

CMA funding for on-farm Water Use Efficiency activities

The Border Rivers Gwydir Catchment Management Authority has released a new round of Water Use Efficiency Incentives. Incentives up to **\$60,000** are available to landholders to carry out works which improve water use efficiency.

Water use efficiency funding includes:

- 1) Implementation of on-ground works identified in Irrigation Drainage Management Plans (IDMP's), Cotton BMP Plans or other certified plans that improve water use efficiency -up to \$60,000 with plan or \$30,000 no plan
 - Establishment of new recycling systems or significant upgrades to keep water on farm
 - Sealing leaking channels or storages identified by EMI survey
 - Reconfiguration of fields with different soil types or change to shorter run lengths
 - Installation of pressurised systems
 - Piping irrigation water supply
 - Lasering newly purchased property and/or bringing layouts up to certified plan standards
- 2) Irrigation Evaluations
 - Field scale irrigation performance evaluations - \$1668 per evaluation
 - Whole farm water use efficiency evaluations using Watertrack – up to \$3500
- 3) Electromagnetic Induction (EMI) Surveys- \$10/ha up to \$10,000 per property
 - EMI survey to map various soil types within a field to assist with moisture probe placement
 - EMI survey to identify the presence of sub soil constraints

- EMI survey to identify "leaky" areas in a storage or distribution system
 - Validate existing EMI surveys with soil tests – up to \$1000
- 4) Storage Surveys
 - Storage survey to obtain a storage curve (volume to surface area relationship)
 - Installation of a calibrated gauge board or electronic storage meter – up to \$500
 - 5) C-Probes
 - Purchase C-probes - \$1000
 - Upgrade existing C-probes from CDMA to Next G - \$450
 - 6) Changing land use to better match land use to land capability - \$160/ha - \$1141/ha
 - Change cropping to perennial pastures
 - Fencing, watering points
 - Tree planting

Applications Close 21st November 2007

For more information on the water use efficiency incentive funding, visit the BR-G CMA website at www.brg.cma.nsw.gov.au or contact Nicole Gammie at the Inverell office on 6721-9841 or email Nicole.Gammie@cma.nsw.gov.au

Pick up application forms (which are easy to fill out) from the Border Rivers Gwydir CMA Office (Cnr Albert and Frome St, Moree) or contact the CMA to have them posted out.

Janelle Montgomery, Water Use Efficiency Officer with NSW DPI is also available to help with the applications. Phone: 67506302 Mobile: 0428 640 990 or email Janelle.Montgomery@dpi.nsw.gov.au