



WATER TESTING AFTER FLOOD

After severe storms or flood water quality can change, affecting plants, soil, livestock, irrigation, domestic use and general on-farm activities.

Primary producers are encouraged to test the quality of water to allow remedial action before damage occurs to equipment, production losses are experienced, or the health of animals or people is compromised.

Severe storms or flood can cause nutrient runoff, sediment and bacteria to enter water sources, deteriorating the quality of water. Contamination can affect water salinity, pH, suspended solids, dissolved oxygen and nutrient levels.

Such changes cannot be detected by the eye or smell, requiring chemical analysis to be identified.

If there are any doubts about the quality of water intended to use for irrigation, stock, human consumption or other domestic purpose, it should be tested.

Where can I test water?

DPI AgEnviro Labs employ accredited testing techniques to deliver independent, quality assured results on the quality of water.

The National Association of Testing Authority (NATA) accredited and WaterChek certified laboratory provides a comprehensive and flexible service, assisting primary producers to improve the sustainability of their natural resources and adapt in times of emergency response.

Primary producers can view the complete list of water tests available and order a water collection kit at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/labs or call the laboratory on (02) 6626 1103.



DIY water collection kit

If water testing is urgent, primary producers can create their own water collection kit by following these steps:

1. Select a 500mL plastic water bottle.
2. Rinse the bottle out at least 3 times.
3. Fill the bottle with water from the dispensing source - a tap, trough, dam or bore.
4. Download the sample submission form from www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/watertestingform
5. Post the form and water sample to DPI's AgEnviro Labs for testing.

Disaster assistance

Special Disaster Grants of up to \$75,000 are now available to eligible primary producers affected by severe storms and flood from February 2022 onwards.

Water testing is an eligible claim item under the Special Disaster Grant program.

More information on the grants and claimable items can be found by visiting www.raa.nsw.gov.au or by calling 1800 678 593.



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(02) 6626 1103
www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/labs

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