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The results reported in the above two articles show that IWM can be implemented across the Midsouth without adversely affecting soybean yield or on-farm profitability from irrigated soybean production. However, IWM will reduce irrigation water use and improve soybean IWUE, thus prolonging MRVAA sustainability and furrow irrigation capability of soybean in the Midsouth.

The authors surmise that the reported results in Paper 2 are likely very conservative because of the [Hawthorne effect](#), which states that “human subjects of an experiment change their behavior simply because they are being studied”. Specifically, they noted in this research that by 2014 50% of the producers scheduled and terminated irrigation for their CONV fields based on recommendations for the adjacent IWM fields on their farms. This may explain why the overall water savings from using IWM in this study were not greater than water savings that have been reported when the CHS, SURGE, and sensor-based irrigation scheduling practices were applied alone.

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