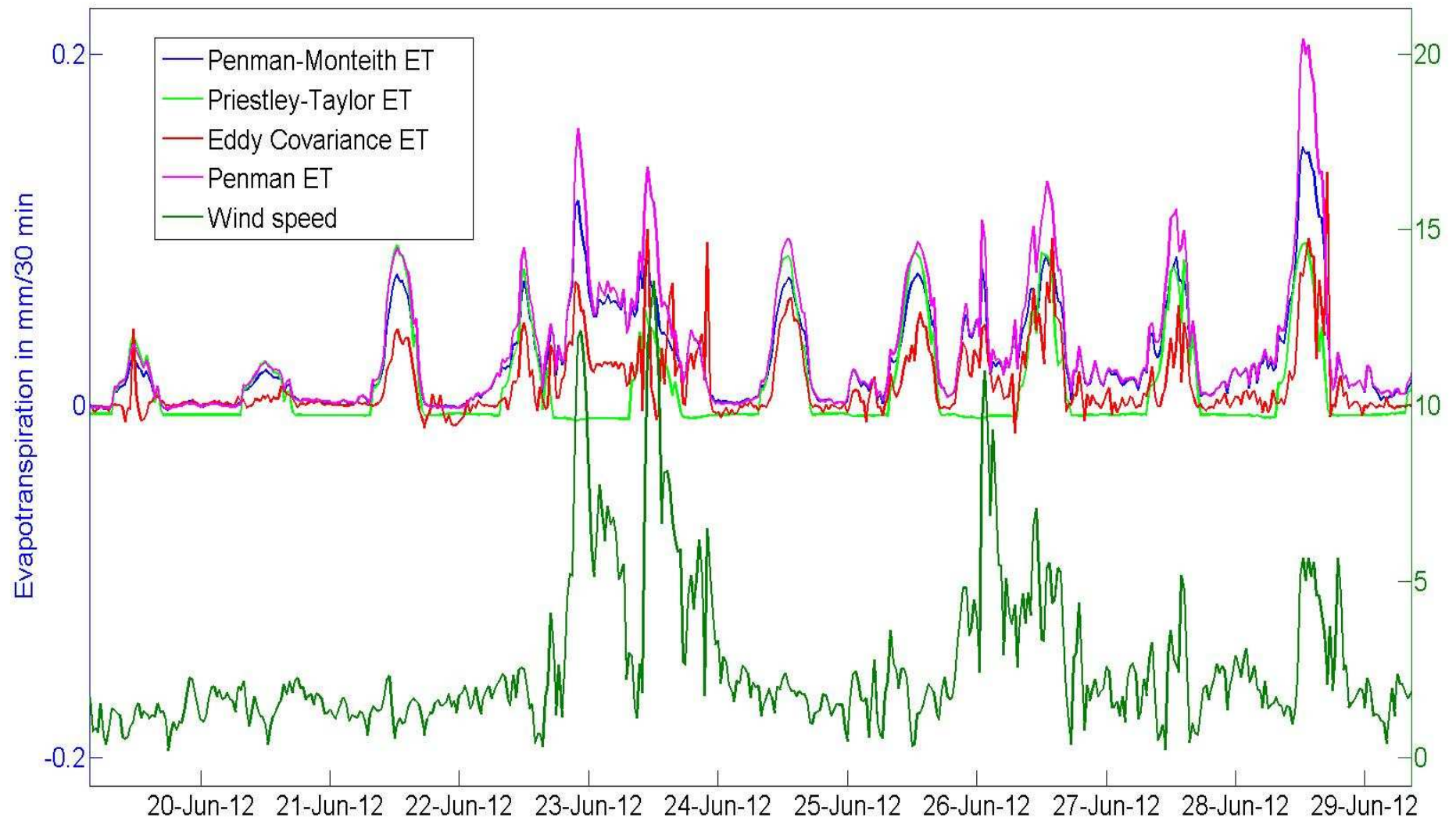
Eddy covariance daily ET vs Penman daily ET
