



SAFETY FIRST

Managing on-farm safety

Managing health and safety on farm can contribute to improved profitability as well as welfare. There are some simple steps primary producers can take to ensure a safe workplace for themselves, their family and their employees. They are:

- Consult - involve your workers.
- Identify hazards - unsafe conditions and practices.
- Assess the risk - consider the likely outcome for each hazard.
- Control the risk – by elimination or substitution; if that can't be done, use protective equipment and risk minimisation procedures.
- Keep records – write down your OH&S activity.

For more advice visit:

www.rirdc.gov.au/news/2016/03/01/top-tips-to-manage-on-farm-safety.

Offtakes to close Monday 2 May

Customers are reminded that Murray Irrigation intends closing its Mulwala and Wakool Canal offtakes on **Monday 2 May**. Customers must speak to their Channel Attendant to discuss watering intentions for the remainder of the season (including storage and farm dams for stock and domestic) so Murray Irrigation can plan end of season arrangements, including commencement of PIIOP construction works. Channels will be progressively drained over the next three weeks where no irrigation intentions have been indicated.

More detailed information on end of season arrangements will be distributed via a special *Talking Water* later this month. Alternatively, customers can contact reception on T. 1300 138 265.

Snowy Advance

Murray Irrigation expects to release the Snowy Advance offer and application documents this Friday 15 April. Full details and relevant application forms will be available via 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 15 April. It will

include an update of the water availability outlook for 2016/17. Murray Irrigation will pass the announcement on to customers as early as possible.

Environment Policy implementation

Murray Irrigation's Environment Policy outlines the calculation of the maximum rice water usage figure and climatic adjustment to the total farm water use limit.

The final maximum **rice water usage** figures for 2015/16 are:

- 16.4ML/ha for E, Q and M landholdings;
- 19.3ML/ha for D, W and T landholdings.

The difference is due to the significantly lower rainfall in the western region of Murray Irrigation's area of operations for the 2015/16 irrigation season. There will be no increase in the **total farm water balance** use limit for E, Q, and M landholdings for the 2015/16 irrigation season. The total farm water balance use limit for D, W and T landholdings will increase by eight percent due to the significantly lower rainfall in the western region of Murray Irrigation's area of operations for the 2015/16 irrigation season.

The Environment Policy is available in the 'Corporate' then 'Company Policies' section of our website.

MILCast finalist in business awards

MILCast has been named as a finalist in the Excellence in Small Business section of the Berrigan Shire Business Awards. The award recognises businesses in the Berrigan Shire for their contribution to the region's economic development and environmental sustainability. The presentation evening will be held on Wednesday 20 April. For all MILCast product enquiries, call T. 03 5888 3051 or visit www.murrayirrigation.com.au/milcast/.

Murray Dairy seasonal conditions

Murray Dairy is holding an 'Optimise your water options' workshop on Monday 18 April. It will be held from 10.30am at the Finley RS Club with lunch provided. The event will cover water availability across the Southern Connected Murray Darling Basin, seasonal outlooks and important decision point triggers. For more information, or to RSVP, contact Murray Dairy on T. 03 5833 5312 or E. admin@murraydairy.com.au.

Michael Renehan, CEO

Announced allocation

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

Water availability and usage

(12/04/16)

Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 14 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 118 GL
On-Farm Usage 295 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today

Water for Sale 5,092 ML
Price Range \$235 - \$299
Buy Offer..... \$215
Yesterday's Sales..... 1,094 ML
Price Range \$225 - \$235

To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

05/04/16 – 11/04/16

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML).....31; 2,340ML
External buyers (No. & ML).....2; 1,373ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML).....24; 3,166ML
External sellers (No. & ML).....2; 547ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)

Net trade...-5,109ML(week)...21,219ML(YTD)

Crop weekly water use

GL used on farm.....15 GL (22% on summer crops)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	2,705	10,000
Wakool Canal	598	2,350
Escape flows	200	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

05/04/16 – 11/04/16 Rain Evap
Finley N/A N/A
Tullakool..... N/A N/A

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Dartmouth.....1,675 GL.....43 %
Hume.....671 GL.....22 %
Lake Victoria.....244 GL.....36 %
Menindee Lakes53 GL.....3 %
Active Storage.....2,643 GL.....29 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)

Murray @ Doctors Point 12,841 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 7,009 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge 921 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 511 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... N/A
Flow to SA..... 5,517 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 2 gates open