



Drought support measures for farmers in NSW

July 2014

Expert advice from DPI and Local Land Services	DPI and Local Land Services provides assistance and advice on pastures and livestock, including Stockplan and PROGRAZE workshops www.lls.nsw.gov.au or www.dpi.nsw.gov.au
Rural Support Worker Program	Provides referral services and a drought incident coordinator Contact the Rural Support Worker Program
Farm Innovation Fund	Low interest loans are available for in drought and preparedness projects. Contact NSW Rural Assistance Authority or (02) 6391 3000 or 1800 678 593
Drought management tool – seasonal conditions reporting	Regional seasonal conditions reporting is a new management tool to help landholders facing drought
Independent advice from regional Assistance Advisory Committee	The Regional Assistance Advisory Committee (RAAC) is an independent committee focused on farm support initiatives
Emergency water works, critical water planning, drinking water and cartage	DPI's Office of Water helps local water utilities maintain basic water supplies during drought. Includes financial assistance, drought management measures - www.water.nsw.gov.au
Financial counselling	Contact Rural Financial Counselling Service for free advice
Online learning tools for drought risk management	The Stockplan online course is available from Tocal College
Australian Government Farm Finance: Concessional Loans Scheme	Low interest loans of up to \$650,000 are available to refinance up to half of existing long-term commercial borrowings
Australian Government drought support programs	Farm family support, farm family payments, farm management deposits and other support measures provided by the Australian Government
Australian Government Farm Household Allowance	FHA is available to help farming families with their daily living expenses
Australian Government Drought Concessional Loans Scheme	Drought Concessional Loans totalling \$100 million will be allocated to give eligible NSW farm businesses the resources to recover from the effects of drought
Access to social support	\$10.7 million to help increase access to social and mental health services in communities affected by drought.

Assistance for farm businesses to manage pest impacts in drought affected areas	\$10 million in assistance for pest management in drought affected areas .
Taxation assistance	The Australian Taxation Office can help people affected by drought

Drought management resources available online

These online resources are available at www.dpi.nsw.gov.au

- [Drought management for cattle](#) - includes drought feeding principles and health management.
- [Drought management for sheep](#) – includes auditing, feeding and health management.
- [Drought management for other stock](#) – includes feeding horses, aquaculture and drought.
- [Drought management for small area farmers](#) – includes decision making, feeding and agistment.
- [Stock feeds and pasture in drought](#) – includes information on alternative feeds and feed control.
- [Stock water in drought](#) – covers farm water management and requirements for sheep and cattle.
- [Crop salvage calculator](#) – assesses costs for different options.
- [Rice crop water use calculator](#) – calculates rice crop water needs and estimated water use.
- [Managing citrus orchards with less water](#) – covers water saving practices.
- [Regional seasonal conditions reports](#) – drought management tool.
- [Drought planning and audit](#) – audit strategy and planning tool.
- [Drought recovery](#) – includes financial management and restocking.
- [Drought strategies and financial considerations](#) – covers trigger points and productivity.
- [Drought policy FAQs](#) – answers your questions on drought reform.
- [The Managing Drought manual](#) – drought planning, feeding and animal welfare.
- [Tocal college courses](#) – offers courses on climate education and drought management.
- [Assessing welfare of stock](#) – Welfare scoring nutritionally deprived beef cattle, dairy cattle and their crosses, sheep and horses.
- [Transport standards](#) – meeting your obligations under the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (Land Transport of Livestock) Standards.
- [Primefact on animal welfare in drought](#) – general principles regarding animal welfare in drought situations.
- [Primefact on humane destruction of stock](#) – guidelines to ensure that animals are destroyed humanely, efficiently and safely.

More information on drought support measures

- Department of Primary Industries – www.dpi.nsw.gov.au
- Commonwealth Drought and Farmer Assistance Hotline 13 23 16
- Rural Assistance Authority – free call 1800 678 593 or www.raa.nsw.gov.au
- Rural Support Workers – www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/aboutus/services/community/support-workers
- Rural Financial Counsellors – www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/drought/assistance/rural-financial-counselling-service

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