

## Irrigation field day wrap-up

Irrigation management and water trade were the topics covered at our July field day, which was attended by about 25 growers and industry staff.

Agriculture Victoria's Jeremy Giddings spoke about balancing the vines' significant demand for water between cutting and harvest, and applying water without causing fruit to darken. Jeremy also said that well-positioned and maintained real-time soil moisture probes were critical to understanding the changing irrigation needs of vines.

Additionally, Peter Morrish from Ruralco Water provided insight into the water market and trading options available to individual irrigators, and offered guidance on how to make trades.

Many thanks to Daryn Gardner for hosting the event and for the impromptu guided tour of his property and machinery shed.

## Pump efficiency workshop

As the cost of energy rises, having an efficient pump is becoming more important. However, pump testing in many regions of Australia, including Sunraysia, found that about half were not performing efficiently.

A workshop will be held in Mildura on Tuesday 8 August to demonstrate simple measures irrigators can use to determine their pump's efficiency level and address poor performance.

Presenter Peter Smith, formerly of NSW DPI, will cover the following topics:

- Types of pumps
- Basic principles, understanding pump curves and specifications
- Determining pump performance in the field
- Calculating cost benefit of correction
- Pump selection
- The benefits of variable speed drives

The workshop will be held from 2pm to 5pm at the corner of Koorlong Avenue and Eleventh Street, Irymple. For more information and to register, contact Jeremy Giddings on 5051 4566 or at [jeremy.giddings@ecodev.vic.gov.au](mailto:jeremy.giddings@ecodev.vic.gov.au).



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### Disclaimer:

Dried Fruits Australia provides this information in good faith and of a general nature. Growers should make their own decisions regarding individual situations and property conditions.