Growing almonds using ‘best irrigation management practice’ is critical in times of drought and restricted water allocations.

Planned irrigation deficits is one way of coping in such times. Different ways of applying a deficit were tested at Lake Powell near Robinvale:

- Regulated - during the weeks leading up to harvest, and
- Sustained - throughout the season.

Irrigating at 85% or more of normal water requirements, regardless of method, had no impact on kernel size or yield.

Supplying only 70%, of normal requirements sustained throughout the season, had no negative impact on kernel size or yield in the third season.