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## Market Grower Fact Sheet Farm Dams

IF YOU WANT to build or enlarge a dam on your property you will need to put in a development application (DA) with your local council. Contact a Planning Officer at your local council to give you advice.

You may also need a licence from the Department of Water and Energy to build your dam. Small dams that are not located on a creek line will not need a licence if they capture less than 10% of the water running off your property. However if you already have other dams, or you want to build a dam on a creek you will need to get a licence before building the dam. For more information contact a Water licensing Officer on 02 9895 7194 who will advise you on whether you need a licence or not. You can find out more information about licensing farm dams on the Department of Water and Energy website at:

<http://www.dnr.nsw.gov.au/water/dams.shtml>



NSW DPI, Virginia Brunton



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The NSW Department of Primary Industries has produced a lot of information to help you build your dam. They can be contacted on 02 4588 2107 or the information can be found at: <http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/resources/water/storage>

Issues you will need to consider when putting in a dam are:

- Whether you need a development application or licence
- How much water the dam will hold
- Who will build the dam
- Where you will put the dam
- How you will look after the dam
- Whether the dam will cause soil erosion
- How the dam will affect plants and animals in your area
- How the dam will affect the way water flows up and downstream of your property
- What material the dam will be built with (if you use imported fill you will need a contamination clearance)

### Contacts:

Department of Water and Energy: 02 9895 7194

NSW Department of Primary Industries: 02 4588 2107

This **Market Grower Fact Sheet** is part of a series designed to support growers from a non-English speaking background. For more information please contact your local Council. If you require an interpreter call TIS on 131 450.

This project has been assisted by the New South Wales Government through its Environmental Trust.

The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (November 2007). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of NSW Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

