



IRRIGATION EFFICIENCY: GETTING THE MOST OUT OF EVERY DROP

Irrigation is a key production input in Australian viticulture, essential to achieving yield and quality targets. Even in years where water security is not a concern and water costs are low, good water management is key to vineyard profitability. With an oversupply of fruit and low grape prices, growers need to make informed, strategic decisions about vineyard inputs and make sure that every input has the desired effect. Minimising wastage and inefficiencies is key. This workshop has been designed to provide growers in the inland irrigated regions of Australia with information, resources, training and support to help them to get the most out of their water inputs.

Time	Agenda	Presenter
08:30 – 08:45	Registration	
08:45 – 08:50	Introduction	Robyn Dixon (AWRI)
08:50 – 09:15	New online tool for water budgeting	Mark Skewes (SARDI)
09:15 – 09:40	Irrigation scheduling tools – which option is best for me?	Vinay Pagay (University of Adelaide)
09:40 – 10:05	Irrigation AgTech demonstrations in your region	Dave Gerner (Wine Australia)
10:05 – 10:30	Impact of irrigation distribution uniformity on yield	Mark Skewes (SARDI)
10:30 – 11:00	Morning tea	
11:00 – 12:30	Getting the most out of your irrigation system: best practice monitoring and maintenance training	Jeremy Giddings (Agriculture Victoria)
12:30	Workshop concludes	

Booking is essential. Please register via the link below for the session you wish to attend.

MILDURA

Tuesday 10 May, 8:30am – 12:30pm

SuniTAFE Smart Farm
161 Dairtnunk Ave, Irymple VIC 3498

[Register here](#)

SWAN HILL

Wednesday 11 May, 8:30am – 12:30pm

Andrew Peace Wines
4077 Murray Valley Hwy, Piangil VIC 3597

[Register here](#)

For more information, please contact AWRI Events
Ph. 08 8313 6600 | Email: events@awri.com.au



Robyn Dixon (AWRI)

Robyn Dixon is a Senior Viticulturalist at the AWRI, with over 20 years of national and international experience in vineyard management, technical viticulture, research, and extension. Since moving back to Australia from New Zealand, Robyn has been adapting her cool climate viticulture knowledge to Australian conditions, through the management of technical and extension programs across Australia.



Mark Skewes (SARDI)

Mark has worked at Loxton Research Centre since 1988, primarily in the field of irrigated crop management, including irrigation scheduling, and soil and plant water monitoring. Mark was involved in a project to develop a smart phone app for assessing water stress in vines, and a current project investigating the use of hyperspectral cameras to assess water stress in citrus. Mark is part of a team establishing the Almond Centre of Excellence research orchard at Loxton and is the national coordinator for AgriFutures Australia's Industrial Hemp Variety Trials.



Vinay Pagay (University of Adelaide)

Vinay Pagay is a Senior Lecturer in Viticulture at The University of Adelaide, Australia, where he teaches viticulture and conducts research on grapevines. Vinay received his doctorate at Cornell University (USA) in 2014 where he worked on the development of novel tools for plant water sensing. Vinay also holds a degree in computer engineering from McGill University (Canada). His basic and applied research lie at the intersection of grapevine ecophysiology and vineyard technology. His current applied research is looking into the use of proximal and remote sensing tools to obtain high spatial and temporal resolution data of both biotic and abiotic stresses in vineyards, as well as for precision irrigation scheduling in vineyards. His basic research is focusing on elucidating the mechanisms involved in improved grapevine water use efficiency under reduced irrigation, specifically the roles that chemical and hydraulic signals play, as well as the role of aquaporins in regulating root and leaf water transport.



Jeremy Giddings (Agriculture Victoria)

Jeremy Giddings is the Irrigation Manager with Agriculture Victoria at Mildura and has more than 20 years' experience delivering practical and engaging drip irrigation training for grapegrowers across Australia. After being raised on a citrus property near Wentworth, NSW and attending the University of Adelaide to complete a Bachelor of Agricultural Science, Jeremy has spent more than 20 years at Departments of Agriculture in both NSW and Victoria, working on irrigation management across all horticultural crops in the Mallee.