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Viterra invests in extra storage across the state

Viterra has today announced it will invest an additional \$3 million in extra storage at Taillem Bend, Port Adelaide and Port Giles to handle this year's forecast record crop.

This extra storage is in addition to the 500, 000 tonnes of further capacity, at a cost of \$6 million, Viterra recently committed to build at Wudinna, Cummins, Roseworthy, Bowmans, Snowtown, Loxton and Port Giles.

Dean McQueen, Viterra's Executive Manager Grains said the company is constantly reviewing the state-wide system to ensure there is the capacity to cope with this year's crop.

"Viterra's recent investments have increased the network's capacity by 800,000 tonnes at a cost of approximately \$9 million. This increased capacity is in addition to the existing 9.5 million tonnes in Viterra's storage and handling network," Mr McQueen said.

While the recent rain is expected to impact on the quality of South Australia's crop the volume is still there and this extra capacity will help get the crop into the system as quickly as possible.

"We won't know the rain's impact on quality until the grain starts coming into the system again.

"The weather is dictating harvest and we will maximise site operating hours while responsibly managing the safety of our employees in regards to hours of work. We are as keen as the growers to have this crop in the bin.

"We are staffing and investing in additional storage at our major sites, which are superior in terms of efficiency, segregation offerings, access to rail and shipping and they are able to service a large number of growers.

"Extra storage at Taillem Bend will help accommodate grain from the Mallee region, while extra storage at Port Adelaide will allow for up-country sites to be cleared-out, as well as accommodate grain from growers delivering directly to the Port.

There has been questioning around opening some smaller sites but this would not alleviate the pressure on the system.

"The capacity of the small number of minor sites that will not be opened this year amounts to approximately 23,000 tonnes and would not accommodate the capacity we need for this year's harvest, which is why we have dedicated resources to opening up 800,000 tonnes extra capacity at more efficient sites to benefit a larger number of growers."

The amount of shipping booked is well up on previous years.

"The shipping stem is heavily booked with figures up over 400,000 tonnes for December and nearly 800,000 tonnes for January."

Viterra has increased the training of classifiers over the last few months and this has caused some delays depending on the quality of the product.



“We need to be more rigorous in the classifying process to ensure the grain meets the standards expected by the end customers. This benefits everyone and will ensure growers can access markets when they make their selling decisions.”

Viterra will continue to focus on ways to manage the grain coming into the system and will communicate with growers about any potential issues as soon as possible.

“I would encourage growers to register for our SMS alerts through the Viterra Service Centre on 1800 018 205, these are a great way to keep up to date with prices, site opening hours, segregations and any unexpected changes,” Mr McQueen said.

About Viterra

Viterra Inc. provides premium quality ingredients to leading global food manufacturers. Headquartered in Canada, the global agribusiness has extensive operations across Western Canada, the United States, Australia, and New Zealand, with Adelaide, Australia as the base for Viterra's Southeast Asian operations. Our growing international presence also extends to offices in Japan, Singapore, China, Switzerland, Italy, Ukraine and Germany. Driven by an entrepreneurial spirit, we operate in three distinct businesses: grain handling and marketing, agri-products, and processing. Our expertise, close relationships with producers, and superior logistical assets allow the company to consistently meet the needs of the most discerning end-use customers, helping to fulfill the nutritional needs of people around the world.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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