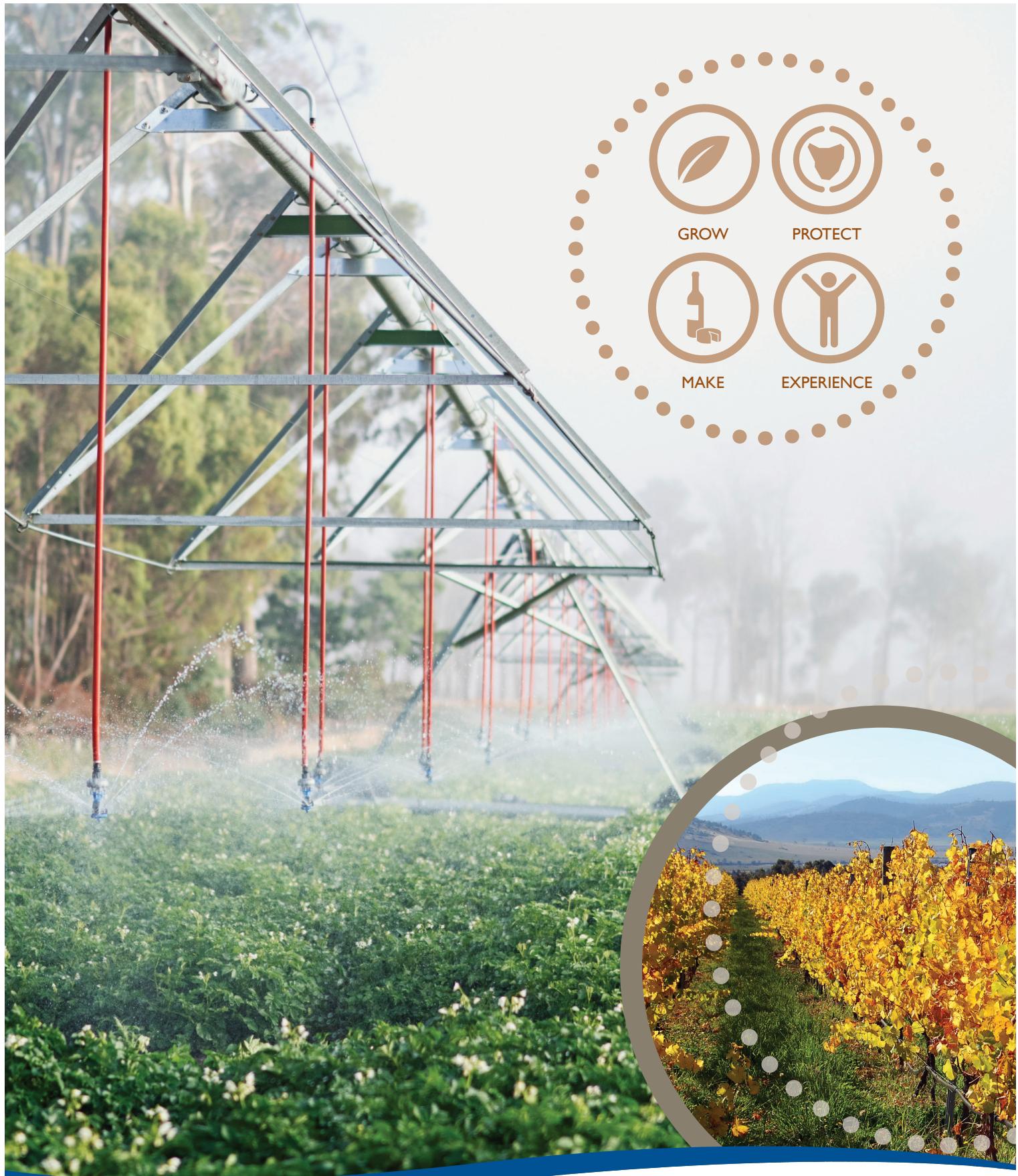


# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-23



# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Blueprint for the future

Tasmania's comprehensive plan to grow our sustainable agri-food sector is delivering. Agricultural production increased by more than nine per cent in 2017-18 to just over \$1.6 billion. Agriculture supports more than 7,500 direct jobs, with another 2,000 directly employed in aquaculture and fishing.

The first Tasmanian Sustainable Agri-food Plan (the "Plan"), released in 2016, provided the impetus for growth and we are now delivering the updated new four-year Plan to ensure we remain on track to achieve our target farm gate value of \$10 billion by 2050. The updated Plan also recognises the significant contribution and growth potential of our seafood sector; including aquaculture.



