

SMARTER IRRIGATION FOR PROFIT

Smart automated irrigation: Increasing farm profit through efficient use of irrigation for dairy farms



This project, led by the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) will use data and autonomous technology to help farmers make informed decisions and improve their efficiency of irrigated water use in pastures.

Getting smarter from data

The project will look at the use of irrigation water in pastures by collecting data on water use, energy use and pasture production from five sites across Tasmania. Using this data, the team will work with farmers to make changes to improve water use efficiency and will continue monitoring the sites to measure the success of these changes.

Automation to save farmers time, water and money

The project will also trial an automation system. Not only will the system automatically irrigate pasture, it will also apply variable volumes of water to the same paddock, which could save farmers time, water and money.

To do this, the team will collaborate with The National Centre for Engineering in Agriculture at the University of Southern Queensland, who have developed a control platform called VARIWise. The VARIWise system has been developed and tested in cotton, but this is the first time it will be applied to a pasture based system.

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