

## introducing CAPIPHON<sup>TM</sup> Drainage

Lifetime

Capillary Drainage Technology

Removes 3-4 times more water

# What is Capiphon?

- 20 cm wide belt of soft durable plastic
- 2 mm thick
- Ω (Greek Omega) shaped grooves on under-side
- 0.3 mm opening, 1 mm internal pore







Ample inlet openings densely distributed to create laminar flow without disturbence of surounding soil particles

# What is Capiphon?





Ample inlet openings densely distributed to create laminar flow without disturbence of surounding soil particles

# What's in a Name?



### Capiphon = capillary + siphon

- Capillarity
- Siphon
- Surface Tension
- Gravity





# How does it work?





Continuous column of water in soil

# How does it work?





# What makes Capiphon better?

- Blockage Free
  - Gravity pulls larger particles down away
  - Smaller particles fall through or are flushed out
- Conventional systems flow rate decreases over time



# What makes Capiphon better?





Slotted pipe often block.



Geotech fabric also becomes blocked

# Short Summary

- Technology to replace Ag pipe

  Housing & construction,
  Roadside, including flood mitigation
  Agriculture, horticulture, vineyards
  Turf-grass including sports fields

  Launched in 2014
- Distributors in place in 4 States plus NZ

PHON

Drainage

# The Business Solving Problems

1: End-user dissatisfaction

Ag Pipe blocks with silt and tree roots
Even the geotextile sock blocks after a while
No perceived alternative

Solution: Capiphon never blocks!



# The Business Solving Problems

2: Cost
Ag Pipe requires deep & wide trenches
Gravel drainage layer
Geotextile sock and/or cover

Solution: Capiphon's installed cost 40-60% less!



## The Business Solving Problems

### 3: Performance

Ag Pipe relies on gravity alone,
Difficult to install in cramped spaces
Requires heavy machinery

### Solution:

- Surface tension/Capillarity/Syphonic action
- As well as gravity

#### In most soils, Capiphon

- » starts to drain sooner, drains longer
- » 3-33 times more effective!

CAPI

Drainage

# Highlights

- Many Case Studies covering different market sectors.
- Mostly landscapers and drainage contractors
- Online DIY customers or those requesting installation
- Now supplied through Reece branches and others.



## The Claim:

# Capiphon Drainage is more effective than standard Ag Pipe?

### The Test:

A comparative trial measuring at a racetrack.











#### Tweed River Jockey Club Murwillumbah, NSW





Capiphon versus standard drainage in racetrack

The standard Ag Pipe system of

- 70mm wide trench, 350mm deep,
- 50mm slotted poly drainage pipe (Ag Pipe)
- Covered with approximately 100mm of 5-7mm gravel
- Then coarse sand to the surface.





### **Capiphon Belt Installation**

**Capiphon Belt system of** 

- 70mm wide trench, 350mm deep,
- 50mm wide Capiphon belt inserted into PVC collector pipe
- Collector pipe 10cm below belt
- Backfilled with coarse sand to the surface.





### **Capiphon Pipe Installation**

**Capiphon Belt system of** 

- 75mm wide Capiphon belt wrapped around 40mm DWV PVC collector pipe
- 70mm wide trench, 350mm deep,
- Backfilled with coarse sand to the surface.





















# **Trial Design**

- The three treatments alternated at 3-metre spacing. The final number of each treatment trench was:
  - 1. Ag Pipe: 15.
  - 2. Capiphon Belt: 14.
  - 3. Capiphon Pipe: 7.
- Trenches approximately 10m long, running across the track and joining the separate outlet pipes along side of the track to a sump pit.





# **Trial Design**

- Sump pit at a depth below ground level at edge of the track
- Outflows were measured in three separate tipping bucket flow gauges (40ml buckets)
- 12v bilge pump with float-valve switch installed.
- Pit covered with a metal grate, plastic sheeting, and geotextile cloth to protect the gauges.
- Lastly, the pit was covered with soil and the turf left to regenerate.















# **Trial Design**

• Outflow from each of the three different treatments was divided by the number of trenches for each.















### CAPIPHON

**15 January** - First outflow recorded. Both Capiphon Pipe and Belt flowed, Capiphon Pipe flowed first and with greater volume. **Ag Pipe did not flow at all.** 

**27 January** - Second outflow. All three installations flowed with similar volumes

**16 March** - Third outflow. Flow from both Capiphon Pipe and Belt exceed that from Ag Pipe.

**19 March** – Flow gauges ceased to operate (possibly because the ground water level had risen to the extent that water seeped into through the gap between the pit proper and the extension. The battery would have been covered and the pump stopped)

**30 March** – The Tweed River backed up the drains, flooding the sump pit and disabling the flow gauges.







CAPIPHON









- After the Flood Improved track conditions.
  - Repeat visit and measurements to confirm long term improvement
- Installation Costs: 60% of the standard Ag Pipe cost.
  - Single back-fill with washed coarse sand was significantly easier than gravel followed by sand.
  - Further, that the sand did not require time-consuming clean-up after the installation.





# Acknowledgements

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