



Know-how for Horticulture™



**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry**



**Horticulture**  
Manage today, plan for tomorrow

## **MEDIA RELEASE**

2 July 2008

### **Water allocations prompt planning for horticulturalists**

Horticulture irrigators beginning the season with an opening water allocation of two per cent along the Murray in South Australia have some big decisions to make.

Growers considering their options are being urged to consider a service being offered through Citrus Growers SA for all horticulture irrigators, not just citrus growers.

The organisation's Industry Development Officer, Kym Thiel, says two per cent will only make a difference in the short term.

"It's enough for one irrigation in July, which will keep trees alive for orchardists.

"However, growers need to be planning ahead and assessing their options between now and September, which is crunch time if the situation hasn't improved," Mr Thiel said.

One-on-one, free, confidential sessions are being offered between now and October to help horticulture irrigators access the financial and agronomic information they need to make business decisions in the face of reduced water availability.

"We've employed local people with expertise in finance or horticulture to help growers manage their businesses today, and plan for tomorrow.

"The sessions can provide a sounding board as growers review their finances and their ability to lease water, as well as other options.

"As it's tax time, a lot of this information will be close at hand anyway, so it's a perfect opportunity to take advantage of this service," Mr Thiel said.

To book your free session call Citrus Growers SA on 08 8582 1561 or email [citido@riverland.net.au](mailto:citido@riverland.net.au)

The project is being run by Horticulture Australia Limited in partnership with industry and supported by the Australian Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry. It operates across the southern Murray-Darling Basin through the Goulburn Valley, Swan Hill, Sunraysia and the Riverina as well as in South Australia.

For more information go to the HAL website, [www.horticulture.com.au/mdbdroughtinfo](http://www.horticulture.com.au/mdbdroughtinfo)

*In partnership with industry and supported by the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, Horticulture Australia Limited has developed this project "Drought Information Delivery for Horticulture in the Murray Darling Basin" (MDB) as part of the Australian Government's Irrigation Industries Workshop Programme.*

#### **Media contact:**

Kaaren Latham  
Cox Inall Communications  
02 8204 3852 / 0409 809 909  
[kaarenl@coxinall.com.au](mailto:kaarenl@coxinall.com.au)