

TalkingWater

Tuesday 25 March 2014



Murray Irrigation

Third quarter accounts

Customers have until **midday Friday 4 April** to transfer delivery entitlements in order to offset the Casual Usage Fee (which applies where water use is greater than 120 percent of delivery entitlements on a landholding or consolidated account) for third quarter accounts. We will soon send an SMS to those customers at risk of incurring the casual usage fee. As the SMS service is now available for customers from the *Water ordering* system, Murray Irrigation will not be calling customers about this issue. Customers may receive more than one SMS alert about their casual usage.

If you have not registered for SMS messages you are encouraged to do so either directly via *Water ordering* (internet or smartphone) or by completing Form 1 available from our website www.murrayirrigation.com.au, under 'Customers' then 'Forms' or via reception.

The SMS notification is based on water ordered, this means that customers with extended orders may wish to confirm if they require additional delivery entitlements based on water use by Monday 31 March.

If in doubt about whether you need additional delivery entitlements to avoid paying the Casual Usage Fee, please contact Water Trade staff via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Water Exchange terms and conditions

Customers are reminded of the Exchange's terms and conditions which require buyers to pay Murray Irrigation within one business day of a purchase, including the purchase fee of \$20. The payment amount is advised to the buyer when the purchase is made.

Based on recent experience we request customers paying by BPay or EFT send a copy of their payment receipt via email to: wex@murrayirrigation.com.au or facsimile F. 03 5898 3305. We also recommend customers paying by cheque do so in person at either the Deniliquin or Finley offices.

The terms and conditions of the Exchange are available from our website www.murrayirrigation.com.au under 'Water' then 'Water trade'.

If you require clarification please contact our Water Trade staff via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Rice water drainage

Rice growers are required to complete an application form '*Application to discharge into drains*' before draining water into the stormwater drainage system. Approval will only be given when all other on-farm options for the draining of the rice crop have been exhausted.

Forms can be accessed via Murray Irrigation's website, click on 'Customers', then 'Forms' and 'General Forms'. For further information please contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Water Trade clarified

Parliamentary Secretary for the Environment, Senator Simon Birmingham, last week announced amendments to the Corporations Act that will ensure the trade of basic water rights is exempt from the financial products regulatory regime. The amendments are designed to clarify the status of water rights and will prevent the introduction of additional onerous and unnecessary reporting obligations. The amendments allow continued trade of water rights under current market structures.

Water allocation outlook

Murray Irrigation appreciated the release by the NSW Office of Water (NOW) of the NSW Murray water allocation outlook last week. The NOW outlook information shows that if average inflows occur, the forecast NSW Murray general security allocation is 29 percent by 1 September and 70 percent by 1 November.

Customers are reminded that it is possible to carryover up to 50 percent of NSW Murray general security entitlements from 2013/14 to 2014/15. The maximum volume available in your water allocation account (net of annual trade) is 110 percent of NSW Murray general security entitlements.

Murray Irrigation has updated its Fact sheet titled *Carryover, the basics*, a copy of this is available from our website under 'Customers', 'Customer information', then 'Fact sheets'.

Anthony Couroupis, General Manager

Announced allocation

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

Water availability and usage

(25/03/14)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements 27 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance 239 GL
On-Farm Usage 867 GL
(Including Off-Allocation Usage of .. 88 GL)

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 7,625 ML
Price Range \$79 - \$149
Buy Offer \$70
Yesterday's Sales 346 ML
Price Range \$79 - \$83
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

18/03/14 – 24/03/14

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML) 49; 6,014ML
External buyers (No. & ML) 4; 905ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML) 50; 6,788ML
External sellers (No. & ML) 2; 131ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade +1,343ML (week) +15,228ML (YTD)

Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm 30GL (54% on annual pasture)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	3,500	10,000
Wakool Canal	860	2,350
Escape flows	200	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

18/03/14 – 24/03/14 Rain Evap
Finley 0mm 41.1mm
Tullakool 0mm 40.7mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth 3,465 GL 90 %
Hume 1,113 GL 37 %
Lake Victoria 447 GL 66 %
Menindee Lakes 373 GL 22 %
Active Storage 5,398 GL 58 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point 10,961 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra Weir 7,370 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ... 3,531 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald 237 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy 268 ML/d
Flow to SA 6,597 ML/d
Murray to the Sea N/A

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