

SEASONAL UPDATE WEBINAR - RECAP

September 2025

by Marek Matuszek from Ag Logic

1 Key messages & actions

- **Current conditions:** Conditions are very similar to last year – especially soil refill patterns. If you have records from last year, now is the time to review them and reflect on what worked well and what you would change. Learn from past seasons to guide better future decisions.
- **Pasture growth:** August pasture growth was above average. Strong August growth often signals an earlier summer cut-off. Start to plan feed conservation accordingly.
- **Decide with data:** Don't rely on hope – use evidence to guide actions. Have a look at some of the suggested tools below.

Regional Strategies:

- **NE & Midlands** – some regions have not reached full refill, leaving subsoil moisture low. Continue to monitor for lack of subsoil reserves.
- **NW & King Island** – these regions are wetter than the rest of the state, but plants are already using up moisture. Start managing rapid pasture growth and prepare for a possible early finish.
- **Southern Midlands & Coal Valley** – conditions remain dryer than much of the state. If applicable, prioritise irrigation planning.

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Things to think about

Irrigation timing

- **Look deeper:** Don't trust surface wetness. Check soil moisture profiles by digging holes – the deeper the better – or referring to soil moisture probe data.
- **Plan ahead:** Early irrigations test system performance before peak demand.
- **Avoid delays:** Early irrigation isn't only to provide plant water. It also protects soil structure and water-holding capacity. Late irrigation reduces infiltration efficiency and increases the risk of hydrophobic soils.

Soil moisture & variability

- **Soil type and topography affects water holding capacity:** sandy soils drain quickly, while clay soils store more water but need longer rainfall.
- **Soil infiltration varies:** some soils absorb from the top down, others from the bottom up due to cracking

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Tools & next steps

- Subscribe to the Ag Logic *Weather Station and Soil Moisture Network* [here](#).
- Pasture growers can explore the *Farming Forecaster* tool [here](#).
- Have a look at *Optimising Irrigation Scheduling* resources [here](#).
- Attend the Tamar NRM *[On Farm Forums – Future Proofing for Climate Resilience](#)* on Wednesday 1 October at Rosevale.
- Join us at the October webinar – send in your feedback or questions prior to the webinar for tailored content.

Next month's webinar: Friday 3 October, 1pm.
Register online: tasfarmhub.com.au/events