



Gwydir Valley Irrigators Association Inc.
making every drop count

Horticulture; Growing the Ag Revolution

Horticulture in the Gwydir

Horticulture is one of the Gwydir Valley's most exciting expanding industries, with significant potential for the whole region. Irrigated agriculture contributed over \$3 billion to the NSW economy, 9% of which came from the Border Rivers Gwydir¹. Horticulture plays a key role in this area with Pecans, Oranges, Olives and Turf all contributing to the region's economy.

Pecans

Stahmann Farms is the main pecan producer in the region, with over 90,000 trees. Australia is the fourth largest global producer of pecans with approximately 90% grown in the Gwydir Valley. The farm gate value of the crop is estimated to be over \$10 million.

Stahmann Farms is a vertically integrated business, operating Australia's only commercial pecan shelling, value-adding and packing plant. The organisation is currently undergoing a rapid expansion phase, with new plantings and a move to have the whole plantation drip irrigated.

The company benefits from its own research, development and quality assurance program, greenhouse, nursery and propagation procedure. Stahmann Farms is currently utilising new irrigation scheduling technology, with a focus on ensuring that the trees produce their maximum capacity, and that water is used as efficiently as possible.



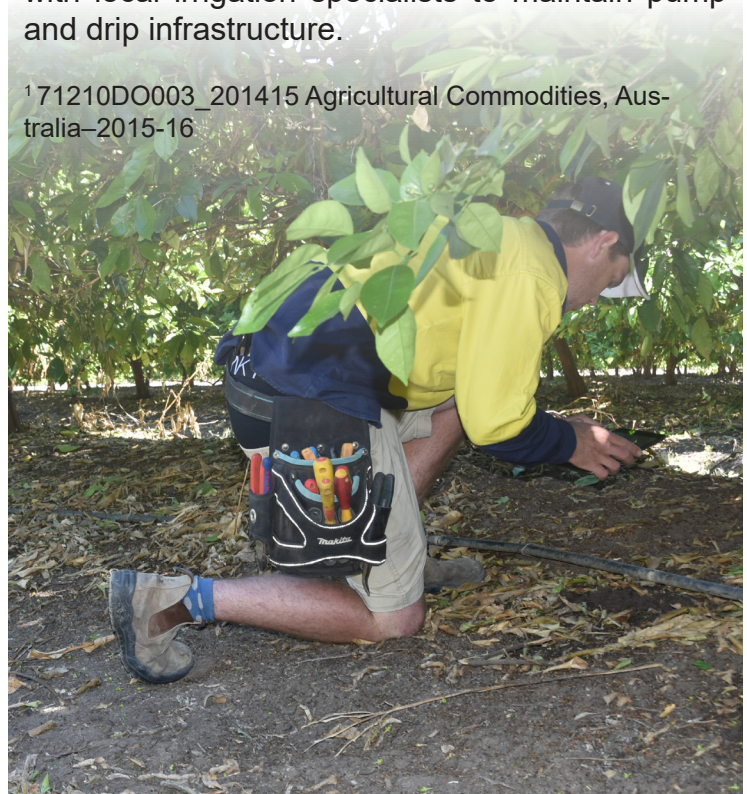
Citrus

Oranges are the most recent horticultural crop to position itself in the Gwydir Valley. There have been over 50,000 trees, or 320Ha planted in the past ten years. With a production target of 50 tonne per Ha it is expected that Moree will produce in excess of 15,000 tonnes of oranges, almost \$4.3 million by 2020.

The citrus industry in the Gwydir Valley is part of the locally owned and vertically integrated Grove Juice business.

The whole orchard is drip irrigated, working closely with local irrigation specialists to maintain pump and drip infrastructure.

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Olives

Over the past 20 years the Moree region has cemented itself as a production centre for olives. There are an estimated 100,000 olive trees, (13% of the trees in NSW) producing 1,415,005Kg (36% of production of NSW). The industry estimates that with production facilities included, olives are worth approximately \$20,000/ha.

The three main olive producers all have their own processing facilities. The nationally recognised Gwydir Grove business produces a range of premium olive oils and preserved olives. An exciting feature is that the limes, blood orange and mandarin used in the Agrumato oils are all grown locally.



<https://www.gvia.org.au>



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