



MVCB Weekly News

11th June 2013

www.mvcitrus.org.au

Murray Valley Citrus Board

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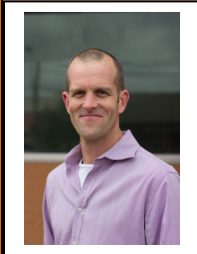
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Technical Field Day and Workshops Update

Sunraysia Citrus Growers, Murray Valley Citrus Board and NSW DPI has put together a two day program that brings some of the world's best and brightest citrus researchers, breeders and extension personnel to Australia. Growers should not miss this unique opportunity to hear from some the best experts in the citrus industry.

Growers are urged to register early for the MVCB/SCG Technical Field Day which will be held on 26 June and with workshops to be held on 27 June. Numbers will be limited and there has already been high numbers of registrations from citrus growers in the Tri-state area.

One of the highlights of the first day, 26 June, will be Ben Barnett, his talk will explore the feasibility of on-farm solar panels. Ben is a pioneer in the early stage development of utility scale solar projects in Australia. Ben has extensive on ground experience in the establishment of "shovel ready" solar projects and has worked in the Mallee for over 10 years.



He has successfully managed early stage development for the two largest solar PV projects permitted in Australia to date; and currently works with clients, government, communities and industry to deploy large and small scale solar projects across the country.

The two day program will be free for Murray Valley growers, and \$20 for other industry stakeholders and non-Murray Valley growers.

Ring the Board's office on (03) 5051 0500 to register.

Voting Reminders

A voting meeting will be held in Mildura on Tuesday 18 June 2013 at 3pm at the MVCB office. Your vote can be cast in person or by allocating a proxy. The Agricultural Industry Development Act 1990 terms require that a meeting be conducted for voting purposes with each registered citrus producer casting one vote. Ensure your vote is counted - if you know you will not be able to attend the voting meeting complete your proxy form and intentions and return to the Board ASAP.

Carryover Water Decisions

Carryover, like water trading, provides entitlement holders with more opportunities to manage their own water availability.

Carrying over water between irrigation years can provide a number of potential benefits, including:

- Unused allocation is available in future season (to be traded or used without need to purchase) rather than forfeited at the end of the season.
- Ensuring access to water early in the following season, particularly if opening allocations are low.
- Protection against increases in the market price of water.

If conditions in the following water year turn out to be unfavorably dry, with limited allocations and buyers willing to pay high prices for water on the market, then the decision to carry over water may be a very rewarding one.

Diary Dates:

26 June 2013

Growers' Technical Field Day.

8:30am to 5:00pm

NSW DPI Research Station

27 June 2013

Workshop with world leading production, rootstock and variety experts from Spain and Israel.

NSW DPI Research Station

On the other hand, a decision to carry over water between irrigation seasons poses a number of potential costs given the uncertainty that surrounds future season conditions, including:

- The opportunity cost of holding water – holding on to water rather than money means that you are not earning interest on this amount (or offsetting debt).
- Potential decreases in the market price of water carried over.

The variability in the market price of water is an important factor to consider when making carryover decisions because it can be highly volatile. In recent years, allocation prices have varied from less than \$10/ML to more than \$1000/ML.

In addition, there are also costs imposed under carryover rules, these include:

- Evaporation losses that reduce the volume of water carried over by 5%.
- The risk of water being held in a spillable account if conditions are wet, with the chance that it will not be declared available (for use or trade) when you wish to access it, or even that you might lose water if storages spill
- The additional fees which are levied on storing water above your entitlement volume.

While carryover can provide a valuable tool to manage the risks of dry years, it is worth understanding the potential costs and benefits involved in carryover decisions, and thinking through how opportunities to carry over and trade water might benefit your enterprise.

There is information available that you can use to help inform your carryover decision, including:

- Carryover Calculator: to understand current carryover rules
- [Waterregister.vic.gov.au/Public/Carryover Calculator.aspx](http://Waterregister.vic.gov.au/Public/Carryover%20Calculator.aspx)
- Victorian Resource Manager: for seasonal outlooks and the risk of spill
 - www.nvrm.net.au/
- MDBA: for storage levels and river flows
 - www.mdba.gov.au/water/waterinstorage
- BOM: for seasonal streamflow forecasts
 - www.bom.gov.au/water/ssf/

(Source: DEPI April 2013)

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