

Rice CRC Environmental Sustainability Projects Meeting

27 & 28 November, 2003

Presentations

Day 1 – 27 November, 2003

Sustainability from a rice grower's perspective

Theme 1. Increasing water use efficiency

Farmer rice WUE - performance and targets
Rice irrigation management
Permanent bed cropping systems
Increasing WUE by increasing cold tolerance – progress and prospects
Aerial imaging for targeting better NIR rice sampling
Mapping summer crops at Coleambally using remote sensing
Risk-based irrigation demand management

Theme 2. Improving drainage water quality

Drainage water quality monitoring and issues for irrigation companies

Fate of pesticides in rice fields
Fate of pesticides in soil
Water quality and biodiversity
Bioremediation of thiobencarb
Biological control of weeds and control of rice diseases to save water and improve water quality
Bacterial control of bloodworm

Theme 3. Biodiversity

Biodiversity programs and issues for irrigation companies

Reconciling farming with wildlife: vertebrate biodiversity in the rice-growing Riverina
Conservation of the southern bell frog in irrigation areas

Day 2 – 28 November, 2004

Theme 4. Salinity prediction, assessment and management

Groundwater and salinity management in irrigation areas

Salinity imaging in channels and drains

Predicting regional salinity trends

Salt transport and salinisation

Theme 5. Net recharge/salinity management

Reducing seepage from on-farm channels and drains

Whole farm net recharge management

Discussion on groundwater and salinity

Theme 6. Achieving sustainability

What does it mean?

RGA environmental program and research needs

RGA environmental champions program

Summary of achievements of sustainability program of Rice CRC

The future....

Discussion on proposed R,D&E for a new CRC bid

Copy of presentations available from Rice CRC office on request.