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A review of rainfall partitioning by vegetation under Mediterranean conditions in Europe.

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An exhaustive review of experimental studies dealing with rainfall interception in the Mediterranean area of Europe in the last 30 years was achieved. This review includes information on 29 different species (89% referred to tree stands and 11% to shrubs or bushes) from 83 sites in France, Greece, Italy, Portugal and Spain, including studies representative of a wide range of rainfall, temperatures and potential evapotranspiration. This review presents a detailed classification of the information compiled according to research focus, climate and vegetation characteristics, rainfall partitioning flux measurement methods and the quality of the information, giving rise to a database of rainfall partitioning studies in the European Mediterranean area