



# Drought Assistance

A summary of measures provided by the  
Australian, State and Territory Government

**December 2006**

This document has been compiled by the  
Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry

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## Drought Assistance Measures

**Australian Government**  
**Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF)**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(90% contribution)   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (interest rate subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Viable farmers in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in 1993  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Available in yearly tranches for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for two years).  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | The relevant State Rural Adjustment Authority is responsible for administration and assessment of applications. Contact details for these authorities are listed on the DAFF drought assistance website.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

**Australian Government  
(DAFF)**

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Relief Payment (ECRP)</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To assist farm families in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) declared areas who are experiencing difficulties meeting basic living expenses.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Farmers in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website at <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Applicants must meet the definition of a 'farmer'. They must hold a current EC certificate issued by Centrelink. ECRP is paid at a rate equivalent to the Newstart Allowance and is subject to an assets and income test similar to that for Newstart (except for certain essential farm assets, which are excluded), which is reviewed every six months. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | The Drought Relief Payment (DRP) commenced in September 1994, changing its name to the ECRP in 1997 with the introduction of the Australian Government's Agriculture Advancing Australia (AAA) package.<br>Note: ECRP is no longer an AAA programme.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | ECRP provides income support for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for up to 2 years). The time farmers have received interim income support is included in the period of ECRP that becomes available if EC is declared.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Delivered by Centrelink. Tel: 13 23 16  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.centrelink.gov.au">www.centrelink.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
(DAFF)

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Small Business Assistance</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To assist Small Business in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) declared areas who are experiencing difficulties meeting basic operational expenses. The assistance provides Exceptional Circumstances Relief Payments – income support, (delivered by Centrelink) and Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidies - business support (administered by state/territory Rural Assistance Authorities).   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Small Business in EC declared areas which derive at least 70 per cent of their income directly from agriculture. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website at <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Demonstrate 70 per cent or more of the normal business turnover of the small business is from farm businesses located in EC declared areas. (Examples of businesses include contract harvesters, fencing contractors, seed, feed and fertiliser suppliers, livestock transporters, shearing contractors and suppliers of farm machinery and equipment); have a current Australian Business Number (ABN); employ less than 20 full-time or equivalent employees; and be viable. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 7 November 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Until at least March 2008.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | <i>Income support</i> Delivered by Centrelink<br>Tel: 13 23 16<br><i>Business Support</i> –relevant State/Territory Rural Assistance Authority   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.centrelink.gov.au">www.centrelink.gov.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
(DAFF)

**Name of Measure**

**Health Care Cards**

**Purpose**

If you or your family receive the EC Relief Payment (ECRP) you are entitled to a Health Care Card. The card can help you obtain health concessions such as cheaper prescriptions and other health, household, educational, recreational and transport services.

**AND**

**Name of Measure:**

**Youth Allowance**

**Purpose:**

Students whose parents receive the EC Relief Payment are exempt from the Youth Allowance Parental Means Test and may be entitled to the maximum payment rate.

**Target region(s)/group(s)**

Farmers and small businesses in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website at [www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist](http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist)

**Eligibility requirements**

Same criteria as applicable for EC Relief Payments.

**Date Measure commenced**

Farmers September 1994. Small business November 2006.

**Duration of Measure**

Same as EC Relief Payments.

**How to access (delivery)**

Delivered by Centrelink. Tel: 13 23 16

**Contribution from applicant?**

Nil

**Web address for link**

[www.centrelink.gov.au](http://www.centrelink.gov.au)

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
(DAFF)

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Interim Income Support (IIS)</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To assist farm families in areas declared by the Australian Government to have established a <i>prima facie</i> case for Exceptional Circumstances (EC) assistance. When the Government makes a full EC declaration for a <i>prima facie</i> area IIS will be replaced by the EC Relief Payment.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Farm families, in <i>prima facie</i> declared areas, who are experiencing difficulties meeting basic living expenses.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Applicants must meet the definition of ‘farmer’ and be in an area declared by the Australian Government to have established a <i>prima facie</i> case for Exceptional Circumstances assistance. IIS is paid at a rate equivalent to the Newstart Allowance and is subject to an assets and income test similar to that for Newstart (except for certain essential farm assets, which are excluded). |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | <i>Prima facie</i> EC arrangements began on 19 September 2002.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Up to six months from date of <i>prima facie</i> decision.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Delivered by Centrelink. Tel: 13 23 16  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.centrelink.gov.au">www.centrelink.gov.au</a>  |

