1
00:00:00,000 --> 00:00:06,450
NASA's Aquarius instrument has returned its first global maps of soil moisture.

2
00:00:06,740 --> 00:00:12,810
And these new maps reveal how the moisture in the soil responds to the changing seasons and weather phenc

3
00:00:12,960 --> 00:00:20,280
The Aquarius instrument flies aboard the Aquarius/SAC-D satellite, which launched in June 2011.

4
00:00:20,780 --> 00:00:29,860
This satellite was built by NASA and Argentina's space agency, with a primary objective of measuring the salt c

5
00:00:30,490 --> 00:00:36,700
Within the same year it was launched, the satellite produced its first global maps of sea surface salinity.

6
00:00:37,690 --> 00:00:45,250
In addition to salinity, scientists also developed a method to use Aquarius to monitor moisture in the first two in

7
00:00:46,210 --> 00:00:50,880
Soil moisture is the water contained within the spaces of air between soil particles.

8
00:00:51,420 --> 00:00:58,020
The amount of water in the soil can vary due to drought, floods, irrigation and changes in rainfall.