



Funding and support information for WA primary producers

This document provides some useful resources and information on grants and funding available to assist growers, pastoralists and industry experiencing hardship in challenging times.

Season information

Season 2024: information for WA farmers and pastoralists - seasonally relevant information and management options in broadacre and south-west agricultural areas and the Southern Rangelands of Western Australia.

Options to investigate

Farm Debt Mediation Scheme

- Available to assist farm and pastoral businesses resolve commercial debt disputes regarding loan agreements with their financial institution. Mediation is conducted by an independent mediator in an impartial and safe environment. For more information visit the [website](#), email ruralbusiness.developmentunit@dpird.wa.gov.au or call 1300 374 731.

Grants and programs

- Farm Business Resilience Program will help farmers identify gaps in their business strategy and provide them with the tools to prepare for, and manage, risk and improve business resilience.
- Future Drought Fund invests in projects to strengthen drought resilience.

A grants and programs finder is available, it is a guided search will help you find grants, funding and support programs from across government. WA specific grants and programs:

- AgBiz Drought Loans provides small businesses located in a drought affected region with loans to help them manage their business during a drought. Small businesses directly linked to the farming sector in drought-affected communities can apply for loans.
- Farm Management Deposits Scheme allows eligible primary production businesses to make cash deposits into a registered deposit institution in high income years and avoid being assessed for income tax on that sum, during that financial year. The deposit can be drawn upon in subsequent lower income years and assessed for taxation in that year.
- Drought loans for farm businesses provide loans to farm businesses to help them prepare for, manage through and recover from drought.

Farm Household Allowance Program provides farming families experiencing financial hardship with assistance through planning and training for long-term financial improvements as well as income support for up to 4 years.

Often funding is not available until a natural disaster is declared.

Support services

- The Regional Mens Health Initiative (RMHI) is a wellbeing and health education project aimed at improving outcomes for men and communities in regional, Western Australia. RMHI enables individuals, groups and communities to be self-sustaining and self-managing of wellbeing challenges. Phone: (08) 6314 1436
- Rural West provides free financial counselling to all primary producers and aims to transition clients through a financial crisis, improve their financial well-being and resilience, and improve business profitability or facilitate a dignified exit. Phone: 1800 612 004
- Rural aid provides critical support to farmers affected by natural disaster through financial, wellbeing and fodder assistance.
- Farmers across borders is a group of farmers and truckies from Western Australia aiming to help farmers by providing animal feed (straw & hay) and moral support to those who have been affected by drought and other natural disasters.
- Other rural support services are available, here is a comprehensive list.
- Drought, disaster and rural support - DAFF (agriculture.gov.au) - provides a list of programs and services to help prepare for, manage and recover from droughts, floods, pests and diseases, and other market disruptions.

Natural disaster assistance

The WA Government website lists support during emergencies caused by floods, droughts, cyclones or major bushfires or other natural disasters.

- Prepare warnings & incidents, recovery - Department of Fire and Emergency Services - provides simple advice and directs you to resources where you can find practical actions to prepare for and cope during a bushfire.
- Farm recovery after fire information and support services for recovery after fire.
- Animal welfare in emergencies - links to animal welfare during bushfires and recovery.
- Disaster recovery funding for WA is listed here when a natural disaster has been declared.
- Disaster Assist lists some arrangements to help with relief and recovery costs such as:
 - Disaster Recovery Payment may be provided as a one-off recovery payment to assist individuals and families that have been significantly affected by a major disaster.
 - Disaster Recovery Allowance a short-term income support payment to assist individuals who can demonstrate that their income has been affected as a direct result of a disaster.

More information

For further information or clarification, please contact:

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For information and resources to assist this season, visit the Season 2024 webpage at agric.wa.gov.au/Season2024