



19 June 2024

Drought Response WA | Information sheet

Drought Response WA website

- The Drought Response WA website provides a one-stop online destination for information and support available to primary producers being impacted by drought.
- The new website includes a range of drought resources and support information:
 - **Financial support** - Find out about the financial assistance available to farmers and regional communities impacted by drought.
 - **Mental health support** - A range of counselling services are available to support people in rural areas.
 - **Advice for livestock farmers** - Information to assist decision-making in challenging seasonal and industry conditions.
 - **Weather outlook** - A summarised seasonal outlook to help farmers make decisions including a regular Weather Matters video with expert analysis of the 10-day forecast and seasonal outlook.
- For more information visit the Drought Response WA website wa.gov.au/droughtresponse

The WA Government announced a package that included \$2 million in hardship grants and \$4 million in interest-free loans for farmers impacted by drought conditions.

Interest-Free Loans

- Applications for the interest-free loans are now open.
- Farm businesses can apply for \$25,000 to cover the costs of stockfeed, water and transportation. The funds can also be used to establish feed silos, water tanks and improved irrigation systems or any other infrastructure that supports drought resilience.
- The loan is repayable over 5 years with no repayments for the first 2 years.
- The availability of loans is subject to funds being available.
- Applications close 30 November 2024 (or when funds are exhausted).
- The loans are administered by the Rural Business Development Corporation and are delivered through the Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD).
- Queries can be directed to DPIRD's Rural Business Development Unit by emailing ruralbusiness.developmentunit@dpiird.wa.gov.au or calling 08 9368 3082 (business hours).

Hardship Support Grant

- Applications for the \$5000 hardship grant are now closed as funding has been fully committed.

Drought Response 24/7 Hotline – phone 1300 489 832

- The new 24/7 hotline provides real-time assistance and connects primary producers with relevant services.