



Accounting for your water

FACT SHEET

All water licences will have conditions that will require you to keep records of water taken to demonstrate compliance with the period amount, take period and any restrictions that may be imposed.

NRE Tas has developed the Making the Most of Your Water factsheets to assist you in understanding how planning, recording and reviewing your water can help you in being compliant with your water licence.

There are a number of ways that the amount of water taken can be accounted for and NRE Tas will generally not specify a method. Below are a couple of examples:

Meter Records

- The use of meter records is probably the easiest way to record the amount of water taken.
- As a minimum, readings should be recorded at the beginning of the season, before and after any restriction period, whenever you change your water source and at the end of the season.

The table below provides an example of how meter readings could be recorded and the data that may be useful. There should be a separate record sheet for each meter.

Crop	Date	Meter Reading	Reason for reading	Amount (ML)	Water Source
Potatoes	15/10/22	0.2017	Start of season	6	Winter Surety 5 Ringarooma River
Pasture	30/12/2022	0.2023	Change in restrictions	2	Summer Surety 6 Ringarooma River
Total				8	

Irrigation Records

- You need to keep a record of how much irrigation water was applied to each crop during the season.
- This requires knowledge of the water output from your irrigation system.

If your irrigator does not record output, one option is to use rain gauges strategically placed across your crop to catch irrigation water. This will give you an estimate of the amount applied. A simple table like the one below could be used to record crop irrigations by date, amount and water source.

Crop	Date	Amount (mm/ha)	Area (ha)	Total (ML) ¹	Water Source
Potatoes	15/10/22	25	20	5	Winter s5 Ringarooma River
Pasture	30/12/2022	20	10	2	Summer Surety 6 Ringarooma River
Total				7	

¹A 100mm of water applied of one hectare of land equals 1ML. Total ML = Area (ha) x Amount (mm/ha)/100

You may already have systems in place that you use to manage your business. Such systems may also be useful to record water use and demonstrate compliance. If you don't currently have a system to record your water use, or want to find out more, then the Making the Most of Your Water factsheets may be helpful.

By accounting for how much water you take, you are able to determine the efficiency at which you are using your water. If you are using less water than your allocation, then there may be opportunities for you to increase production or trade water to other users.

The *Making the Most of Your Water* factsheets developed by NRE Tas contain more information on recording and reviewing your water use along with some blank templates similar to the ones here.

If you would like a copy of this package, contact Water Operations Branch by either phoning 1300 368 550 or emailing water.operations@nre.tas.gov.au.

Alternatively, the factsheets can be downloaded from www.nre.tas.gov.au/water

