



IRRIGATION SYSTEM	FEATURES AND BENEFITS	CONSIDERATIONS WHEN DESIGNING AND SPECIFYING A SYSTEM
<p><b>Shiftable pod irrigation</b></p> 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Very low application rates minimising run-off, allowing good opportunity for soil moisture absorption, hence very good for irrigation on heavy soils and slopes</li> <li>• Suitable for effluent and dirty dispersal</li> <li>• Does not apply water where it is not required, ie farm races and tracks</li> <li>• Low to medium energy operation</li> <li>• Able to irrigate irregularly shaped paddocks, undulations, even relatively steep hills</li> <li>• Can be provided with pressure regulation to enable accurate operating pressures even with big changes in elevations</li> <li>• System can be installed by purchaser</li> <li>• Pod lines can be shifted by less experienced operators</li> <li>• Any breakages only effect a very small percentage of irrigated area and are easily repaired by the operator</li> <li>• Replacement parts are easily accessible</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Greater risk of poor uniformity due to operator error in shifting and some suppliers providing sprinklers with poor distribution uniformity, incorrect spacings and pressures, and often too longer rotation time.</li> <li>• Suitable only for low crops (ie pasture)</li> <li>• Hard wearing and ties up 4-wheel bike to shift system</li> <li>• High labour input (intensive)</li> <li>• System generally cannot be upgraded to a higher uniform irrigator like pivots, as the mainline system reduces in size around the property</li> </ul>
<p><b>Shiftable long line sprinklers</b></p> 	<p>Similar in principle to the pod system, but uses a larger sprinkler shifted individually.</p> <p>Comments below are additional to that above:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Usually higher quality sprinklers are used – longer life</li> <li>• Can be easier to shift on steeper terrain</li> <li>• Easier for awkwardly shaped fields</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• An even greater risk of poor uniformity due to operator error in shifting patterns</li> <li>• Suitable only for low crops (ie pasture)</li> <li>• Ties up labour and a motorbike to shift each sprinkler</li> <li>• Operators tend to use their arms to pick up sprinklers for shifting, this can create health and safety concerns</li> </ul>