



# 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.



Australian Mission to the European Union





# 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.



Australian Mission to the European Union



SCAN ME