Tasmania's Sustainable Agri-food Plan 2019-23 outlines our plan to build on what we have achieved so far, and deliver a stronger economy and more jobs.

Our investment of \$153 million over five years to grow agriculture and \$26 million commitment to our seafood and fisheries sectors demonstrates the Tasmanian Government's focus on fostering a competitive, innovative and profitable agri-food sector selling more of Tasmania's high quality products to the world.

Initiatives are focused on realising the benefits of irrigation; targeted research, development and extension; increased on-farm productivity; skills development; enhanced profitability; and resilient rural communities. Importantly the plan recognises that sustainable growth only happens with the commitment of farmers, fishers, primary producers, processors, industry groups, agri-businesses and all levels of government working together.

In 2017-18 we updated the Plan, reported on progress and outlined new initiatives. The 2019-23 Plan continues this journey as we deliver on our AgriVision 2050 growth target and continue to create jobs and prosperity in rural communities across the state.

This Plan continues the key themes of '**Grow, Make, Protect**', which are integral to the value chain from pre-production through to market. In achieving AgriVision 2050 our farmers, fishers and processors need to **grow** and **make** more not just in terms of volume but also in value, selling into markets where Tasmania's produce is recognised and in demand. We also need to work together to **protect** our resource base and hard-earned reputation through upholding biosecurity, product integrity, food safety and animal welfare standards.

The additional economic, value-adding and customer focused element of '**Experience**' is a fourth key theme in the 2019-23 Plan. Growth in the state's tourism and agriculture industries has seen our agri-food businesses increasingly showcasing their produce through cellar doors, farm shops, craft breweries, farmer's markets and linked food and beverage tasting trails reinforcing Tasmania's brand as a premium food producer.

'**Grow, Make, Protect, Experience**' truly encapsulates Tasmania's agri-food sector and its engagement with the broader community.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Guy Barnett".

The Hon Guy Barnett MP  
Minister for Primary Industries and Water

# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Keeping on track

The Tasmanian Agri-Food Scorecard has tracked progress of the state's agriculture and seafood sectors for more than a decade. The 2017-18 edition reveals strong performance across most agricultural industries, with favourable seasonal conditions, good production and strong commodity prices.

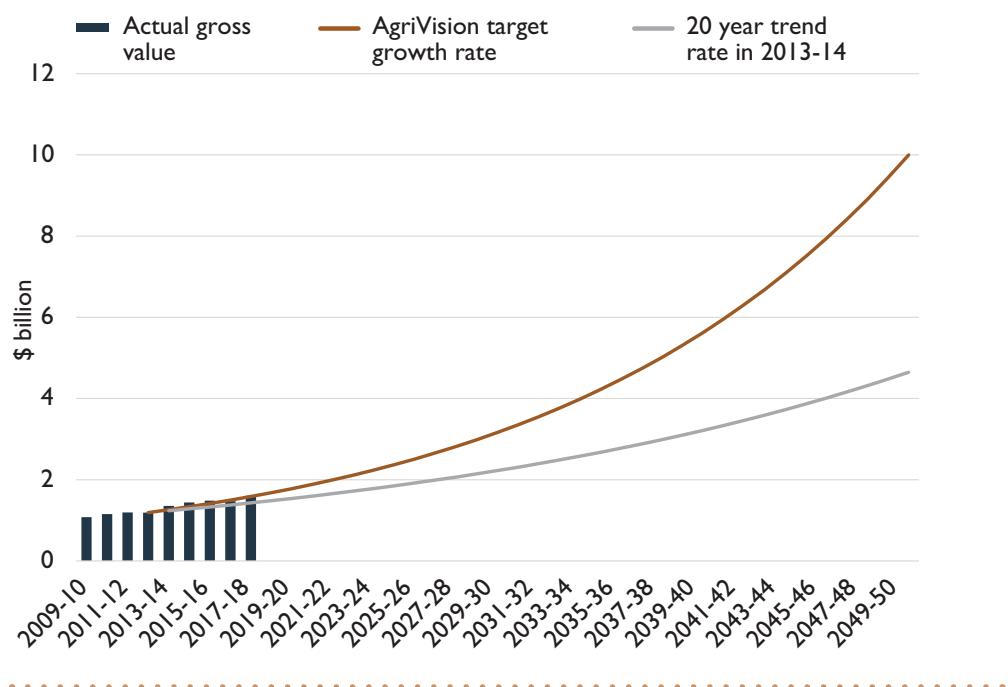
More information on the Tasmanian Agri-Food Scorecard can be found at:

[www.dpiw.tas.gov.au](http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au)

