

Dry is good during a heatwave

The dry conditions during a heatwave are a positive aspect as they mean fewer fatalities. Previously it was assumed that dehydrated soil would make a heatwave even more deadly as it makes temperatures rise yet further. But an analysis by an international team of researchers, using a Wageningen model that can process millions of data points from weather balloons, has led to a different conclusion. In dry conditions, the air is less humid and so people can transpire more easily, which reduces the risk of overheating. The research results were published in *Science Advances*.

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