



Top 5

September 26th, 2024

WATER

Ever done a water budget? This may be the year. Ag Vic have an easy tool [HERE](#) which we highly recommend. It does the calculations, lets you change L/day, and also has a table of safe salinity levels.

From here, you can compare to what you have on hand. We'll bring you likely evaporation rates and strategies over the next few months.

REMOTE SENSOR UPDATE

Lots of AgPro'ers have used InnovateIoT's remote sensors, for tank levels, water flow, and cameras. They're relatively cheap and easy to use, and currently discounted for AgPro clients: [HERE](#) and [HERE](#)

TECH REBATES: START PLANNING

The government is gearing up for another round of On Farm Connectivity Grants. While they're not open yet, word on the street is that timing will be around the end of harvest, when you have so much time to get it sorted. So have a think now so can press go easily when they do open- think mobile boosters, weather stations, cameras, remote sensors. Here's a list of approved tech, what they are doing now is approving suppliers: [TECH](#)

BYE 3G

The 3G network finally goes at the end of October. Take note of reception in each paddock when it does so you don't get caught out during harvest with poor comms.

Another big one is check those old brick phones NOW- some phones weren't made for 4G/5G, and will be completely useless. Text '3' to the number '3498' to check- you'll get a response saying whether your phone will work or not. While this may not apply to you, spread the word to other generations or use their phones to check- even 000 won't work.

WEANERS

Imprint start, early weaning as spring seems to halt, so start imprint feeding! 50g/hd, 4 feeds over 2 weeks.

Consider the next few Top 5's as weaner focused, but for now, sort mobs based on liveweight if you can, vaccinate and wean. Then pick a market and figure out what growth you'll need them to achieve.

Some rules of thumb about weight gain- remember they've either growing or dying, so 'maintaining' isn't an option! Ideally you want them growing at AT LEAST 1kg/month over summer (35g/hd/day growth rate), more if they were under 25kg at weaning.

For finishing, aim for weight gains of at least 200g/h/day.

You can use our feed calculator ([HERE](#), download and SAVE before using) to determine the energy in the rations you're giving them, and the table below to see what growth that means they should achieve. Call us if you want help with the calculations, or getting a ration sorted.

Energy requirements for different weights & intended growth rates in weaners (based on 60kg when achieve adult size)

Liveweight (kg)	Maintain weight	Weight gain of 50 grams per day	Weight gain of 100 g/d	Weight gain of 200 g/d
25	5.8	7.9	11	12.5
30	6.6	9.3	11.1	14.6
35	7.4	10.2	12.1	15.8
40	8.1	10.8	12.9	16.7
45	8.6	10.8	12.7	14.4