



AUSTRALIAN RICE PRODUCTION

AUSTRALIA HAS BEEN GROWING HIGH QUALITY RICE FOR OVER 100 YEARS. THE INDUSTRY IS A GLOBAL LEADER IN ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY AND WATER USE EFFICIENCY. THIS IS UNDERPINNED BY SIGNIFICANT INVESTMENT IN R&D.



ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

- The Australian rice industry operates under a biodiversity plan ensuring plants and animals live productively within the rice farm.
- Rice farms provide habitat for over 100 bird species and 500 million native frogs.
- Australian rice growers use a unique crop rotation system to help our growing areas remain free of serious pests and diseases.
- Australian rice growers have the lowest chemical usage in the world.
- 99% of Australian rice packaging is recyclable.
- 98% of the by-products are turned into new materials, such as nutritious animal feed.



WATER EFFICIENCY

- Australian grown rice uses 50% less water than the global average.
- Water use per ha continues to decline, with farmers further improving their water use efficiency by 60% in the last 10 years.
- Farmers recycle their water and use the moisture left in the soil after harvest to plant another crop.
- Australian rice growers only grow rice when there is water available.
- Most rice is grown using a general water security allocation, which is only available after essential allocations such as the environment and domestic use.



PRODUCTION EFFICIENCY

- Australian rice growers produce more per hectare (10 tonnes) than anywhere else in the world.
- Reiziq is a high yielding medium grain which has helped our growers increase their average yield by 11% since 2012.



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CASE STUDY



Glenn family, rice producers, Australia.

ROBERT AND ALISON GLENN AND THEIR DAUGHTERS CHARLETON AND SAM, GROW RICE AT THEIR FARM "EDWARD PARK" IN SOUTHERN NEW SOUTH WALES, AUSTRALIA.



OBJECTIVES

- Improving cold-tolerance and water-use efficiency.



SOLUTIONS

- The industry is investing in breeding new varieties that are cold-tolerant and have higher yields per megalitre of water used.
- This includes a bold new medium grain variety – called V071.
- The Glenn family were one of 14 growers who trialled the new variety in 2020-21, with 290 hectares planted across the region.



BENEFITS

- V071 performed exceptionally well and demonstrated its cold-tolerance traits.
- The variety yielded 12.6 tonnes per hectare, above the five-year average for all varieties.
- Given these results, V071 will be made available for planting in larger volumes for the 2021-22 Riverina rice season.



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