



UWA Turf Research Newsletter

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THE UNIVERSITY OF
WESTERN AUSTRALIA

Welcome

The warm start to 2013 has kept the turf irrigator busy, and proven challenging for some of the turfgrass plots (pictured below) at Shenton Park. You will have an opportunity to see the plots at the forthcoming Open Day on 20th February, with results also to be presented at the Turf Industry Seminar Day later in the year.

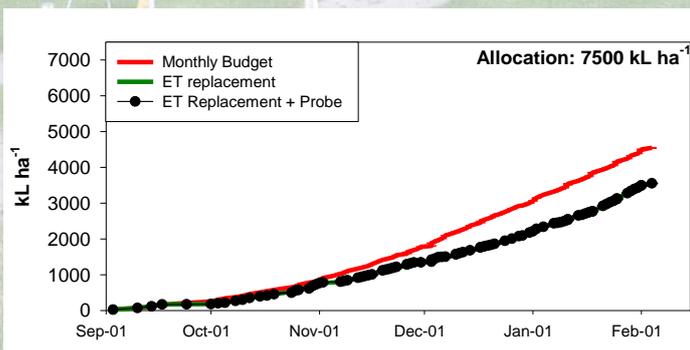
Water Allocation Project: Update

This project is comparing the effectiveness of three water allocations (5000, 6250 or 7500 kL ha⁻¹ per year) to maintain turfgrass growth and quality.

Each water allocation is distributed during the irrigation season using one of three approaches:

- **Schedule 1:** A budget approach based on long-term evaporation data.
- **Schedule 2:** Above schedule refined using ET measurements from an onsite weather station.
- **Schedule 3:** Further refinement of Schedule 2 by using soil moisture probe readings.

Irrigation commenced September 2012, and up to 60% of the allocation had been applied by the end of January 2013 (results for the 7500 kL ha⁻¹ allocation treatment below).



Cumulative water application for each irrigation schedule (September 2012 – January 2013).

How have the different water allocations and scheduling approaches impacted on turfgrass growth and quality? Come along to the Open Day and see for yourself!

2013 UWA Turf Research Open Day

How much water do you think these plots have received? Have they received the same amount of irrigation? Do wetting agents have a key role in irrigation efficiency and turfgrass performance?



You are invited to an informal Open Day at the UWA Turf Research Facility to see how different water allocations and scheduling methods, in combination with a wetting-agent, have influenced the development of dry-patch.

When: 10:00 am – NOON, 20th February 2013.

Where: UWA Research Station, 1 Underwood, Avenue, Shenton Park.

RSVP: Helpful, but not necessary.

Contact: Louise Barton,
louise.barton@uwa.edu.au

A brief presentation will commence at 10:15 am. Please wear sturdy footwear, as the site is sandy.

2013 WA Turf Industry Seminar Day

The program for the 2013 WA Turf Seminar Day is beginning to take shape and is sure to provide a day of interest for you all.

Perth's rapidly changing and developing urban environment is the focus of the program, and the theme will be to examine the dual challenge of increasing demands on sporting facilities and water resources for irrigation as our population grows.

The 2013 WA Turf Industry Seminar Day will be held on Wednesday 17th July 2013 at 'The Rise Function and Convention Centre' in Maylands. We will continue to keep you informed of developments.

If you would like further information about the UWA Turf Research Program, please contact A/Prof Louise Barton (louise.barton@uwa.edu.au; 6488 2543), Dr Pieter Poot (pieter.poot@uwa.edu.au), or Prof Tim Colmer (timothy.colmer@uwa.edu.au).