

Talking Water

Tuesday 10 November 2015



Murray Irrigation

SAFETY FIRST

Quad bike awareness

The latest statistics from Farmsafe Australia show quad bikes are at the top of the danger list for farmers. Nationally, four-wheel motorbikes have been responsible for 17 deaths already this year and have overtaken tractors as the most common cause of farm accidents.

Customers are urged to take all necessary precautions and wear safety equipment at all times when using farm equipment.

2015 Annual General Meeting

Murray Irrigation's 2015 Annual General Meeting (AGM) will be held on Thursday 19 November at the Deniliquin RSL Club, End Street Deniliquin. Registrations commence at 6.00pm, with the meeting to start at 7.00pm.

To access the Notice of Meeting and 2015 Annual Report, visit www.murrayirrigation.com.au and click on 'Corporate' then 'Annual Reports'. Here you will also find an archive of previous reports. For more information, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Next allocation announcement

DPI Water's next allocation announcement is due next Monday 16 November. It will include more detailed information, including comparison with last year. Murray Irrigation will pass the announcement on to customers as early as possible that day.

Customers can also access this information, as well as details on Murrumbidgee allocations, via the 'media releases' section of the DPI website www.water.nsw.gov.au.

Allocation calculation

The DPI Water calculates the amount of water available for allocation based on rules in the Water Sharing Plan (WSP) which prioritise according to class of entitlement. There is a summary of the WSP on the Murray Irrigation website. Click on 'Customers' then 'Customer information', 'Water resource information' and 'Storage and sharing'.

Increasing delivery efficiency

Given the low water allocation and seasonal outlook, Murray Irrigation will be looking to conserve water where possible and increase delivery efficiency within the system. Murray Irrigation will distribute further information on this shortly. This may include measures such as lowering operating heights in channels and requiring customers to give advance notice of water orders.

First quarter invoices

Payment of first quarter invoices are due by 5.00pm Friday 27 November. Customers are reminded that Murray Irrigation's new debt management procedure has been implemented. Customers should also note that the discount for on-time payments is now five percent and applicable only to Murray Irrigation charges, not government charge recoveries. For more information, or if you are having difficulty paying your account, contact our Finance department on T. 1300 138 265.

October weather/inflows summary

The MDBA reports that weather conditions across the Murray-Darling Basin during October were dominated by record-breaking warmth, coupled with low rainfall at most locations. Mean monthly maximum temperatures were the highest on record for almost all of southern Australia, including most of the Basin.

Across the Basin as a whole, the Bureau of Meteorology has reported area-averaged rain for October totalling just 17.7mm. The total was 56 percent below the long-term monthly mean and it was the 16th driest October observed during the past 116 years of record.

River Murray System inflows for October (excluding Snowy Scheme, Darling River and managed environmental inflows) continued to decrease, as the dry conditions of spring 2015 persisted. The monthly total of around 250GL was the lowest for October since 2008 and well below October's long-term monthly average of about 1,400GL. In comparison with the historical record since 1891, only about five percent of previous Octobers have recorded lower inflows than October 2015.

Michael Renehan, CEO

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 13 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 3 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(10/11/15)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements.....23 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 192 GL
On-Farm Usage 123 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 5,596 ML
Price Range \$260 - \$1,000
Buy Offer..... \$245
Yesterday's Sales..... 340 ML
Price Range \$255 - \$265
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

03/11/15 – 09/11/15

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML).....7; 685ML
External buyers (No. & ML).....2; 280ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 17; 965ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade...-2,604ML(week)...29,731ML(YTD)

Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm.....1 GL

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	289	10,000
Wakool Canal	90	2,350
Escape flows	0	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

03/11/15 – 09/11/15 Rain Evap
Finley 50.5mm 36.7mm
Tullakool..... 26.8mm 41.0mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....2,310 GL..... 60 %
Hume.....1,374 GL..... 46 %
Lake Victoria.....563 GL..... 83 %
Menindee Lakes86 GL..... 5 %
Active Storage.....4,333 GL..... 47 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point 7,838 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 10,030 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge791 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,931 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A
Flow to SA..... 7,293 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 5 gates open