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Viterra receiving record amounts

Viterra has received more than a million tonnes of grain into its storage and handling system since Christmas Day.

Dean McQueen, Viterra's Executive Manager Grain said that Viterra received more than 300,000 tonnes of grain into its system yesterday, nearing the all time record of 312,000 tonnes.

"This harvest we've had five of the top ten receival days in the history of bulk-handling in South Australia and we've had six days over 250,000 tonnes, this has never been achieved in a harvest before," Mr McQueen said.

"In the last two weeks we've received more than three million tonnes and we expect to keep breaking records as harvest continues.

"We are opening our sites for as many hours as possible, while maintaining our legislative obligations and responsibilities around fatigue management and safety of employees, carriers and growers.

"The company has had minimal closures during the festive period to service growers and help accommodate receivals while the weather is optimal for harvesting.

"We acknowledge line-ups are frustrating for growers and carriers and while line-ups do occur in a normal year, it has been exacerbated this year by the record volume of grain coming in.

"Yesterday we received more than 11,000 individual loads of grain; we are moving trucks through quickly, whilst maintaining the quality and integrity of the grain in the system.

"Recent weather events have disrupted flow of grain into the storage system, as the South Australian harvest has been compressed into a shortened timeframe and classification procedures are more complex.

"Our employees are doing an exceptional job in what has been a long and challenging harvest and they continue to provide a high level of service to growers and carriers.

"We've invested in 800,000 tonnes of extra storage capacity and these new bunkers are finished and receiving grain or in the process of being completed," he said.

Viterra estimates that growers have cleared the halfway mark and harvest is approximately 60% complete in South Australia.

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION PLEASE CONTACT:

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