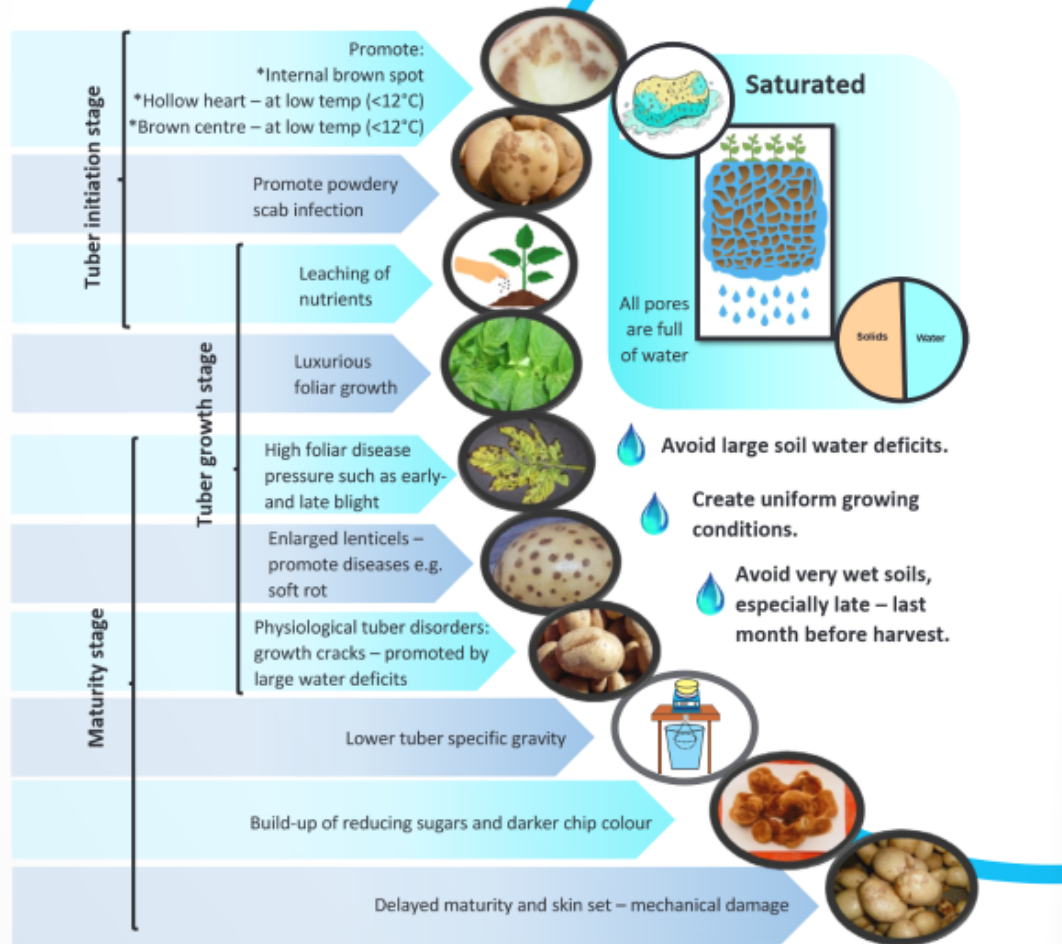
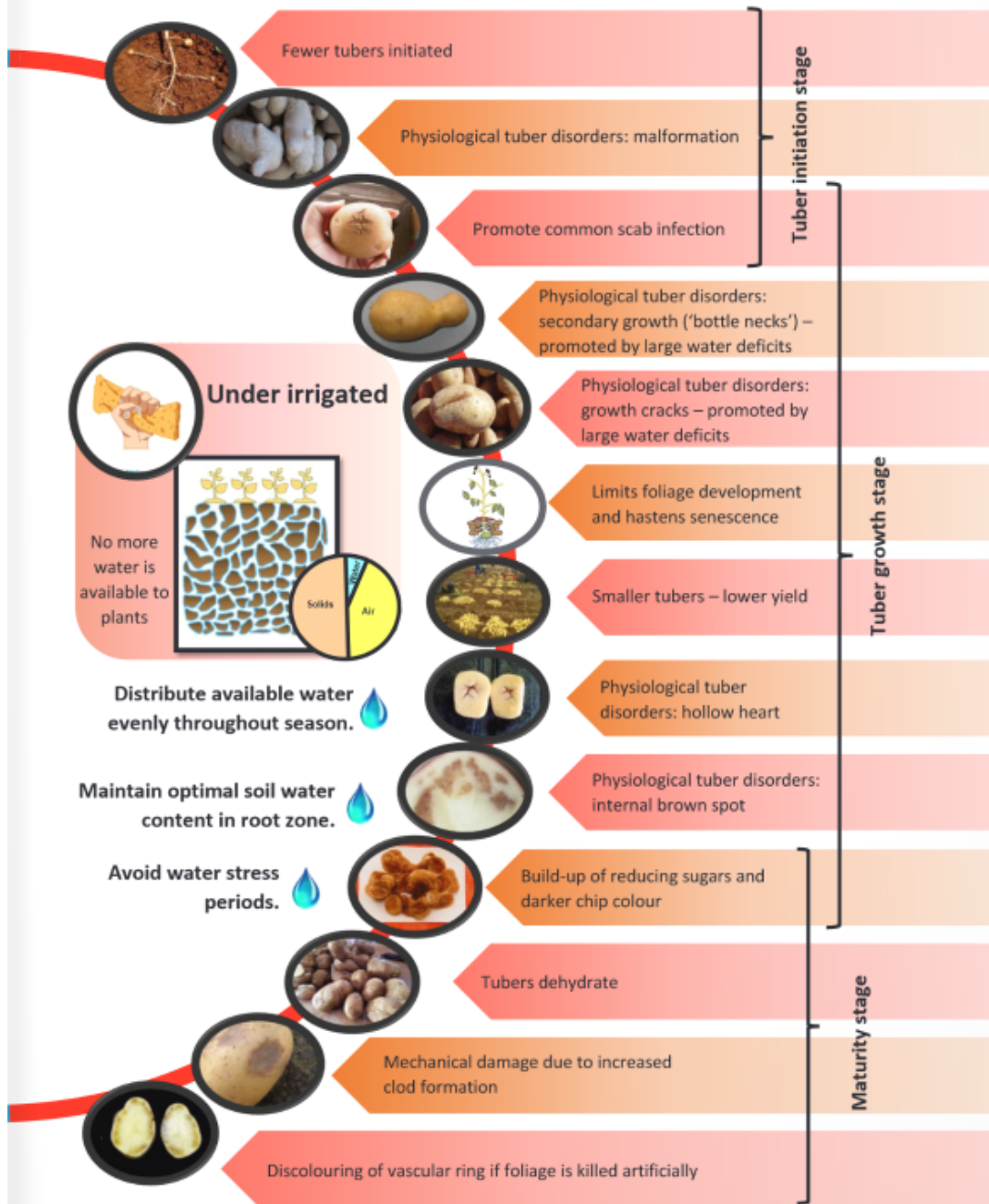


Irrigation: A balancing act

By Chantel du Raan, Potatoes SA, and Prof Martin Steyn, University of Pretoria

Potatoes are shallow-rooted plants with a network of finely branched roots and a fairly large leaf area. This makes the crop very sensitive to even small deficiencies of water, which can negatively affect growth rate, quality and yields. Therefore, it is of utmost importance to understand the requirements during each stage and how an excess or deficiency in moisture can affect your crop. This illustration gives a brief summary of the negative impacts of **over-irrigation** (blue) and **under-irrigation** (red) on yield and quality of the potato crop.





Designed by Chantel du Raan