

Talking Water

Tuesday 11 March 2014



Murray Irrigation

Surface Irrigation Field Days

Murray Irrigation will host three field days this week to look at upgrades of surface irrigation systems supported by the On-Farm Irrigation Efficiency Program. All days **start at 12.30pm** with a free BBQ lunch:

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

These field days are a great opportunity for landholders to learn more about efficient and easy to manage surface irrigation layouts. For more information, visit our website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au, then follow the link from the home page, or contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

CEWO portfolio management update

The Commonwealth Environmental Water Office (CEWO) last week released its portfolio management update. The update describes how the CEWO will manage the Commonwealth's water portfolio for the remainder of this water season, including proposed delivery, carryover and or trade opportunities.

The CEWO does not currently plan to sell water allocations in the southern Basin as it is expected that allocations will be required to meet environmental needs and be carried over to the next water year. It is anticipated that a further sale of water allocations may occur in the northern Basin with the priorities being the Peel, Gwydir and Lachlan valleys.

The CEWO does not plan to purchase any water allocations this water season but may investigate opportunities as they arise. Opportunities to purchase will be examined as part of the 2014-15 environmental water planning process which is currently underway and due to be finalised by June.

For more information, visit:

www.environment.gov.au/topics/water/commonwealth-environmental-water-office/portfolio-management/portfolio-management.

Privacy policy

Murray Irrigation has published an updated *Privacy Policy*, available via the 'Corporate' then 'Company policies' section of our website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

The policy describes how Murray Irrigation handles personal information. The update does not result in any change to current practice; rather it is in response to changes to privacy law that take effect, along with the new policy, on and from Wednesday 12 March.

Water allocation account balances

Customers are reminded that they are responsible for maintaining positive balances in their water allocation account when irrigating. Outlets will be finished when account balances reach zero and orders may be required to wait up to four days for delivery. For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

February climate summary

There was a welcome return to higher than average rainfall across many parts of the Murray-Darling Basin during February. Across the Basin as a whole, the Bureau of Meteorology has reported that rainfall was 21 percent above the long-term mean, with an area-averaged total of 49.0mm.

Inflows to the River Murray System (excluding Snowy and Darling and environmental inflows) receded further during February with around 80GL recorded for the month. The total was slightly higher than February last year, but over 100GL less than the long-term average.

Faba bean pre-season meeting

Southern Growers - Riverine Plains is holding a faba bean pre-season meeting from 6.00pm tomorrow, Wednesday 12 March at the Berrigan Football Club. Topics for discussion include crop agronomy, varieties, disease management and market options. A light BBQ will follow the meeting at 7.30pm. All welcome. For more information contact Geoff McLeod on M. 0427 833 261.

Anthony Couroupis
General Manager

Announced allocation

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

Water availability and usage

(11/03/14)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 32 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 283 GL
On-Farm Usage 809 GL
(Including Off-Allocation Usage of .. 88 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today

Water for Sale 10,823 ML
Price Range \$69 - \$150
Buy Offer..... \$63
Last 10 Sales 391 ML
Price Range \$68 - \$69

To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

04/03/14 – 10/03/14

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 57; 5,232ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 2; 1,326ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 23; 3,432ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 3; 3,126ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade.... -963ML (week) +13,486ML (YTD)

Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm..... 26GL (38% on annual pasture)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	4,550	10,000
Wakool Canal	800	2,350
Escape flows	300	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

04/03/14 – 11/03/14 Rain Evap
Finley 0.0mm 49.3mm
Tullakool..... 8.5mm 43.6mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....3,481 GL.....90 %
Hume.....1,278 GL.....43 %
Lake Victoria..... N/A.....N/A
Menindee Lakes420 GL.....24 %
Active Storage.....N/A.....N/A

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point 15,859 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 9,078 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge925 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 771 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy.....303 ML/d
Flow to SA.....N/A
Murray to the SeaN/A

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