

Meter Types

Fact Sheet

Northern Victoria
Irrigation Renewal Project

NVIRP
waterforgrowth

v.1

FlumeGate

What is a FlumeGate™?

The FlumeGate™ (flow meter/control gate) is one of the options for regulating and measuring irrigation water and replacing the Dethridge meter outlet as part of the modernisation of the Goulburn-Murray Water channel system. The FlumeGate™ allows a high flow of water to travel from the supply channel to the farm channel, with less head loss and with much greater accuracy than the Dethridge meter outlet.

How does it work?

The FlumeGate™ controls the flow of water onto the farm by varying the position of the gate according to upstream and downstream water levels and the farmer's flow requirements. The flow is calculated from the continuous electronic measurement of water levels and the gate position.

A radio link with the Goulburn-Murray Water office is used to report actual flow rates and usage. The flow rate and delivered volumes can be read by the irrigator on a display unit, which is mounted on a post beside the meter. The radio link, flow measurement and gate control are powered by a solar-charged battery.

Advantages:

- water tight seals
- low head loss compared with a Dethridge meter delivering equivalent volume
- more accurate measurement than the Dethridge Wheel
- high flow rates available
- accurately delivers the requested flow and volume of water
- can only be automated
- flow rate and volume can be viewed at the meter
- less likely to be obstructed by debris than a Dethridge meter
- can provide a link to other technologies such as soil moisture monitoring and on-farm irrigation automation.

Disadvantages:

- some sites may not suit this type of outlet as specific head conditions are required
- can not operate under low flows
- requires a technician to service or fix the outlet.



Foreground: FlumeGate™ meter
Background: 375 mm Magflow meter



FlumeGate™ controls the flow of water onto the farm by varying the opening of the gate according to farm requirements

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