

STUBBLE BURNING IN AUTUMN

Stubble burning is an important tool for farmers but poor practice can affect your local community. Responsible stubble management is the key to maintain a farmers right to burn.



Avoid burning when there is no wind
Avoid burning when the wind direction will send smoke over nearby towns, neighbouring houses, roads and workplaces.
Wind speeds of 5-15 knots (5-25kph) are recommended.



During autumn light winds and temperature inversion layers can prevent smoke from dispersing

Use the MetEye web page <http://www.bom.gov.au/australia/meteye/> (see over) to check the forecast mixing height and wind conditions. The mixing height is the indicator of a temperature inversion layer. Do not burn if the mixing height is below 1500 metres.



Pay close attention to wind speed and direction during the burn.
Communicate these changes with those assisting with the burn to ensure firefighting equipment is located in the most effective position. If conditions make burning unsafe extinguish the fire ASAP.



If the wind direction changes sending smoke over roads call 000 immediately. They will refer the call to the local authorities who will advise of what action to take.

SUNRISE

Do not burn
This is the time to plan for the burn.
Check that the RFS and your neighbours have been notified.
Check the forecast weather conditions.
Prepare firebreaks and clear around paddock trees.
Confirm the availability of labour and firefighting equipment.

MIDDAY

Confirm the weather conditions in the paddock
If conditions are suitable, start by back-burning away from the high risk areas including vegetation and paddock trees.
Burn as close to middle of the day as possible, subject to permit conditions.

SUNSET

It is too late to burn. Inversion layers are highly likely to exist.
Ensure that the fire is extinguished

MIDNIGHT

Sleep well, as you know the fire is out and the smoke has dispersed.



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