

## OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

- To provide an overview of the current and future capabilities of climate and crop models which provide the basis for opportunities to link these elements for improved regional and on-farm irrigation scheduling and management decisions.
- To provide an update on progress under a joint Queensland Rural Water Use Efficiency and National Program for Irrigation Research and Development program on "proof of concept" modelling for Queensland and New South Wales.
- To provide a pragmatic evaluation of the infrastructure limitations to adoption of short term climate forecasting within the irrigation industry.
- Provide a strategic vision for the opportunities and limitations to the integration of short term climate forecasting into on-farm decision making
- Provide an outline of a strategic work program to progress the evaluation and refinement of this approach in collaboration with industry and key irrigation farmers.

## SUMMARY OF GOALS

The Rural Water Use Efficiency Initiative is a partnership between industry and the Qld government to improve the use and management of available irrigation water, thereby improving the competitiveness, profitability, and environmental sustainability of Queensland's rural industries.

The National Program for Irrigation R&D (NPIRD) is focusing on efficiency of water use in irrigation areas. The challenges are to:

- Improve water management and water use efficiency;
- Enhance productivity and sustainability of irrigation;
- Fund cost-effective solutions to infrastructure refurbishment;
- Minimise the impacts of salts, nutrients and other pollutants; and
- Increase the adoption of appropriate technology by irrigators throughout Australia.

## TARGET AUDIENCE

- Climate Forecasting Specialists
- RWUE industry reps
- IAA systems specialist
- Irrigation industry advisors

- Irrigation practitioners
- Water Balance and Crop Modellers
- Water Supply Companies
- Key R&D providers

## INVITED SPEAKERS

- David White – Consultant
- Peter Timmers - NRM & Mark Littleboy - DLWC
- Elizabeth Ebert – Bureau of Meteorology
- Paul Dalton – Industry Consultant
- Graeme Milligan - DNRM
- Brett Tucker - NPIRD
- Ian Hayllor – Cotton Grower
- Tony Horton - IAA



## WORKSHOP TOPICS

1. A review of short term climate forecasting. **Elizabeth Ebert - Bureau of Meteorology**
2. Can Crop Models capture water stress and water logging effects on crop yield? **David White**
3. Validation of the PERFECT water balance model for irrigated crops. **Peter Timmers and Mark Littleboy**
4. Proof of concept of short term forecasting and WUE. **Peter Timmers**
5. National Benchmarking on water use and water use efficiency. How good is the data? **Brett Tucker**
6. Measuring water on the farm, a review of measurement, methods and case studies. **Paul Dalton**
7. Delivering RWUE through Industry and Government partnerships. **Graeme Milligan**
8. Perspective from a practical irrigator; Can irrigation scheduling theory be put into practice? **Ian Hayllor**
9. Can rural water use efficiency deliver the goods for the irrigation industry? An IAA perspective. **Tony Horton**
10. Integrating the themes and knowledge.



Can we reduce the arrow?

RSVP: 25 May 2001 to:

*Colleen Morris*

*Administration Officer DNR*

*80 Meiers Road, Indooroopilly*

*PH: 3896 9800 FAX: 3896 9623*

*EMAIL: [Colleen.Morris@dnr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Colleen.Morris@dnr.qld.gov.au)*

*or*

*Ted Gardner*

*Principal Scientist DNR*

*80 Meiers Road, Indooroopilly*

*PH: 3896 9488 FAX: 3896 9623*

*EMAIL: [Ted.Gardner@dnr.qld.gov.au](mailto:Ted.Gardner@dnr.qld.gov.au)*

*Can Short Term Climate  
Forecasting Improve  
Irrigation Efficiency?*



## WORKSHOP

**Riverglenn Conference Centre**

**70 Kate Street  
Indooroopilly**

**BRISBANE**

**6 – 7 June 2001**