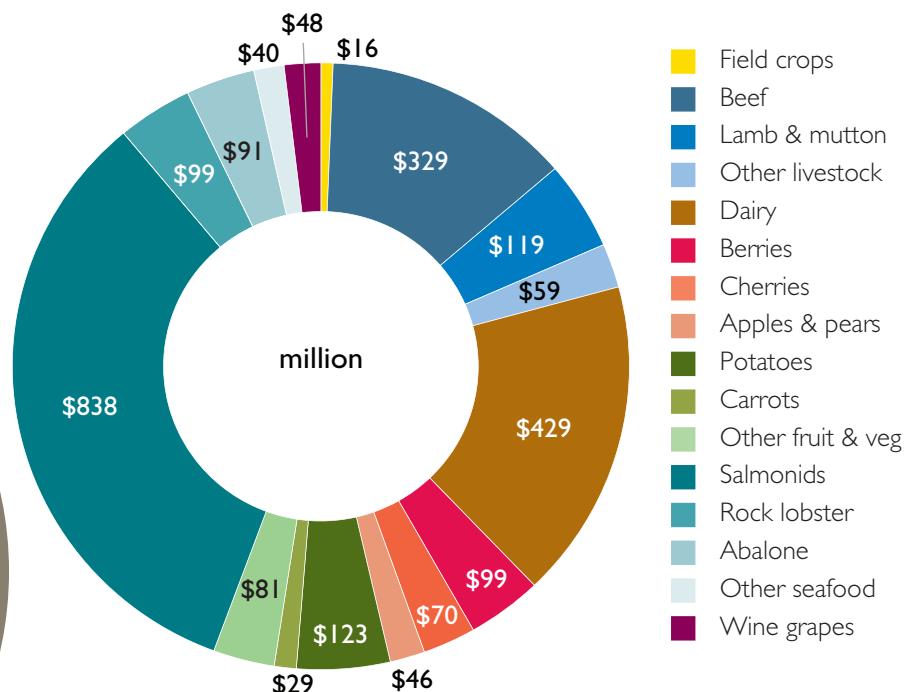


The farm gate value of agriculture rose by 9% to \$1.60 billion in 2017-18. The figure below shows that industry remains firmly on track to reach the AgriVision 2050 target of \$10 billion by 2050.

Gross farm gate value of Tasmanian Agriculture



Gross food value at farm gate or beach - \$2.52 billion



Strong growth in the value of salmonids, red meat, dairy, fruit, and wine saw the food farm gate or beach value of agri-food production increase by a remarkable 16% to \$2.52 billion in 2017-18. The figure above provides a detailed breakdown of the food value of agri-food production by commodity.

# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Agriculture Policy and Industry Development

**Strategic investments have been made across dairy, red meat, wine, horticulture, honey and hemp industries to help deliver sustainable growth and address challenges and barriers.**

Key policy and investment decisions have been framed through consultation and research, including the *Review of Tasmania's Genetically Modified Organisms (GMO) Moratorium Final Report*, the report into the *Feasibility of Establishing Further Meat Processing Capacity in Tasmania* by Meridian Agriculture, the *Agricultural Research Development and Extension Principles and Investment Strategy 2018-19 to 2022-23* and the *Bee Industry Futures Report*. Assistance has been provided to industries to manage and respond to challenges including: drought conditions; disease responses; and the 2019 fires.

The AgriGrowth Loan Scheme has been expanded to provide support for rural succession with the introduction of the Young Farmer Support Package. A farmer helpline "Farmpoint" has been launched and two AgriGrowth Liaison Officer roles created to improve access to information for primary producers. In addition, continued support has been provided to rural communities through funding and collaboration with Rural Alive and Well, Tasmanian Women in Agriculture, the Rural Youth Organisation of Tasmania, Rural Business Tasmania (including the Rural Financial Counselling Service) and the Safe Farming Tasmania Program.

