



Media Release

A welcome change to water restrictions

Tuesday, 22nd February 2005, for immediate release

Australia's leading manufacturer of premium potting mixes for home gardeners and commercial growers – Debco – welcomes the State Government's move to introduce permanent water saving rules.

"It's welcome relief for gardeners," says Patrick Kasso, Debco Chief Executive Officer. "Lifting water restrictions and introducing permanent water saving rules means people can enjoy gardening and looking after their garden in an environmentally-sustainable way."

For gardeners, the new rules will mean:

- Gardens can be watered at any time using a hose with a trigger nozzle;
- Manual watering systems can be used between 8 pm and 10 am; and
- Automatic watering systems can be used between 10 pm and 10 am.

Since water restrictions were introduced in Melbourne two year's ago, water use has dropped by about nine buckets per person per day.

"Gardeners should be encouraged to keep up the good work," said Patrick. "Using garden products such as water saving crystals, wetting agents and mulches can maximise the water used, minimise evaporation and benefit plants and lawns."

Victorian Premier Steve Bracks described the rules as commonsense system to establish water saving as a life-long habit.

The five new rules:

- Using manual watering systems only between 8 pm and 10 am;
- Using automatic watering systems only between 10 pm and 10 am;
- Fitting your hose with a trigger nozzle;
- Not hosing paved areas; and
- Applying to fill a new pool.

Victorian Water Minister John Thwaites said 'Follow the Five' information packs would be sent to Melbourne households to explain the new rules. The new rules are expected to come into effect from the 1st March, 2005.

END

For more information:

www.debco.com.au

Debco Pty Ltd
03 5977 4755

