

DRY SEASONAL CONDITIONS SUPPORT IN VICTORIA

Current as at 2 July 2018

SUPPORT	DESCRIPTION	MORE INFORMATION
TECHNICAL SUPPORT		
Farm Extension Services	On-Farm focused extension services delivered by Agriculture Victoria provide and signpost information and advisory services to support farm businesses manage dry seasonal conditions.	Call the Agriculture Victoria Information Line on 136 186 or visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farm-management/farmer-workshops
Stock Containment Areas	Stock Containment Areas can be a good livestock management tool to feed and water livestock to protect soil and pasture resources during adverse seasonal conditions.	Call the Agriculture Victoria Information Line on 136 186 or visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/emergencies/recovery/livestock-after-an-emergency/stock-containment-areas
Feeding Beef and Sheep	Agriculture Victoria has developed booklets on feeding and managing beef and sheep during dry seasonal conditions. These booklets help producers break down the daunting planning phase into manageable steps that can be used to plan a successful way forward.	Call the Agriculture Victoria Information Line on 136 186 or visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farm-management/drought/managing-resources-in-drought
FINANCIAL SUPPORT		
Rural Financial Counselling Service	Free and independent financial information, options, decision support and referral services. The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free rural financial counselling to farmers, fishing enterprises, forestry growers and harvesters, and small, related businesses who are at risk of financial hardship.	Call 1800 686 175 (toll free) or call: Western RFCS: 1300 735 578 Eastern RFCS: (03) 5662 2566 North East RFCS: 1300 834 775 North West RFCS: 1300 769 489
Farm Debt Mediation	The scheme makes it compulsory for banks and other creditors to offer mediation to farmers before commencing debt recovery proceedings on farm mortgages.	Call the Agriculture Victoria Information Line on 136 186 or visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farm-management/business-management/farm-debt-mediation Email: farm.debt@ecodev.vic.gov.au
Farmer Assistance hotline (Australian Government)	Information on the Australian Government's support services available to farmers and rural communities (e.g. Farm Household Allowance).	Call the Farmer Assistance Hotline on 132 316 or visit agriculture.gov.au
Farm Management Deposits (Australian Government)	Assists primary producers to deal more effectively with fluctuations in cash flows.	Call the Australian Taxation Office Business Enquiries on 132 866 or visit ato.gov.au or agriculture.gov.au
Farm Household Allowance (Australian Government)	The Australian Government makes an income support payment available to eligible farmers and their families experiencing financial hardship.	Call 132 316 or visit humanservices.gov.au
Regional Investment Corporation Farm Business Concessional Loans (Australian Government)	The Australian Government has established the Regional Investment Corporation (RIC). From 1 July 2018, farmers will need to apply to the RIC for the Australian Government's farm business concessional loans. The RIC will offer two loan products for eligible farm businesses in Victoria: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Drought Loans Farm Investment Loans 	For more information about the loans and eligibility requirements please contact the RIC on 1800 875 675 or visit the RIC website www.ric.gov.au .

SUPPORT	DESCRIPTION	MORE INFORMATION
PERSONAL SUPPORT		
National Centre for Farmer Health (NCFH)	The NCFH provides leadership to improve the health, wellbeing and safety of farm men and women, farm workers, their families and communities. The NCFH also implements activities to support farmers in drought impacted areas, including the Sustainable Farm Families program.	Call (03) 5551 8533 or visit farmerhealth.org.au
NURSE-ON-CALL	24/7 phone service that provides immediate, expert health advice from a registered nurse.	Call 1300 60 60 24 or visit www2.health.vic.gov.au
Mensline Australia	24/7 service for men with relationship and family concerns.	Call 1300 78 99 78 or visit mensline.org.au
Parentline	Confidential, anonymous and free telephone and online counselling, information and referral service for parents.	Call 1300 30 1300 (8 am to 10 pm, seven days a week) or visit parentline.com.au On-line counselling is available Tuesdays and Thursdays between 11 am and 2 pm).
Kids Help Line	24/7 telephone and online counselling service for young people aged 5 - 25. Online information also available for parents, carers and schools.	Call 1800 55 1800 or visit kidshelpline.com.au
Family Relationship Service	Providing families with access to information about family relationship issues.	Call 1800 050 321 or visit familyrelationships.gov.au
Victorian Better Health Channel	Health and medical information that is quality assured, reliable, up to date, easy to understand, regularly reviewed and locally relevant.	Visit betterhealth.vic.gov.au
Beyondblue	24/7 telephone information and support to help everyone in Australia achieve their best possible mental health, whatever their age and wherever they live.	Call 1300 224 636 or visit beyondblue.org.au Chat online service available between 3 pm – 12 am, seven days a week.
Lifeline	24/7 crisis support and suicide prevention services.	Call 131 114 or visit lifeline.org.au

For more information call the Agriculture Victoria Information Line on 136 186