Initiative	Description	Status
Grow More, Milk More, Make More Dairy Industry Development	\$900,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 for a dairy extension program with: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$300,000 over three years to DairyTas for targeted education and extension for dairy farmers.</li> <li>• \$250,000 over two years to dairy farmers for an On-farm Energy Audit and Capital Grant Program.</li> <li>• Remainder to be assigned for productivity gains in consultation with industry.</li> </ul>	  <b>Underway</b>
Red Meat Industry Development	\$1 million between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to work with farmers and processors to increase trade, marketing, value and sales of Tasmanian red meat: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <i>Feasibility of Establishing Further Meat Processing Capacity in Tasmania</i> report released.</li> <li>• Tasmanian Meat Industry Working Group recommendations for a viable red meat industry.</li> <li>• Red Meat Industry Development Officer role to deliver the industry's Strategy Plan.</li> <li>• Remainder to be invested in consultation with industry.</li> </ul>	  <b>Underway</b> <b>Underway</b>
Wine Industry Development	\$600,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 for a wine market development and tourism initiative to help drive the value and global reputation of Tasmanian wine and associated visitation to Tasmania in partnership with Wine Tasmania.	
Fruit and Vegetable Industry Development	\$550,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 for a horticulture market and trade development initiative in partnership with Fruit Growers Tasmania to support the fruit and vegetable industry grow market and export opportunities linked to the Tasmanian Trade Strategy. Activities include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• China trade and investment mission.</li> <li>• Japan FOODEX and Ausveg mission.</li> </ul>	  <b>Underway</b>
Organics Industry Development	\$230,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to assist farmers, producers, and agri-food businesses interested in transitioning to organic production methods and market development.	
Bee Industry Futures	\$750,000 between 2018-19 and 2020-21 to work closely with beekeepers and crop pollinators to implement <i>Bee Industry Futures</i> focusing on resource access, biosecurity, hive productivity and crop pollination resilience. Initiatives include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$500,000 for selected infrastructure upgrades to improve floral resource access.</li> <li>• \$40,000 to fund scientific research into medicinal and other qualities of leatherwood honey for market and trade benefits.</li> <li>• \$150,000 Bee Industry Emergency Winter Colony Management Scheme to assist the bee industry manage their colonies following bushfires and challenging seasonal conditions.</li> </ul>	<b>Underway</b>   <b>Underway</b>

# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Agriculture Policy and Industry Development continued

Initiative	Description	Status
Hemp Industry Support	\$150,000 between 2018-19 and 2020-21 to support the Hemp Association of Tasmania with grower communications, product development, marketing and branding to support exponential growth in the hemp industry. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Executive officer appointed.</li> <li>• Tasmanian hemp brand launched.</li> </ul>	 Underway
Living next door to a farmer campaign	\$100,000 between 2018-19 and 2020-21 to the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association (TFGA) to deliver the “Living next door to a farmer campaign” involving farmers, real estate industry, local Government and the community. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Survey of farmers, land holders and local government completed and report prepared.</li> </ul>	
Strategic Industry Partnership Program	\$1.2 million between 2017-18 and 2020-21 for a Strategic Industry Partnerships Program (SIPP) to co-invest with industry peak bodies and organisations in supporting growth and prosperity across the Tasmanian agri-food sector. To date ten projects totalling more than \$1 million have been committed to across wine, precision agriculture, poppy, dairy, biosecurity, fruit, the beekeeping industries, seafood, and agri-business training and development.	
GMO Moratorium Review	Tasmania's Genetically Modified Organisms Moratorium extended for ten years following a review.	
Tasmanian Women in Agriculture	A further \$120,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to Tasmanian Women in Agriculture to build capacity for more rural women to take leadership roles in Tasmanian primary industries.	
Rural Youth Tasmania	A further \$70,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to Rural Youth Tasmania to further develop young people in rural industries leadership programs.	
Rural Financial Counselling Services and farm business mentoring	A further \$800,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 for Rural Financial Counselling Services and farm business mentoring delivered by the Rural Business Tasmania supporting Tasmanian farmers with business skills, financial literacy, planning and debt mediation.	
Rural Alive and Well	A further \$1.46 million between 2018-19 and 2019-20 to Rural Alive and Well (RAW) to continue its mental health outreach services in rural communities.	
White Paper on the Competitiveness of Tasmanian Agriculture for 2050	By March 2020 deliver a White Paper to consider policy improvements to address key issues impacting the cost of production, investment and the profitability of farmers and agribusiness.	 Underway
AgriGrowth Loan Scheme – low interest loans	Extension of the program to include a specific Young Farmer Support Package. As of 1 September 2019 48 AgriGrowth Loans totalling more than \$38 million have been approved, including 17 Young Farmer Support Package Loans totalling nearly \$19 million.	
Farm Energy Advocate	Advocate service available through Aurora Energy to work directly with farmers to help them manage energy supply options and usage costs.	
Safe Farming Tasmania Program	Support to improve on-farm safety: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• \$600,000 between 2017-18 and 2021-22 to continue the successful farm safety program.</li> <li>• Quad Bike Safety Rebate Scheme introduced with a total of \$500,000 being provided to farmers until 30 June 2020.</li> <li>• \$200,000 to increase community awareness of safe quad bike use, including farm safety sessions and media campaign.</li> </ul>	  
Two new AgriGrowth Liaison Officers	\$860,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 for two permanent AgriGrowth Liaison Officers based in the North, combined with a new primary producer's helpline, to provide easier access and a single contact point for those primary producers who need to conduct business with DPIPWE.	

# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Agriculture Policy and Industry Development continued

Initiative	Description	Status
FarmPoint Upgrade and Helpline	\$50,000 to modernise the FarmPoint website and connect it with contemporary social media platforms to become the e-contact point for those primary producers who prefer smart-phone and easy access to DPIPWE's extensive information services.	✓
Stock Underpass Program Extension	To continue the Stock Underpass Program over four years to 2022 to offset the costs associated with stock underpass infrastructure, improving farm and road safety and increase farm efficiency. To date five underpasses have been approved for funding, with completion of two in Moltema, one in Dorset, and two under construction in Thirlstane and St Mary's.	✓
Game Management	Modernise the management of game and browsing animals through a new independent Tasmanian Game Council supported by Game Services Tasmania in DPIPWE with a primary industries focus to support landholders, farmers and hunters to sustainably manage issues relating to game and browsing animals.	✓
Actions in response to the Legislative Council Inquiry and Report on Wild Fallow Deer in Tasmania	Key actions include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>State-wide census of fallow deer.</li> <li>Implementation of five year crop protection permits for deer.</li> <li>Extension of opportunities for licensed and registered shooters to hunt in areas such as National Parks, conservation areas and reserves.</li> <li>Review of the <i>Wildlife (General) Regulations 2010</i> and the <i>Wildlife (Deer Farming) Regulations 2010</i>.</li> </ul>	<b>Underway</b> <b>Underway</b> <b>Underway</b> <b>Underway</b>
Agricultural Show Development Grants Program	Provide \$1.0 million between 2017-18 and 2021-22 to enable rural and regional show societies across Tasmania to upgrade vital community infrastructure ensuring these iconic community events remain relevant into the future. Administered by Communities Tasmania a total of more than \$267,000 was provided to 13 agricultural show societies in 2018-19.	✓
Crop and Pasture Seed Industry Plan	The Crop and Pastures Seed Industry Plan is being developed in consultation with farmers and agribusiness to identify opportunities to grow Tasmania's place in this potentially high-value market.	<b>Underway</b>
Pastures and livestock productivity	Investing \$648,000 in working with farmers on practical strategies to improve pasture and livestock productivity to underpin grazing and meat processing sectors.	<b>Underway</b>
Changing climate, adaptation and drought	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Intergovernmental National Drought Agreement signed.</li> <li>Delivery of the On-Farm Emergency Water Infrastructure Rebate Scheme.</li> <li>Enterprise Suitability Mapping information to support agricultural decision making.</li> <li>Supporting Agriculture to Adapt to Climate Change project Working Group with other Australian governments.</li> </ul>	✓ ✓ <b>Underway</b> ✓
Agricultural Insurance Products Review	Review the use of agricultural insurance products including impediments to farmers using products like multi-peril crop insurance to insure against livestock and crop damage and actively manage risks from natural events such as drought, floods, hail, and fire.	<b>Underway</b>



# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Water Resources and Irrigation

Water surety underpins sustainable agricultural growth and gives farmers confidence to invest and secure high value contracts. Our target is to double the volume available through Tasmanian Irrigation Schemes by 2025.

A further \$70 million has been committed to Tasmanian Irrigation for the Pipeline to Prosperity program (Tranche 3) to deliver at least the first five of ten possible projects across Tasmania. The Australian Government has committed an additional \$100 million to the capital costs of Tranche 3.



Initiative	Description	Status
Pipeline to prosperity -Tranche 3 irrigation development to deliver an additional 50,000 megalitres	Invest an additional \$70 million of State funds and an additional \$100 million Australian government funds towards a third tranche of Tasmanian Irrigation schemes continuing our successful partnership with farmers and the Commonwealth.	Underway
Tasmanian Rural Water Use Strategy	Work with farmers, irrigators, rural communities and other stakeholders to develop a Rural Water Use Strategy. The strategy will set the direction for legislative and policy reform in the rural water sector for the next few decades.	Underway
Tasmanian Irrigation Renewable Energy Program	A \$5.5 million, three year program for Tasmanian Irrigation to work with irrigators to construct mini and micro hydro-electric systems as part of the irrigation system network.	Underway
Irrigation Tariff Review	Review into the current structure of irrigation electricity tariffs is underway to ensure they are more suitable to modern irrigation enterprises, while offering a competitive advantage to Tasmanians.	Underway



# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Biosecurity

**Biosecurity is vitally important for protecting Tasmania's reputation for quality primary produce and our natural environment. Our relative pest and disease free status is a competitive advantage for our farmers in the market place.**

The Tasmanian Biosecurity Act 2019 passed through both houses of Parliament in 2019. The act is designed to strengthen, streamline and better protect our primary industries.

