

## Certified Irrigation Agronomist Checklist

This checklist can be used by an **applicant** as a pre-test, to see if this certification is appropriate for their situation.

The questions may also be used by an **assessor** as one way to assess competence.

This certification provides endorsement for practising agronomists for their particular skills in irrigation, over and above their agronomic skills. Applicants will most likely have a qualification in another discipline such as agriculture, horticulture or agronomy. These people provide advice to end-users on system design, purchase and use. They may also troubleshoot, evaluate and audit irrigation systems.

### Scheduling

- Do you carry out any scheduling tasks on client's system or property?
- Do you measure the amount of water the plants use and need?
- Do you decide how much water to apply and when?
- Do you keep or have access to weather and climate records for the properties?
- Do you use this data when scheduling irrigations?
- Do you adjust schedules according to weather events?
- Do you order water or help others to do so?
- Do you help clients monitor water quality?
- Do you help clients to monitor soil water in the root zone?
- Do you allow a water deficit in the rootzone?

### Irrigation system

- Do you evaluate and/or report on the performance of client's systems?
- Do you make recommendations for change based on the evaluation?
- Do you encourage them to record system performance data and water usage data?
- Are their irrigation system designed to match soil type, water holding capacity and pasture requirements?
- Do you encourage them to service irrigation equipment regularly as per manufacturers' recommendations, including checks for efficiency of pumps and irrigators?

### Soils and the environment

- Do you encourage clients to use a property map showing contours, boundaries, paddocks, irrigation layouts and soil types?
- Do you know what soils are on your client's farms?
- Do you know the characteristics of these soils?

- Do you consider the potential risks to the environment as a result of irrigating?
- Do you know what the relevant codes and regulations are?
- Do you plan irrigations to minimise the risks?
- Do you communicate risks to clients?
- Do you monitor and manage systems to avoid deep drainage or runoff?
- Do you compile irrigation plans for clients?

**Consulting**

- Do you regularly provide advice to clients about irrigation?
- Do you actively keep up-to-date about irrigation technology and water issues?