



## Water market wrap

### Prices

The MDBA has reported better than average inflows in April, giving irrigators increased confidence about storages and allocations into the 17/18 season. As a result, demand on temporary markets is negligible and prices have continued to fall.

It's still hard to get a handle on the forward water price, with many irrigators reluctant to go beyond \$80, though there have been sales in the \$90-100 range. Murrumbidgee Irrigation are selling some of their 'operational surplus' as \$75 forward water for delivery in July.

As for next year, there is still a lot of weather to occur between now and spring. Aither made this comment in their latest market commentary:

"Opening season prices for 2017-18 of between \$75 and \$100 per ML have been put forward by some commentators and brokers. If irrigators rush to secure water early, these opening prices might be correct. But prospective buyers should be equally mindful that if allocations to entitlements are high and early, rainfall is median or above, and the carryover buffer is as large as expected, such high prices may not be sustained over the full course of the year."

They're calling \$40-70/ML season average under a middling inflow and rainfall scenario.

### Podcast

Another excellent podcast from H2OX has come out, this time with market guru Dan Baker from Aither. Check it out here.

[Listen Here](#)

### NSW DPI outlooks

NSW DPI has continued with their odd approach to flagging potential water availability next season. They paint a very conservative picture. With 30 per cent carryover in the Murrumbidgee and predicted 43 per cent in the NSW Murray, there is a better chance of internal account spills and full allocations than these DPI missives would suggest.

### Murray Irrigation happenings

Former Murray Irrigation water guru Perin Davey has gone out on her own with her new consulting business, PD Strategy. She's delivering communications and stakeholder engagement services give and I'm sure it will be successful. For Murray



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Irrigation it's a big loss. With Jenny McLeod and Perin now gone, the company has lost two of the best minds in water. Check out Perin's website here.

[Check It Out Here](#)

In better news for the company, Bruce Simpson has re-assumed the chairmanship of Murray Irrigation, with Ben Barlow taking on the deputy chair role. Too often our key local institutions are run by people who are good at local politicking but can't deliver in the complex roles. Bruce and Ben are both intelligent and capable people who will lead the company well.



## Farm Business Information

### Cottonseed reducing cattle emissions

Feeding cattle cotton seed can significantly improve feed conversion and reduce methane emissions. Here's an MLA article on the issue:

[Check It Out Here](#)

