



## LOGANS NURSERY IRRIGATION SYSTEM UPGRADE

*“ Every grower should invest in their business and upgrade their irrigation. I only wish I had undertaken the upgrade years ago. The financial and plant quality benefits of upgrading your irrigation are worth every dollar” Graeme Logan 29.10.2009 SEQ-IF Field Day*

Logans Nursery is an established tree and shrub nursery located on Brisbane’s Southside. The Capalaba West site containing 0.8ha of production area has been in operation for 15 years and the irrigation system has grown along with the business expansion over that time. In 2007 the irrigation system was upgraded to BMP as part of a nursery industry project.

The new irrigation system installed at Logans Capalaba West Nursery was designed to nursery industry BMP (Best Management Practice) and provided a reduction in irrigation water use of 9.4 megalitres/year or 43% compared to the existing system. The irrigation system upgrade provided significant yearly dollar savings of \$24,070 to the grower.



SEQ Irrigation Futures - Logans Nursery irrigation system upgrade



At a recent Field Day in October 2009 at Logans Nursery, the proprietor Graeme Logan encouraged growers to upgrade their irrigation systems.

The Logan Nursery irrigation upgrade completed in 2007 delivered many benefits including:

- Reduced irrigation water use from 21.7 to 12.3 ML/year
- Savings of approx. \$19,000 in town water costs alone
- Improved irrigation application efficiency
- Reduced labour costs in hand watering and order picking
- A more uniform crop growth
- An approx. 5% reduction in plant throw outs
- Reduced plant disease outbreaks
- Reduced pesticide applications
- Better and safer working conditions
- Improved irrigation water security

The irrigation system was upgraded to nursery industry best management practice and has delivered both financial and plant quality benefits to Logans Nursery.

The system upgrade included:

- New Plastro sprinklers to outside and inside areas
- A 5m x 5m sprinkler layout to bmp
- Fixed 1.5 metre sprinkler risers to outside areas
- A new irrigation main line to all growing areas
- Improvement in system flow and pressure management
- Adjustments to irrigation scheduling techniques

Catchcan tests of all production areas irrigated by the new system delivered results well within the parameters required by nursery industry BMP.

MAR - between 8 and 12 mm/hr

CU - in the low 90%

SC - between 1.4 and 1.1



For more information contact:

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*“Upgrading your irrigation system to best management practice makes good business sense”*

*Graeme Logan 29.10.09 SEQ-IF Field Day*



**The SEQ-IF program is a partnership between the Nursery & Garden Industry Qld. and the Queensland Government to provide on-farm support to growers in Water Use Efficiency and the Nursery Production Farm Management System through on-farm assessments, information support and training.**