

Talking Water

Tuesday 25 February 2014



Murray Irrigation

Customer meetings

Murray Irrigation is hosting a series of customer meetings this week. Topics to be discussed include: Water availability; PIIOP; On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Programs; our new Strategic Plan and Board and Management priorities for 2014.

Customers are encouraged to attend these meetings which provide an important opportunity for discussion between Murray Irrigation and its customers. A customer feedback session will be held following the presentations.

Dates, times and venues of remaining meetings are as follows:

- **Tuesday 25 February:** 5.30pm to 7.30pm at Wakool District Services Memorial Club.
- **Wednesday 26 February:** 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Bunnaloo Recreation Reserve; 5.30pm to 7.30pm at the Deniliquin Golf Club.
- **Thursday 27 February:** 10.30am to 12.30pm Finley RS Club; 2.00pm to 4.00pm at Barooga Sports Club.
- **Friday 28 February:** 10.30am to 12.30pm at the Mayrunga Hall.

For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

New Customer Notifications

Murray Irrigation will implement three new automatic customer notifications within the water ordering system later this week. The notifications will be sent when:

- An order has been placed with insufficient water in the account to cover the full order
- Your account is approaching a zero water balance
- Your water use is greater than 120% of delivery entitlements.

All users will be notified by SMS, or via email if no mobile number is provided.

Water efficiency allocation

Murray Irrigation's total water efficiency allocation is now nine percent, following the Board's decision at its February meeting to increase the efficiency allocation by one percent. The increase is possible because of conveyance savings from operational efficiencies.

Quarterly accounts

Murray Irrigation second quarter accounts for 2013/14 are due by **5.00pm this Friday 28 February** with eligibility for the

10 percent discount requiring all accounts to be paid by then. For information, contact Finance via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Menindee passes to NSW control

Menindee Lakes reverted to NSW control last week after storage volume fell below 480GL. NSW will manage the remaining water to supply local needs and Lower Darling irrigators. The Lakes can no longer be called upon to supply water to Victoria, South Australia and or the NSW Murray. This means South Australian entitlement will be delivered from Hume Dam or tributary flows. The MDBA will resume management of the Lakes when the storage volume exceeds 640GL.

Surface Irrigation Field Days

Murray Irrigation will be hosting a series of Surface Irrigation Field Days to look at upgrades of surface irrigation systems through the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program. All field days start at 12.30pm with a free BBQ at the following venues:

- Tuesday 11 March, Bryce's "Warenda" Jerilderie;
- Wednesday 12 March, Haines' "Rothsay", Deniliquin;
- Thursday 13 March, Green's "Rangemore", Wakool.

Flyers will be sent to customers later this week.

Rice Field Day

The Rice Research and Development Corporation are holding the Rice Field Day at 'Old Coree' near Jerilderie, **Thursday 6 March** from 9.30am to 4pm. The day includes an unmanned helicopter demonstration, latest variety developments and more. For information contact Andrew Bomm on (02) 6953 0433.

LLS rice meetings

The Murray Local Land Services is hosting four meetings to discuss rice drainage commencing at 8.00am with a free breakfast followed by a crop inspection. Meeting dates and locations are:

- Monday 3 March, Michael Hughes, Morago;
- Tuesday 4 March, John Hand, Mayrunga;
- Wednesday 5 March, Geoff Small, Wandook;
- Friday 7 March, Robert Caldwell, Bunnaloo.

For more information, contact John Fowler, Murray LLS, on M. 0427 079 138.


Anthony Couroupis, General Manager

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 100 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 9 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(25/02/14)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 37 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 332 GL
On-Farm Usage 762 GL
(Including Off-Allocation Usage of .. 88 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 12,623 ML
Price Range \$64 - \$200
Buy Offer..... \$63
Last 10 Sales 531 ML
Price Range \$63 - \$66
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

18/02/14 – 24/02/14

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 31; 2,864ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 2; 1,140ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 16; 3,299ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 2; 705ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade.. -1,271ML (week) +14,345ML (YTD)

Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm..... 17GL (67% on rice)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	3,800	10,000
Wakool Canal	800	2,350
Escape flows	544	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

18/02/14 – 25/02/14 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 53.1mm
Tullakool..... 0.0mm 52.6mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....3,502 GL.....91 %
Hume.....1,465 GL.....49 %
Lake Victoria..... 458 GL.....68 %
Menindee Lakes452 GL.....26 %
Active Storage.....5,877 GL.....63 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 12,762 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 9,740 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ... 1,335 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,073 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... 814 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 5,566 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 1 gate open

Tune into 'On The Land' every Tuesday from 6.45am on 1521 2QN.