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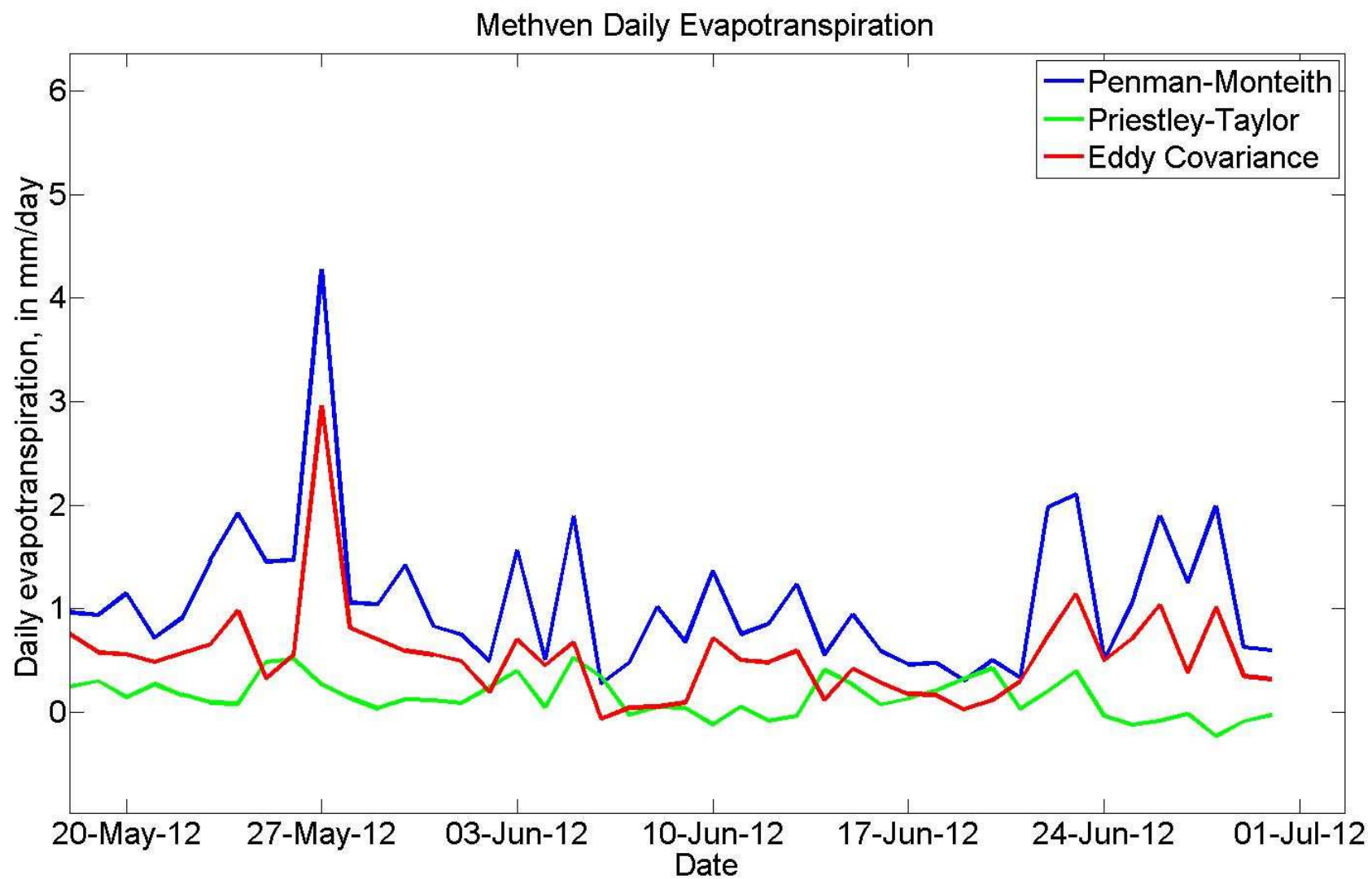




