irrigation toolbox series

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Irrigation checklist

Safety to do's:

- □ Seatbelts to be worn at all times
- ☐ Make sure you have enough food & water for the day
- ☐ Sunscreen / irrigation boots / torches
- □ Check fuel / oils / tyres
- ☐ Make sure UHF is on & working
- ☐ Every irrigation vehicle should have a shovel & hoe. You cannot irrigate without them
- □ Do not reverse on any headditch drive to end & turn around

Irrigation to do's:

- ☐ Keep irrigation sheets clean & tidy and keep start & stop times up to date
- ☐ Keep water level in headditch high, but at a safe level (maintain adequate freeboard, minimum 0.15m) to ensure maximum flow rate
- ☐ Maintain the water level in the headditch so not to cause variation in flow rate during the day
- ☐ Start water at lowest part of headditch and work to the other end
- ☐ Make sure siphons are discharging below water level between the rotabucks. ie the end submerged under the water, this ensures maximum head and therefore maximum flow rate
- ☐ Make sure siphons are straight or they will wash out side of rotabuck
- □ Make sure water running down the right rows if not fix the problem
- ☐ When field is finished make sure no siphons still running
- □ Complete the irrigation sheet
- If storms about make sure water is safe & get to all weather road if possible
- ☐ If all changes have been done chip sides of fields and headitches always weeds to chip!

Thanks to Steve Porter, AFF for information included in this checklist