The new Act provides Tasmania with contemporary biosecurity legislation that will help meet the challenges of the future and support strong growth in the primary industries and tourism sectors.

The additional funding of \$2.6 million per year for 'Securing our Borders' initiative announced by the Government in May 2019, will increase border inspections of imported produce at risk of hosting high priority pests (including QFF). The initiative will also enable the development and implementation of an online

traceability and verification system, increased emergency preparedness of agricultural sectors, and increased promotion and education of tourists in biosecurity matters.

Biosecurity Tasmania has also instigated a number of biosecurity measures to mitigate the risk of an incursion of Queensland Fruit Fly.

The Government has also committed additional funding to support animal welfare by increased funding to the RSPCA's inspectorate service. Funding was increased from \$400,000 to \$550,000 a year from 2017-18. Additional funding is also provided for three new Biosecurity inspectors across the State.

Initiative	Description	Status
Industry biosecurity initiatives	\$510,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to plan for and manage post-border biosecurity risks and to support on-farm biosecurity hygiene strategies. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$310,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to the Tasmanian Farmers and Graziers Association for an On-Farm Biosecurity Tasmania Engagement Project</li><li>• \$500,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to Fruit Growers Tasmania for a biosecurity project.</li></ul>	✓
Truck and Machine Wash-down Stations	\$2 million between 2018-19 and 2021-22 for truck and machinery wash-down stations partnering with farmers, agribusiness and local government. Complementing a new facility completed in 2018 at Powranna, planning is underway to upgrade the current Smithton facility. Other new sites are under consideration.	✓
Additional biosecurity officers for King Island and Flinders Island	\$480,000 between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to boost biosecurity on the Bass Strait Islands by employing an additional biosecurity officer on each Island to support landholders to tackle weeds, pests and other issues affecting agricultural production and address local biosecurity priorities.	✓
Modernise Tasmania's biosecurity legislation	The Tasmanian Biosecurity Act 2019 passed both houses in 2019.	✓
Securing our Borders	Revenue obtained from partial cost recovery of in Plant Quarantine Inspection fees will be used to fund more field staff doing border inspections during the high risk season; an online traceability and verification system; increased capability of agricultural sectors for emergency preparedness; and increased level of biosecurity education of tourists.	<b>Underway</b>



# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Fisheries and Aquaculture

**Our fisheries and seafood sector makes an important contribution to the Tasmanian economy, and is a significant job provider in regional areas.**

The focus of government has been supporting the sustainable growth of the Salmonid industry and the sustainable management of our commercial and recreational wild fishery.

In the last 12 months the following has been achieved:

- Finalised the expansion of the salmonid industry in Storm Bay;
- Appointed an Aquaculture Coordinator the first priority for whom is the development of a roadmap for the further implementation of the Sustainable Industry Growth Plan for the Salmon Industry; and

- Made a significant investment under the Abalone Industry Reinvestment Fund to address the threat posed by *Centrostephanous* on the East Coast.

Initiative	Description	Status
Institute for Marine and Antarctic Studies (IMAS)	\$14 million over five years to provide for additional fishing industry-relevant research and development supporting new sustainable fisheries opportunities.	✓
Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council (TSIC) policy support	\$150,000 to support TSIC address seafood policy and safety.	✓
Abalone Industry Development Trust	\$200,000 annually between 2018-19 and 2021-22 to continue to support the Abalone Development Trust Fund.	✓
Abalone Industry Reinvestment Fund	\$5.1 million to support the abalone industry with the establishment and operation of the Abalone Industry Reinvestment Fund. To date seven applications have been approved for funding.	✓
East Coast Rock Lobster Translocation	Implement the east coast rock lobster translocation program.	✓
Blue Economy Cooperative Research Centre	An investment of \$200 000 per annum over ten years is provided to support the University of Tasmania for the Blue Economy Co-operative Research Centre. The Blue Economy CRC is an industry-led collaboration between industry, researchers and the community to deliver economically viable, environmentally adapted and socially acceptable innovations in aquaculture and seafood production; marine renewable energy; and offshore engineering	✓
Quality Testing Services for Shell fish and Rock lobster	\$1 million for Analytical Services Tasmania which delivers product quality testing services to a range of sectors including shellfish and rock lobster.	✓
Transition commercial fisheries into the digital age	\$5 million Fisheries Digital Transition Project for efficient fisheries management and quota monitoring.	Underway
Implementation of the Sustainable Industry Growth Plan for the Salmon Industry	Implement our plan for sustainable growth. This Plan outlines the State's vision and initiatives to have industry remain one Tasmanians are proud of and have confidence in while delivering increased tangible benefits through sustainable growth.	Underway
Maintain the policy of no new marine reserves	Maintain a moratorium on any new Marine Protected Areas within State waters over which the State Government has jurisdiction.	✓

# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Investment Attraction, Infrastructure and Brand Support

Through the Office of the Coordinator General, the Department of State Growth, Brand Tasmania, Tourism Tasmania and DPIPWE we are providing practical support to Tasmanian farmers and agri-food businesses who are developing innovative ways to add value to our agricultural produce; using new technologies and processing techniques; developing global markets; and capitalising on Tasmania's brand.

The *Tasmanian Trade Strategy 2019-2025* (the Trade Strategy) outlines a coordinated whole-of-government approach to work with business and partners to grow trade to \$15 billion by the year 2050. Under the Trade Strategy, the *Food and Agri-business Action Plan 2019-20* outlines support being provided to Tasmanian food and agri-businesses to enter new markets. Tasmania is known for its wild places, clean air and water and premium produce. Food and agricultural businesses are positioning themselves in niche and premium markets under the Tasmanian brand umbrella.



Initiative	Description	Status
Tasmanian Trade Strategy	Support agri-food businesses enter new markets including Australian mainland and key international markets such as China, Japan, Singapore, Malaysia and the United States. <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• <i>Tasmanian Trade Strategy 2019-25</i> released.</li><li>• <i>Food and Agri-business Action Plan 2019-20</i> released.</li></ul>	✓ ✓
Brand Tasmania	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Brand Tasmania statutory authority created.</li><li>• Brand Tasmania's Strategic Plan 2019-2024 developed.</li></ul>	✓ <b>Underway</b>
Moratorium on Fracking	Extend for another five years a moratorium on fracking for the purposes of hydrocarbon extraction on agricultural land, protecting our valuable farmland, premium agri-food brand and markets.	✓
FermenTasmania	Progress a business case for a proposed industry-led, not-for-profit industry cluster established to accelerate innovation, growth and collaboration amongst fermentation-based enterprises.	✓
Microwave Assisted Thermal Sterilisation (MATS)	Work with the Defence Science and Technology Organisation (DSTO) facility at Scottsdale and local businesses to exploit opportunities from the new Microwave Assisted Thermal Sterilisation (MATS) technology being trialled at the DSTO.	<b>Underway</b>
Regional Tourism Attraction Loan Scheme	\$20 million Regional Tourism Attraction Loan Scheme with a focus on supporting agribusiness investment in vineyards, cellar doors, distilleries and breweries.	<b>Underway</b>
Accelerating Trade Grant Program	Support businesses strengthen trade with international and mainland markets, through assistance for market research, business matching, cluster support, supply chain improvement and promotional activities.	<b>Underway</b>
AgriTourism Strategy	Grow Tasmania's agri-tourism sector and on-farm experiences as part of our visitor experience.	<b>Underway</b>



# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Agricultural Research, Development, Extension and Community Engagement

**World-class research, development and extension (RD&E) is helping our producers achieve the target to grow the annual farm gate value of agriculture to \$10 billion by 2050.**

The White Paper – *Growing Tasmanian Agricultural Research, Development and Extension for 2050*, released in late 2017, is an important part of our comprehensive plan for achieving future productivity gains and innovation in Tasmanian agriculture. The new Joint Venture Agreement between the Crown and the University of Tasmania for delivery of the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) strengthened the commitment to work collaboratively. The establishment of the new \$3 million Agricultural Innovation Fund will drive research, development and extension projects. This fund will invest strategically in innovative agricultural RD&E projects that capitalise on opportunities for growth and

development. A further \$7 million will be provided to modernise our Crown and TIA research farm assets creating Centres of Excellence for practical research and demonstration.

Outside of TIA, the support of a variety of extension activities across sectors helps facilitate the sharing of knowledge between scientists, industry and individual producers, and from peer to peer.

