



Remote water monitoring technology made possible through the On Farm Connectivity Program

Graziers like Michael Coggan are seeing the benefits of accessing discounted machinery in their farming operations thanks to the Australian Government's On Farm Connectivity Program. The Program aims to assist primary producers to take advantage of digital agribusiness solutions to boost productivity, improve safety and drive more sustainable farming practices.

Michael operates a pastoral farm with beef and lamb operations in the Riverina region of New South Wales. Through the Program, Michael has purchased an automated rain gauge with an accompanying water tank level sensor.

The rain gauge gives Michael real time rainfall data and supports collection of rainfall records to assist with optimising pasture growth and potential yields. The water tank level sensor, placed on one of Michael's existing water tanks, alerts Michael via phone and email if issues arise and helps to save on costs associated with manual water run processes.

Michael said the equipment enables him to use his time and resources more effectively.

'This provides me with peace of mind that my cattle have access to enough water, while halving the number of trips required to check on water levels. It saves me a significant amount of time and money,' he said.

Michael heard about Round 1 of the Program through word of mouth and decided to participate in Round 2, benefitting from expanded eligibility criteria such as a reduced minimum rebate amount.

Michael said it was the first time he had purchased from the Approved Supplier but it was a positive experience.

'I received really good support from my supplier and after I completed my part, they handled the rest with ease,' he said.

The equipment was installed and in use on his property not long after.

Tech-savvy farmers like Michael can find the process easy with little support required, but others can benefit too. Primary Producers who are interested in making use of digital technology on their properties but aren't sure where to start should contact the [Regional Tech Hub](#) for free and independent advice on connectivity and agritech options.

The Program has been a valuable initiative for farmers, reducing the financial barriers to improving connectivity across farms. The On Farm Connectivity Program is set to benefit more farmers, with a third round due to open later in 2025.

