

Welcome to the fifth issue of the blue-green algae newsletter.

GENERAL NEWS

Guidance Manuals to be Released in July!

Two new tools to assist Blue-Green Algae (BGA) managers are being released in July.

The first, developed by Water Quality Research Australia (WQRA), is guidance manual for managing BGA in Australia.

The manual is practical, user friendly and incorporates learnings from decades of research in the Australian water industry. The manual will be released in early July 2010.

The second, developed by the Global Water Research Coalition, is a manual to assist with the worldwide management of BGA. This manual will be released in late July 2010.

Both reports will be available from the Water Quality Research Australia website (www.wqra.com.au).

Murray River Bloom and Debrief

There has been another BGA bloom on the Murray River in February and March this year.

The Murray Regional Algae Coordinating Committees held a debrief on 2 June 2010 to discuss any issues or learnings that arose throughout the bloom. Attendees were from NSW and Victorian Departments, Councils and tourism agencies. Representatives from the Murray Darling Basin Authority also attended.

Attendees noted that the coordination between States and across a number of organisations is working very well.

Gippsland Lakes Bloom Free This Year

Water quality has been generally good this year in the Gippsland Lakes with no algal bloom problems this season.

Some interesting research has been published on the bloom dynamics in



the Gippsland Lakes in the journal *Limnology and Oceanography*. The details of the article are below for those interested in obtaining a copy.

“Cook et.al. (2010) Effect of a flood event on the dynamics of phytoplankton and biogeochemistry in a large temperate Australian lagoon, *Limnology & Oceanography*, vol 55(3).”

Web Portal Update

Thank you to all those local water managers that have been using the BGA web portal to notify the Department of Sustainability and Environment (DSE) of blooms this season.

Feedback from users has been very positive. We will undertake a few more refinements of the system before the new season.

All local water managers are strongly encouraged to use this system to notify DSE of blooms. If you would like a login account or need any assistance with the portal, please give me a ring or email (contact details below).

National Cyanobacteria Workshop

The DSE, the Department of Health and WQRA have had a fantastic response to the Second National Cyanobacteria Workshop to be held in Melbourne in August 2010.

Registrations have now closed.

© The State of Victoria Department of Sustainability and Environment 2010
This publication is copyright. No part may be reproduced by any process except in accordance with the provisions of the *Copyright Act 1968*.

Disclaimer
This publication may be of assistance to you but the State of Victoria and its employees do not guarantee that the publication is without flaw of any kind or is wholly appropriate for your particular purposes and therefore disclaims all liability for any error, loss or other consequence which may arise from you relying on any information in this publication.

If anyone has any BGA stories or tidbits of information, we are keen to hear from you. Please contact Louisa Davis on (03) 9637 9268 or via email: bluegreen.algae@dse.vic.gov.au