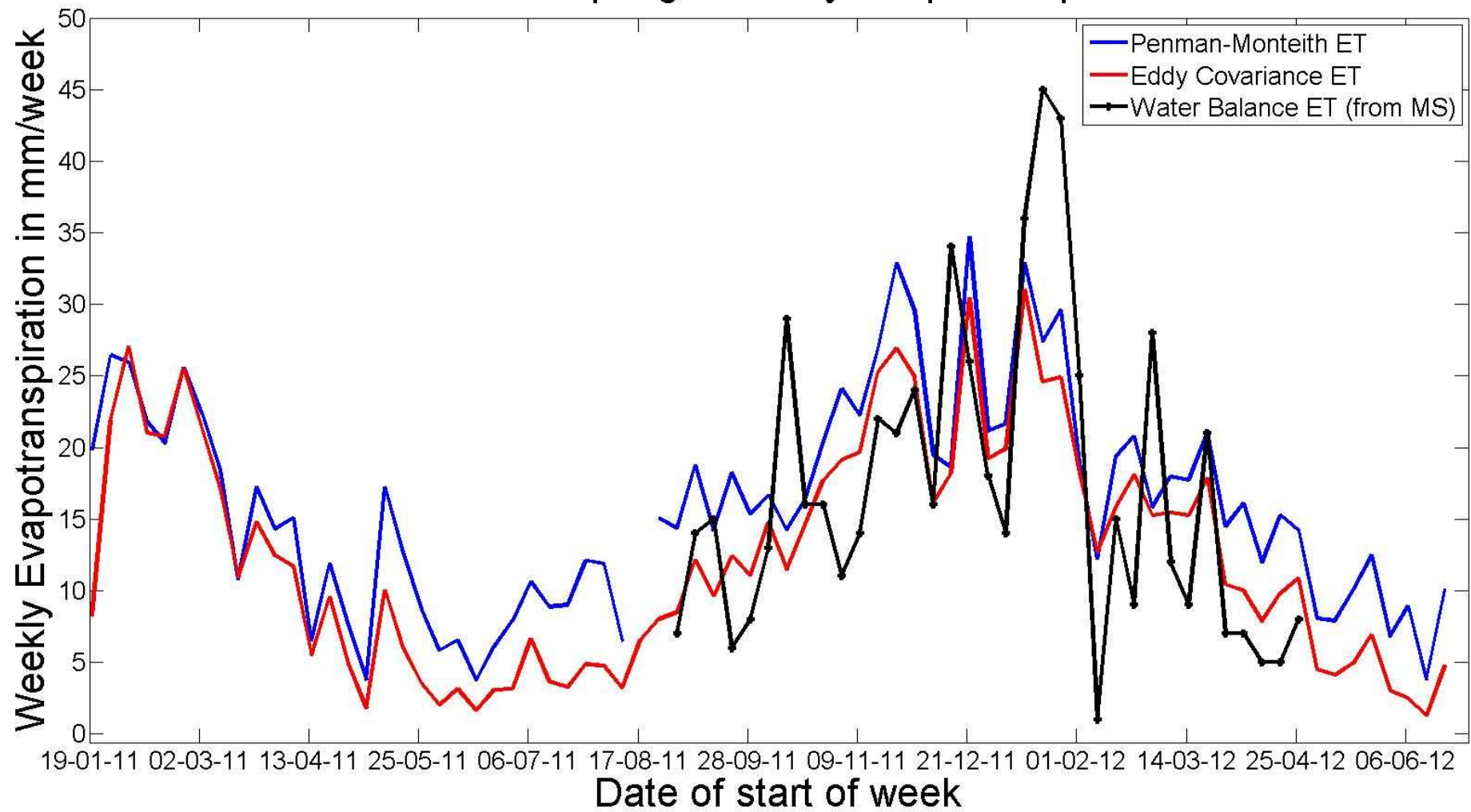


Methven Evapotranspiration

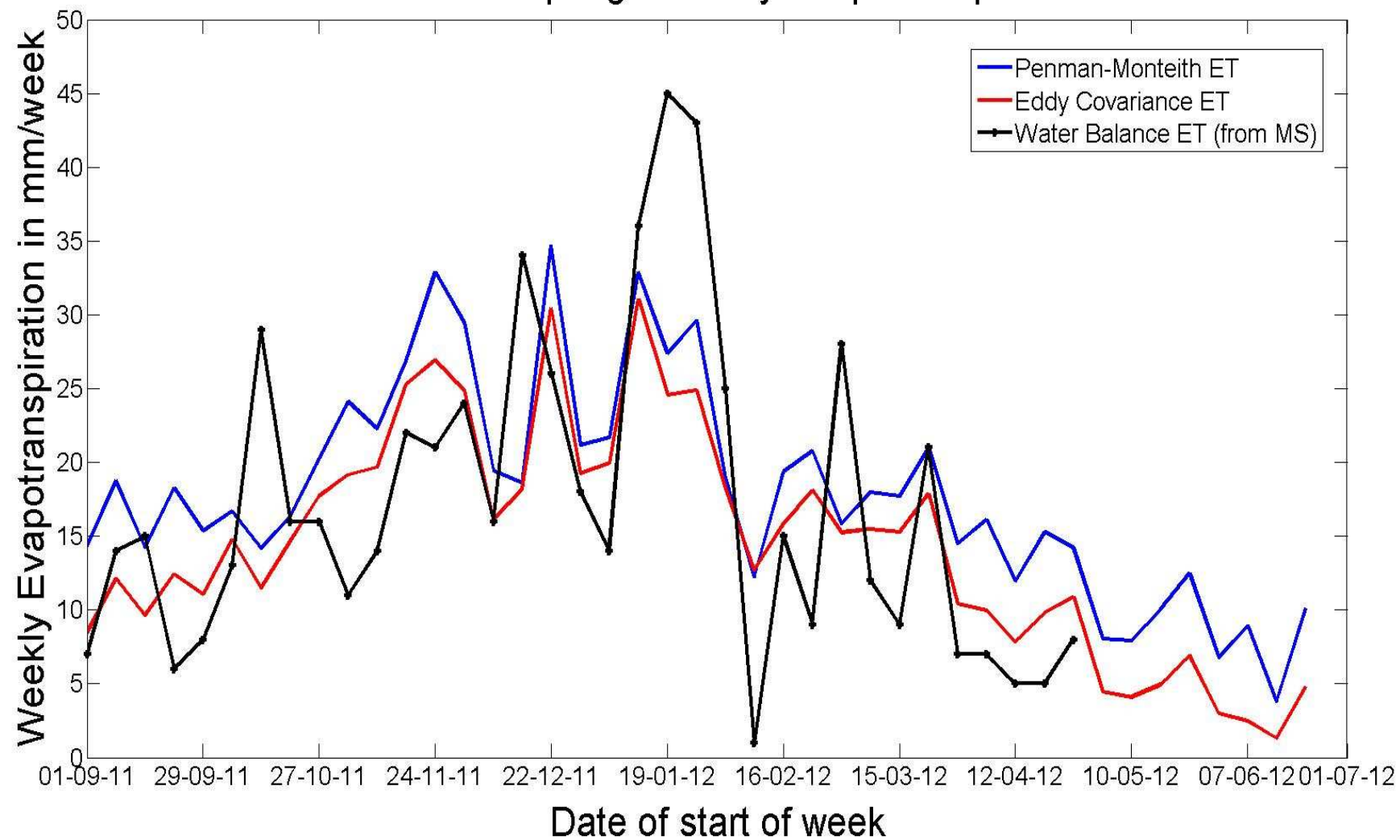




Methven 3 Springs Weekly Evapotranspiration



Methven 3 Springs Weekly Evapotranspiration





Summary

ET over the entire irrigation season
(Sep 1, 2011 – Apr 30, 2012)

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Our thanks to...

Craige MacKenzie
Maxine & Eric Watson

ECan, Aqualinc, HydroServices, Landcare, AgResearch,
Plant & Food

Waterscape MSI Research Programme