



SAFETY FIRST

Fire safety during harvest

The NSW Rural Fire Service has developed a voluntary grain harvesting guide to help farmers and harvesting contractors determine if it's safe to harvest. Each year, firefighters attend a number of farm fires started as a result of harvesting operations. Many have the potential to destroy homes, crops and livelihoods. Farmers can use the handy guide to determine if it's safe to harvest. Download the guide at: www.rfs.nsw.gov.au/plan-and-prepare/prepare-your-property/farm-fire-safety/grain-harvesting-guide.

Plan ahead when ordering water

As the weather gets warmer, and demand for water increases, customers are reminded to place their irrigation orders well in advance to avoid a potential delay in delivery. A minimum of four days' notice (day one is for orders received before 6.30am) is required to guarantee delivery.

Customers are also reminded that they can set up order end date notifications via SMS for both four days and one day. For more information or assistance, contact Customer Support on T. 1300 138 265.

Accounts reminder

Customers who have outstanding June 2016 quarter invoices or older are currently on 'stop supply' unless otherwise discussed with our Finance team. In order to avoid issues ordering water over the Christmas closure, please ensure arrears are settled prior to Thursday 22 December 2016. Statements for accounts have been sent to those customers with an outstanding balance or credit. If you are unsure of any transactions on your statement, please contact Customer Support on T. 1300 138 265.

November rainfall and inflows

November saw the return to near-average rainfall for much of the southern Murray-Darling Basin. Overall, the Bureau of Meteorology reported area averaged rain for November was 22.3mm, 44 percent below the long-term monthly mean. For the Murray catchments, this was the first month without above average rain since May this year.

With catchments wet from six months of above-average rainfall prior to November, last month's near-average rainfall still resulted in above average inflows. Inflows to the River Murray System during November (excluding Snowy Scheme, Darling River and managed environmental inflows) totalled just under 1,500GL, well-above the month's long-term average of around 790GL.

Spring inflows summary

Following on from high winter inflows, spring 2016 inflows to the River Murray System in general totalled around 8,500GL, which is only exceeded in about eight percent of years. For full details, see the MDBA's 7 December weekly report, via: www.mdba.gov.au/river-information/weekly-reports.

Farewell Lyn Cartwright

Long-serving Murray Irrigation Customer Support Officer, Lyn Cartwright, has announced her retirement after 16 years with the company. Lyn joined Murray Irrigation in September 2000 as Receptionist. During these 16 years, Lyn has provided invaluable service to our customers and assistance across the entire organisation. Lyn's last day will be on Friday 23 December 2016. We wish her all the best for the future.

Innovators workshop

Rice Extension, with support from Murray Local Land Services, is holding its fourth 'Innovators Workshop' from 9.30am this Wednesday 14 December at the Murray Irrigation Finley office. The focus will be on management of the new rice varieties and weeds, irrigation design and practical drone applications. Field visits will include the Rice Research Australia Finley farm and conclude at 'Old Coree', Jerilderie.

Ricegrowers' Association of Australia is hosting a social BBQ dinner with two guest speakers to round out the day. All welcome. For further details, or to RSVP, contact Rice Extension Officer - Murray Valley, Troy Mauger, on M. 0417 375 168.

Michael Renehan, CEO

Announced allocation

Class C General Security 100 %
Water Efficiency Allocation 0 %
(Efficiency Allocation on Delivery Entitlements)

Water availability and usage

(13/12/16)
Vol. Remaining % of Entitlements..... 86 %
On-Farm (incl. WEX Volume)
On-Farm Balance..... 679 GL
On-Farm Usage 253 GL

Water exchange

8.30am today
Water for Sale 11,989 ML
Price Range \$79 - \$250
Buy Offer \$67
Yesterday's Sales..... 699 ML
Price \$74 - \$79

To buy water call 1300 781 431

Water use and trade data

06/12/16 – 12/12/16

Murray Water Exchange activity

Internal buyers (No. & ML)..... 15; 2,901ML
External buyers (No. & ML)..... 1; 300ML
Internal sellers (No. & ML)..... 13; 3,201ML
External sellers (No. & ML)..... 0; 0ML

Trade to and from licence (excl. Govt.)
Net trade..... 2,714ML(week) 1,166ML(YTD)

Crop weekly water use

ML used on farm..... 22GL (43% on rice)

Channel flows today (ML/day)

	Actual	Capacity
Mulwala Canal	3,706	10,000
Wakool Canal	1,123	2,350
Escape flows	500	3,250

Rainfall and evaporation

06/12/16 – 12/12/16 Rain Evap
Finley 1.5mm 46.0mm
Tullakool..... 1.8mm 48.8mm

Storages

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Dartmouth..... 2,984 GL..... 77 %
Hume..... 2,853 GL..... 95 %
Lake Victoria..... 671 GL..... 99 %
Menindee Lakes 1,571 GL..... 91 %
Active Storage..... 8,079 GL..... 87 %

Rivers

8.30am today (mdba.gov.au)
Murray @ Doctors Point 16,229 ML/d
Murray d/s Yarra. Weir 14,505 ML/d
Goulburn @ McCoy's Bridge .. 1,026 ML/d
M'Bidgee d/s Balranald..... 11,173 ML/d
Darling @ Burtundy..... 1,417 ML/d
Flow to SA..... 85,043 ML/d
Murray to the Sea 136 gates open

This information is provided for general reference purposes only. Murray Irrigation takes best endeavours to ensure accuracy. It is collated at 8.00am Tuesdays and is subject to change.