Initiative	Description	Status
Implementation of <i>Growing Tasmanian Agriculture – Research, Development and Extension for 2050</i> White paper	White Paper identified 15 Actions to be considered to improve RD&E outcomes for the Tasmanian agricultural industries.	<b>Underway</b>
Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) and Ag Innovation Fund	Funding of \$28 million to Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA) between 2018-19 and 2022-23, including \$3 million Agricultural Innovation Fund for specific industry-aligned priority research projects.	✓
Upgrade of Research Farm Assets	\$7 million to modernise our Crown and TIA research farm assets to make our research farms the centre of excellence for practical research and demonstration.	<b>Underway</b>
Landcare Action Grants Program	\$2 million Landcare Action Grants Program over four years to 2022 to co-invest with farmers, Landcare, and other community organisations on practical on-ground works for sustainable agriculture and rivercare. This includes \$200,000 for the DairyTas “Cows out of Creeks” project.	✓
Supporting Landcare Tasmania	\$960,000 over four years to 2022 to the Landcare Tasmania to support grass roots Landcare groups..	✓
Supporting Natural Resource Management (NRM)	Increase funding for Natural Resource Management (NRM) to \$4.2 million over four years to 2022 years to enable NRM North, NRM South and Cradle Coast NRM to coordinate community involvement in landcare programs.	✓
Weed Action Fund	\$5 million over five years to 2023 into a new Weed Action Fund which will invest with farmers, landcare and other community organisations to tackle weeds that are impacting on valuable agricultural or environmental assets.	✓
Tasmanian Weed Chair	A new Tasmanian Weed Chair appointed – a recognised community landcare leader – will work in partnership with existing DPIPWE weeds and invasive species experts and stakeholders to identify the strategic on ground priorities across land tenures and coordinate the Weed Action Fund.	✓

# TASMANIA'S SUSTAINABLE AGRI-FOOD PLAN 2019-2023

## Agricultural Education and Skills

Careers pathways for agri-food start at an early age. The Tasmanian Agricultural Education Framework has been developed to provide an overview of agriculture in Tasmanian schools from Kindergarten to Year 12.

This work has been a collaboration between DPIPWE, DoE and the Hagley Farm School: Centre for Agricultural Education. The framework identifies key links between schools, primary producers, industry and community to support student learning in agricultural education.

Skills Tasmania work with agriculture industry bodies to advance workforce development, through planning and through implementing projects. It is Tasmania's State Training Authority, developing strategies and providing support, advice, opportunities and funding to deliver quality training to meet the needs of Tasmanians and our industries.

Initiative	Description	Status
Centre of Excellence	\$5 million to build a contemporary learning facility for agriculture students centred around Burnie's Freer Farm, the Centre of Excellence will include TasTAFE course delivery plus partnerships with Agritas and the University of Tasmania.	Underway
Rising with the Tide	\$156,250 from 2019-21 to assist Tasmanian Seafood Industry Council to address priority workforce development goals including: preparing the industry for a new generation of workers, improving capability and professionalism of new workforce entrants, creating a positive culture, facilitating succession planning in Tasmania's wild catch fisheries and connecting workforce demand to meaningful outcomes.	✓
Rural Cadetship Project	\$200,000 from 2019-22 to create a link between the current formal school learning packages and practical learning through apprenticeships/traineeships with primary producers in Tasmania. In collaboration with agricultural and educational stakeholders, Rural Business Tasmania will develop and deliver a Pilot Cadetship Program that will guide and mentor young Tasmanians in the Agribusiness sector and deliver training to farmers to better support workers.	✓
Agricultural Workforce Development Project for the North West	\$450,000 to assist development of the workforce in the North West of Tasmania. Stage 1 will see a Workforce Plan developed for the region based on the successful Northern Midlands pilot in 2018. Stage 2 will see funding directed to actions arising from the Plan and involve working with key agricultural sector stakeholders including TFGA, Dutch Mill Dairy, University of Tasmania (Including Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture), Primary Employers Tasmania, TasTAFE, AgriTas and the Department of Education.	Underway
Wool industry - Shearer-hand training	\$310,000 over three years to Primary Employers Tasmania to deliver training. The program in 2018-19 supported four traineeships, in addition to shearers and wool handlers receiving coaching, workshops for students and newcomers to the industry, regular training sessions with contractors, and specialist professional development for trainers. In 2018-19 11 shearing training schools were conducted.	✓
Blundstone Scholarship to support agricultural education and jobs	Providing \$60,000 per year for a further six years for students completing a Diploma in Agribusiness. The program will now apply to students commencing their studies up to 2024.	✓
Crawford Fund – extension of support funding	A contribution to the fund of \$20,000 per annum until 2021-2022. The Fund supports projects raising public awareness of the benefits to developing countries and Australia of international research and development in agriculture, forestry and fisheries.	✓

### DISCLAIMER

The information contained in this document provides general information relating to the State's agri-food sector. The Crown in Right of the State of Tasmania, its officers, employees and agents do not accept liability, however arising, including liability for negligence, for any loss arising from the use or reliance upon the content of this document. No liability or responsibility is accepted for the consequences of any inaccuracy in this document, and persons relying upon it do so at their own risk absolutely.

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