

Primary Producer Clean-up Grants

INFORMATION FOR APPLICANTS

The Tasmanian and Australian governments have announced Clean-up Grants for Primary Producers under the Natural Disaster Relief and Recovery Arrangements (NDRRA).

These grants are for primary producers who have suffered direct damage as a result of the June 2016 flooding in Tasmania and are located within the following six local government areas:

- Break O'Day;
- Kentish;
- Latrobe;
- Meander Valley;
- Northern Midlands; and
- Waratah-Wynyard.

The grants are to help with clean-up, removal of debris, disposal of dead livestock and further restoration.

This grant is not intended to replace the need for insurance, and is not intended to provide compensation for losses.

All claims for assistance will be assessed on a case by case basis by AgriGrowth Tasmania in the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment.

Am I eligible for assistance?

You are eligible if you:

- have a right or interest in the land used for the purposes of a farm enterprise, and
- contribute a significant part of your labour and capital to the farm enterprise, and
- derive more than 51 per cent of your individual income from the farm enterprise, and
- are registered with the Australian Taxation Office as a primary producer, and have an ABN, and
- have suffered direct damage as a result of the June 2016 flooding and are within the defined area. This may be damage to farm buildings, crops, pasture, stock, fencing and/or tools of trade (equipment, plant) and the essential cost of repair or replacement must be the applicant's responsibility, and
- were conducting business in the specified area prior to and including the date of the event, and
- are intending to re-establish the primary production enterprise.

Eligible applicants include individuals, partnerships, trusts or companies, operating commercially who are involved in the following primary production areas:

- agriculture
 - nursery and floriculture production
 - mushroom and vegetable growing



Australian Government



**Tasmanian
Government**

- fruit and tree nut growing
- grain, sheep and beef cattle farming
- other crop growing
- dairy cattle farming
- poultry farming
- deer farming
- other livestock farming
- services to agriculture
- hunting and trapping
- forestry and logging
- commercial fishing
 - marine fishing
 - aquaculture and mariculture

Note: included under these categories are flower growing; intensive horticulture for example, tomatoes and herbs; hydroponics and beekeeping. Plant nurseries are also included, however a plant nursery with a retail outlet is not.

Who is not eligible?

Farm enterprises which have not incurred clean-up, removal of debris or restoration costs but have suffered a loss of income as a result of the June 2016 Flooding.

Hobby farmers are also not eligible as primary production is less than 50% of income.

What is direct damage?

To be considered as having suffered direct damage you must have incurred some or all of the following costs:

- clean-up
 - additional labour costs (the primary producers labour costs and the cost of using their existing staff or own equipment is not eligible)
 - equipment and materials to undertake clean-up
- removal of debris

- disposing of trees, silt and rock, damaged goods and injured or dead stock
- cost of disposal
- restoration
 - repairs to buildings (other than housing)
 - fencing not covered by any other assistance
 - salvaging crops grain and feeds
 - health maintenance for livestock and poultry
 - purchase of fodder (not covered by other assistance)
 - reconditioning/repairing essential plant and equipment
 - repairing roads, bridges and other essential infrastructure
 - purchase or hire/lease costs for equipment essential to the immediate resumption of farming
 - water cartage.

How much will I be paid?

The maximum value of grants is \$10,000. Please bear in mind that you may not be entitled to the full amount of \$10,000. Grants will be assessed depending on your circumstances.

Is there an assessment of the damage?

Yes, for a grant you will be required to provide quotes and/or receipts and an on-site inspection maybe carried out by the Department (AgriGrowth Tasmania).

How many times can I be paid?

You are only eligible to receive a payment up to a maximum total of \$10,000. If you apply for and receive a grant and further damage becomes apparent after that, then an additional payment might be made after you have made a new application. Please remember that the maximum

combined total of all grant payments is \$10,000 to any single entity.

Is there an income or assets test?

There is no income or assets test.

Am I still eligible for assistance if I have insurance?

Where your insurance does not meet the full costs associated with clean-up you may be eligible for assistance.

If you have insurance it is essential for you to lodge a claim against your policy for any loss or damage you have suffered. Any application for a Clean-up Grant will not be assessed until you produce written evidence from your insurance company about the result of your claim. You are required to provide full insurance details, including policy numbers with this application.

You are also required to certify if your business is ineligible to claim insurance or that the insurance has been refused, or that the insurance will not cover all the costs.

Applying for funding may reduce entitlements from your insurance company.

Note: claims can be lodged pending the outcome of insurance claims. You must advise AgriGrowth Tasmania (DPIPWE) as soon as the outcome of your insurance claim has been decided.

Is this assistance taxable?

Goods and Services Taxation (GST) treatment

The grant has not been increased to allow for GST, and a tax invoice will not be sought.

Income tax treatment

The grant is assessable income and must be declared. It is recommended that you seek professional advice on your tax obligations.

How will payments be made?

Payment will be made where possible via direct debit into your nominated bank account.

Do I need to provide quotes and receipts?

Applicants will be required to provide a quote or receipts for clean-up, debris removal and restoration/relocation costs. You may also be required to provide additional information.

Quotes/receipts should include the providers name, address and ABN and should be itemised. The State reserves the right to not pay on invoices that do not appear to be genuine.

You are required to keep evidence of what the grant is spent on. Be aware that you may be audited after the grant has been paid.

What documents must I provide?

- Proof of identification, and
- Proof of business registration, and
- Proof of business location, and
- Your ABN.

Note: AgriGrowth Tasmania (DPIPWE) will verify with the appropriate Government departments or other relevant authorities that the claimant meets the eligibility criteria.

What if I have already spent the money and need reimbursement?

If you are applying for reimbursement, you will need to provide the receipts/tax invoices with your application. Tax invoices should include the providers name address, ABN and should be itemised.

Note: AgriGrowth Tasmania (DPIPWE) have discretion to limit the amount paid if claims do not reflect current market prices.

How long do I have to claim?

Claims must be lodged by 30 December 2016.

Can I get help with the claim form?

If you cannot answer all the questions on the form, fill in as much as you can and contact AgriGrowth Tasmania as soon as possible for further assistance.

How do I lodge my claim?

Post this form to:

AgriGrowth Tasmania

PO Box 46

Kings Meadows TAS 7249

Email to: AGT.admin@dpipwe.tas.gov.au

Fax to: 03 6344 9814

Note: make sure you keep a copy of all documents submitted.

Need more information?

Phone AgriGrowth Tasmania on 03 6777 2233

Visit the Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment website:

www.dpipwe.tas.gov.au

Will the information supplied be treated confidentially?

Your personal information is protected by law.

The Department of Primary Industries, Parks, Water and Environment (AgriGrowth Tasmania) will collect and use the information you provide on this form to assess your entitlement to the Clean-up Grant for Primary Producers and where relevant, third parties' entitlements and services. Certain information may be used to detect or prevent fraud.

The Department will give your information to relevant Tasmanian Government and Australian Government agencies for the purpose of the joint administration of this program.

Government agencies may give this information (including information that you have received grants assistance) to humanitarian, welfare and charitable organisations for the purposes of providing assistance to persons affected by the June 2016 Flooding.

CONTACT US

Tasmanian Flood Recovery Taskforce

GPO Box 308, Hobart TAS 7001

1800 567 567

floodrecovery@dpac.tas.gov.au

