Measuring Every Drop

At Murrumbidgee Irrigation (MI) we have had a long history of investing in metering technology including testing different meters and assisting in the development of industry standards. The meters we use vary across different situations and are chosen to be the best in class for their intended use. The size and type of meter is selected based on customer irrigation system design and flowrate needs.

All meters have an optimal operating range, outside of which, for example persistently low flow rates, they can be subject to reduced accuracy. In addition, metered outlets operated after an extended down time, or continuously at low flows, can be subject to silt build which also impacts measurement accuracy.

Simple steps to ensure you get the flow rate you order:

- If you have not used your metered outlet for some time (several months) then it is a good idea to start your irrigation with a higher flow rate - to scour ("flush") any silt out of the meter – and then drop back to your usual flow rate.

- If you are in an area that is known to be subject to silt deposition it is a good idea to undertake scouring regularly as part of your irrigation regime to avoid silt build up during the irrigation season.

- If you find that you are using a low flow rate regularly, or for extended periods, (especially larger outlets) contact us so that we can work with you to ensure that you have the correct meter(s) for your needs.

- We are continually improving our ability to indentify meters that are not performing as expected based on crop types and water use information as well as other data.

- Where we identify a metered outlet is not operating as expected an assessment will be undertaken which may result in your meter reading being adjusted.

For information on the meters in our fleet see our Understanding your meter fact sheet.

WHAT CAN I DO TO HELP?

- Ensure that your crop area information is up to date.

- Ensure that your water orders are accurate.

- Contact us on 02 6962 0200 if you have any concerns.