



SAFETY FIRST

Irrigating during algae bloom

Customers irrigating with water containing blue-green algae have an occupational exposure to the algae and should take all necessary safety precautions. Some people may develop symptoms similar to an allergic reaction such as skin irritations, itching, rashes or hay fever type symptoms. Spray irrigation using water containing blue-green algae may produce aerosols that can cause asthma or respiratory irritation in some people.

For livestock drinking water, where water is piped, locating the inlet as deep as possible where the concentration of the blue-green algae tends to be lower, reduces the risk. This may reduce the amount of blue-green algae pumped into stock troughs. Livestock will generally avoid drinking from the blue-green algae scums.

No livestock deaths or symptoms have been reported on any of the Murray region waterways impacted by blue-green algae. For up to date information see:

<http://www.water.nsw.gov.au/water-management/water-quality/algal-information>.

Community info session

TAFE NSW Riverina Institute is providing a free information session on blue-green algae from 12.30pm **today**, Wednesday 30 March. It will be held at Riverina Institute's National Environment Centre in Thurgoona and will be broadcast live into other campuses including Deniliquin and Finley. For full details, contact your local TAFE.

Snowy Advance update

As mentioned in Thursday's *Chairman's report*, Murray Irrigation will soon be announcing the pricing structure for its Snowy Advance project via a special *Talking Water* to allow customers to plan their winter and summer farming programs. When available, details will be loaded to the dedicated 'Snowy Advance' section of our website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

Allocation update this Friday

DPI Water's next water allocation statement is due this Friday 1 April. Murray Irrigation will pass the announcement on to customers as early as possible.

Exchange purchases over Easter

Customers are reminded that payment for any Exchange purchases made over the Easter weekend must be received as cleared funds by 5.00pm this Thursday 31 March. For information or assistance, contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Daylight savings this Sunday

Daylight savings ends this Sunday 3 April. Customers wishing to start, extend or alter their water orders that overlap the daylight savings period are asked to contact a Murray Irrigation Network Controller, via reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Merge/consolidate water accounts

Customers owning multiple landholdings and water accounts are reminded that the option to merge or consolidate these water accounts can assist in administration and end of season accounting. There are two options to choose from: option 1 – merge multiple landholdings into a single account; or option 2 – retain multiple water accounts with a consolidated water balance for reporting. To merge accounts, customers must complete *Form 34 – Merge/Consolidate Water Accounts*, which is available via the 'Customers' then 'Forms' and 'General forms' section of our website: www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

Water Forum in Deniliquin

Organisers of the 'Speak Up' campaign would like to thank those who attended the World Water Day community march in Deniliquin on Tuesday 22 March.

Speak Up has organised a Water Forum for Wednesday 6 April. Member for Farrer, The Hon. Sussan Ley, is expected to attend and invitations have been extended to the Member for Murray, The Hon. Adrian Piccoli and the Minister for Primary Industries, Lands and Water, The Hon. Niall Blair. Registration will take place from 9.15am in the Mountbatten Room at the Deniliquin RSL Club. Questions to be posed must be provided to Speak Up before the forum. For further information or to RSVP, please contact Karen Macdonald on M. 0429 825 984, Shelley Scoullar on M. 0414 960 785 or email speakup4water@gmail.com.

Michael Renehan, CEO

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 23 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 6 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(30/03/16)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 19 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 153 GL
On-Farm Usage 253 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 5,557 ML
Price Range \$224 - \$300
Buy Offer..... \$215
Yesterday's Sales..... 590 ML
Price Range \$225 - \$230
To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

23/03/16 – 29/03/16
Murray Water Exchange activity
Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 19; 2,674ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 2; 255ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 19; 2,037ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 2; 892ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade...-3,011ML(week)...22,529ML(YTD)
Crop weekly water use
GL used on farm..... 16 GL (26% on summer crops)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,721	10,000
Wakool Canal	540	2,350
Escape flows	0	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

23/03/16 – 29/03/16 Rain Evap
Finley N/A N/A
Tullakool..... N/A N/A

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth.....1,682 GL..... 44 %
Hume.....783 GL.....26 %
Lake Victoria.....256 GL.....38 %
Menindee Lakes52 GL.....3 %
Active Storage.....2,773 GL.....30 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 12,581 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 7,753 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge ...1,724 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 1,616 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A
Flow to SA..... 7,904 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 0 gates open