

Talking Water

Tuesday 9 February 2010



Murray Irrigation Limited

443 Charlotte St DENILIKUIN NSW 2710
PO Box 528 DENILIKUIN NSW 2710
T. 03 5898 3300 F. 03 5898 3301
www.murrayirrigation.com.au

Autumn irrigation program – Customers considering an autumn irrigation program are reminded to discuss their intentions with their Planner **as soon as possible**. Early notification of autumn delivery requirements will assist Murray Irrigation to assess channel maintenance requirements and achieve delivery of water on-farm as efficiently as possible.

Due date for December 2009 quarterly accounts this Friday - Customers are reminded that to be eligible for the 10% discount for on-time payment the December quarterly account must be paid by **5.00pm this Friday 12 February 2010**.

Land and Water Management Plans end – In the past two weeks Murray Irrigation has farewelled the remaining Land and Water Management Plan Officers Felicity Steel (Berriquin), Kirsty Swinton (Cadell), and Andi White (Berriquin). LWMP Team Leader Michael Pisasale will remain with Murray Irrigation supervising delivery of the Pilot On-farm Efficiency Program.

The LWMPs were effectively brought to a close following the decision by the Commonwealth not to allocate further funds to the program in 2009/10 and by the NSW Government to allocate minimal funds for the same period (though the NSW Government met its 'Heads of Agreement' funding commitment). The LWMPs remain one of Australia's largest integrated natural resource management programs, for which Murray Irrigation was the implementation authority, and achieved proven results and efficiency in delivering large scale on-ground natural resource management works and related projects.

NSW Office of Water Report on Menindee Lakes – The NSW Office of Water has released a detailed report on the Management of the Menindee Lakes releases to South Australia. The report explains the volumes involved, and decisions regarding the sharing of this water. While the existing water sharing agreement between the states remains in place, there have been complex negotiations between the states to reach mutual agreement.

Murray Irrigation is continuing to pursue the option with Government of additional allocation resulting from these inflows. The report is available under the *Water Resouce Updates* section of the Murray Irrigation website at www.murrayirrigation.com.au.

Ricegrowers' Association Branch Meetings – The remaining half-yearly RGA branch meetings will be held as follows:

Meeting	Venue	Date	Time
Deniliquin/Victorian Branches	Pretty Pine Hall	Tue 9 February (today)	10.00am (BBQ lunch)
Berriquin Branch	Old Coree Road, Jerilderie*	Wed 3 March	3.30pm

*Please note: The Berriquin Branch meeting will follow the NSW Department of Industry and Investment (formerly Primary Industries) Rice Field Day.

I have been invited to attend as a guest speaker and will be making a presentation on the following topics: 1) NSW Water Availability 2) MIL Water Availability 3) On-farm Water Availability and Usage 4) Policy and Strategy.

ANNOUNCED ALLOCATION

Class C General Security	13%
Class B High Security	97%
Class A Town Water	97%
Maximum (allocation+carryover)	100%
Carryover access	100%
Water Efficiency Distribution	4%

WATER EXCHANGE – 8.30am 09/02/10 To buy water 1300 781 431

Water for sale	6,607 ML
Price range	\$154 - \$735 /ML
Buy offer	\$150 /ML
Last 10 sales	699 ML
Price range	\$150 - \$154 /ML

For Water and Delivery Entitlement price go to:

www.murrayirrigation.com.au/watexch/perm_hist.aspx

CHANNEL FLOWS 09/02/2010

Mulwala Canal	1,150 ML/day
Capacity	10,000 ML/day
Wakool Canal	105 ML/day
Capacity	2,350 ML/day
Total Escape flows	775 ML/day

RAINFALL AND EVAPORATION

03/02/10 – 09/02/10

Finley rainfall	66.3 mm
Finley evaporation	61.5 mm
Tullakool rainfall	42.2 mm
Tullakool evaporation	63.0 mm

STORAGES

Week ending Wed 3 February 2010 (MDBA)

Storage	% Full	Change
1,187 GL	30%	- 4 GL
Hume		
591 GL	19%	- 52 GL
Lake Victoria		
294 GL	43%	- 21 GL
Menindee Lakes		
357 GL	21%	+63 GL
Total		
2,429 GL	26%	-14 GL
Lock 1 flow 8/02/2010		6,140 ML/day

MURRAY IRRIGATION OFFICES

Monday – Friday 8.30am – 5pm

Deniliquin	03 5898 3300
Finley	03 5888 3000
Wakool	03 5887 0500
Water Order Number	1300 781 431

Anthony Couroupis
General Manager