## **Supporting Materials**



Figure S1 Spatial distribution of long-term memory differences (a) between the Dual-Permeability model and SMAP; (b) between the Dual-Permeability and Mixed-Richards models; (c) between the Mixed-Richards models using Van-Genuchten and Clapp-Hornberger parameterizations; and (d) between the Mixed-Richards models with zero and 200 mm ponding depths.



Figure S2 Scatterplot of root zone  $\tau_L$  estimated from SMAP versus (a) MF\_CH; (b) DMP\_VGM; (c) MF\_VGM; (d) MF\_VGM0; and (e) MF\_VGM200.



Figure S3 Spatial distribution of root zone  $\tau_L$  estimated from (a) MF\_CH (b) MF\_VGM; (c) MF\_VGM0; and (d) MF\_VGM200.



Figure S4 Spatial distribution of root zone long-term memory differences (a) between the Dual-Permeability and Mixed-Richards models; (b) within the Mixed-Richards models contrasting zero ponding depth to a 200 mm ponding depth.



Figure S5 Scatterplot of root zone  $\tau_L$  estimated from SMAP versus (a) MF\_CH; (b) DMP\_VGM; (c) MF\_VGM; (d) MF\_VGM0; and (e) MF\_VGM200.



Figure S6 Average surface soil moisture over 2015–2019: (a) SMAP; (b) MF\_CH; (c) DMP\_VGM; (d) MF\_VGM; (e) MF\_VGM0; and (f) MF\_VGM200



Figure S7 Spatial distribution of surface soil evaporation of (a) MF\_CH; and (b) DPM\_VGM.



Figure S8: Spatial distribution of surface soil evaporation of (a) DPM\_VGM; (b) MF\_VGM; (c) MF\_VGM0; and (d) MF\_VGM200.