# Case study 3: John Rapisarda, vineyard operator

Video transcript. Project funded under the Water Efficiency Program during the program’s pilot phase

Video published August 2019

## Introduction

This is the transcript of a video case study produced by the Department of Agriculture and available on the [department’s YouTube channel](https://youtu.be/VwLwmduBup8).

We have produced this video to raise awareness of the Water Efficiency Program and its positive impact on businesses and communities of the Murray–Darling Basin.

This video is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/legalcode). We invite Basin agencies, governments and our delivery partners to share this video to encourage uptake of funding and projects under the Water Efficiency Program.

## Transcript

[Video begins]

**Text overlay:** Water Efficiency Program case study: John Rapisarda, vineyard operator

**John Rapisarda:** The contribution to restore the Murray–Darling Basin to its optimum is very, very important to me—not only as an operator now, but in the future, because I want to enjoy the area. And I do believe that whoever comes next deserves a fair go at being able to achieve that.

**Text overlay:** Water saved from John’s project is being used to restore the Murray–Darling Basin.

**John Rapisarda:** The vineyard comprises of all wine grapes—about 20.5 hectares in total.

**Text overlay:** John’s project was funded by the Australian Government.

**John Rapisarda:** I’ve installed a brand new pump and motor assembly. This one needs a lot less volume and a lot less pressure, because it’s drippers, and we’ve created more efficiencies.

We’ve reduced cost and improved performance of the vines.

This sensor will tell us what the moisture level is. We can then manipulate the new system to deliver more or less water to this patch, and it’s very, very flexible and very user friendly.

**Text overlay:** The project was delivered by the South Australian Murray–Darling Basin Natural Resources Management Board.

**John Rapisarda:** It’s given me a better quality of life and it’s given me more time because I can set the computers up in advance. I can be there as I need and as I choose.

Because I’m a hands on grower, I live locally, I do believe it’s a benefit to the area because it allows those companies to keep the employment up. It’s after sales service as well.

And there’s great potential for other growers who haven’t come on board yet to come on board and find out some of the benefits, and how easy it is actually to enact it.

**Text overlay:** John’s project saved 2 megalitres of water to help restore our river system.

**John Rapisarda:** If you can achieve greater profit, less input and less effort, you’ve got to be winning.

**Text overlay:** For more information: agriculture.gov.au/waterefficiency

[Video ends]