2 June 2025 (V.2)

Drought support package – overview

The Victorian Government is providing direct drought support of $67.2 million for farmers across Victoria impacted by drought and difficult seasonal conditions.

This is in response to deteriorating seasonal conditions across much of the state, with south west Victoria now recording significant rainfall deficiencies since winter 2023.

On-Farm Drought Infrastructure Grants are available for primary producers to support on-farm drought management improvements. Primary producers **across the state** will be able to access grants of up to $5,000 while those in **south west Victoria**, will be able to access an increased amount up to $10,000 (in the 11 eligible local government areas and parts of West Wimmera).

Technical and decision-making support is also available to farmers **across the state**, including a free 1-on-1 consultation with a farm advisor and local group based technical events. These services will be delivered in partnership with a range of service provider specialists.

A **'Look Over the Farm Gate' mental health and wellbeing** program will be available statewide to help communities come together and support farmers and farming families under stress. This program will be open soon.

These escalated services build on supports that are always available to Victorian farm businesses across the state, year-round. These include the Rural Financial Counselling Service, the Commonwealth Government's Farm Household Allowance and low interest loans available through the Regional Investment Corporation.

STATEWIDE TECHNICAL DECISION-MAKING SUPPORT

Agriculture Victoria's technical and decision-making support program is available to farmers right across the state.

The program will provide farm businesses with access to tailored support and advice through one-on-one consultations, webinars, workshops, field days, and boosted online tools and information.

One-on-one drought advisory service

Impacted farmers anywhere in Victoria can register for a **one-on-one session with a farm advisor** to take stock, discuss and plan the best way forward for their business in the challenging conditions. Farmers can nominate their preferred consultant from a panel of providers for a 3-hour consultation (on-farm or virtually) and a follow up call.

This program remains open to farmers in south west Victoria and will soon be open for farmers across the state.

Scan the QR code for more information, including to express your interest in the one-on-one advisory service.

Technical information and decision-making events program

Agriculture Victoria is coordinating delivery of technical information and decision-making events and workshops across the state, focused on key drought management issues.

Visit **agriculture.vic.gov.au/events** for details about online and in-person events.

ON-FARM DROUGHT INFRASTRUCTURE GRANT PROGRAM

The On-Farm Drought Infrastructure Grant Program provides immediate support in managing drought, as well as helping set the farm up for future droughts.

The grant program announced for SW Victoria in September 2024 has been extended and the grant amount has been increased up to total of $10,000.

Farmers in other areas of the state will be able to access grants of up to $5,000.

A dollar-for-dollar co-contribution is required by the grant recipient.

Eligible farmers can apply for grants for on-farm improvements including water infrastructure upgrades, stock containment areas, grain and fodder storage, as well as water carting activities and pasture re-establishment.

Scan the QR code to check your eligibility and register your interest.

MORE INFORMATION

For more information about the Drought Support Package scan the QR code, visit **agriculture.vic.gov.au/dryseasons**,
email **drought.support@agriculture.vic.gov.au** or phone 136 186.