

Reducing evaporation losses with WaterSavr

Drought and general uncertainty of rainfall across Australia has made water an extremely important issue. Most people are shocked when they learn how high evaporation rates can be, and the cotton growing areas of Australia are typical of some of the areas where these high rates exist.

Ospray Pty Ltd are the national distributors in the rural market for WaterSavr. WaterSavr is an evaporation mitigant which once spread on the surface of a dam,

reduces evaporation by an estimated 30 per cent.

Proven trial work has been recorded and reported from India, Spain, California, China and Africa. In April 2006 data was collected from the Coliban reservoir which feeds the Bendigo area in Victoria, and more local data is being continually released.

Canadian company, Flexible Solutions, have been working on the product's development phase for the past five years. The self-spreading monolayer created by

WaterSavr is required to be replaced every three days as it breaks down due to microbial activity. WaterSavr does not change dissolved oxygen levels in the water, ensuring utmost safety for any agricultural use.

WaterSavr has been classified as "Environmentally Sound Technology" by the UN Environment Program and has the highest possible accreditation in the United States — NSF approval, which US drinking water must also obtain. This assurance makes WaterSavr a stand alone product in the Australian market.

Applicators are made in Australia and are suitable for larger water bodies with the choice of providing a 15 kg unit up to a 60 kg unit. All applicators have timers, solar panels and detachable floats reducing the manual labour involved in maintaining the monolayer.

It is pertinent that all possible water storages are utilised, and WaterSavr will reform despite wind or wave action.

Given the Bureau of Meteorology estimates water losses to be in the vicinity of 1800 mm per year in the Moree area, the opportunity cost of what may have been achieved if that water had been retained should be taken into account.

For more information, contact Ospray on 1800 624 597 or go to www.ospray.com.au



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