## **Drought Assistance Measures**

**Australian Government  
(DAFF)**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Country Women's Association (CWA)<br/>Emergency Drought Aid Fund 2006-2008</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide emergency aid grants over two years to drought affected rural families and communities. Grants of up to \$2,000 may be used to meet the immediate household needs of rural families and will be provided as vouchers or direct payment of bills. Grants of up to \$3,000 are available to community groups to help fund community based activities. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Rural families and communities in areas affected by the drought and continuing dry conditions.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Rural families where their primary source of income has been affected by the drought. Community groups, schools and not-for-profit organisations interested in holding events to provide support to drought affected communities. Need is assessed by the CWA against nationally agreed assessment criteria.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | October 2006   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | October 2006 to 30 June 2008 or when funding exhausted, whichever comes first.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | The State Head Offices and local CWA branches may be contacted for an application form or downloaded from the State CWA website.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | Links to each State Association are available from the Country Women's Association of Australia website: <a href="http://www.cwaa.org.au">www.cwaa.org.au</a> or phone <b>03 6426 7235</b>   |

## **Drought Assistance Measures**

**Australian Government**  
**Department of Education, Science and Training (DEST)**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Declared Drought Area Incentives</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Prolonged drought in a region has a direct effect on the training and employment opportunities of that region. The Australian Government has established an additional incentive under the Australian Apprenticeships Incentives Programme to encourage primary producers to continue to offer skills development and employment in a declared drought area.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Australian Apprentices and their employers with an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) Certificate issued by Centrelink.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | An employer who employs an Australian Apprentice and holds a current EC Certificate:<br><b>1.</b> may attract the additional Declared Drought Area Commencement incentive, provided that (a) the Australian Apprentice is eligible to attract a Commencement incentive under this programme; (b) the Australian Apprentice is undertaking a Certificate II Rural or Horticultural Australian Apprenticeship from the approved Programme list; (c) the relevant Australian Apprenticeship commences during the valid time period specified on that Certificate; and (d) the Australian Apprentice has not previously been eligible for the incentive;<br><b>2.</b> may attract the special Declared Drought Area completion incentive if (a) the Australian Apprentice successfully completes the relevant Australian Apprenticeship; and (b) the Australian Apprentice has not previously been eligible for the incentive. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 1994   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Contact local Australian Apprenticeships Centre by calling 1800 639 629  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/">http://www.australianapprenticeships.gov.au/</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

**Australian Government**

**Department of Employment and Workplace Relations (DEWR)**

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Force</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | The Work for the Dole programme was extended in December 2002 to provide assistance in direct response to the severity of the issues facing many Australian communities dealing with the ravages of drought. The extension of Work for the Dole, known as Drought Force, enables people who are laid off as a result of the drought and other suitably skilled unemployed people from the local area, the opportunity to participate in drought mitigation activities on drought-affected properties or to work on community projects in drought affected communities.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought Force operates in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) declared and <i>prima facie</i> EC areas. Proposals for assistance outside these areas can also be considered on their merits. Activities operate on public land or privately owned farms providing there is no displacement of existing or potential paid employees.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Participation in Drought Force is voluntary and open to anyone in affected areas in receipt of Newstart or Youth Allowance, Disability Support Pension or Parenting Payment. Other allowees and non allowees may also volunteer. Those already participating in Work for the Dole can also request a transfer to a Drought Force activity. Those who lose their job as a result of the drought can volunteer to participate immediately if they live in a drought affected area. Job seekers who volunteer to participate for 30 or more hours a week will not have job search requirements and may be eligible for variable reporting with Centrelink. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 9 December 2002   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Drought Force is delivered by Community Work Coordinators. A listing of Community Work Coordinators in local areas can be found at <a href="http://www.workplace.gov.au">www.workplace.gov.au</a> or by calling the Drought Force Hotline on Tel: 1800 004 226  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.workplace.gov.au">www.workplace.gov.au</a>  |

## **Drought Assistance Measures**

**Australian Government**

**Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA)**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Social and emotional counselling for drought affected families under the Family Relationship Services Programme (FRSP)</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Drought counselling funding allocated under the FRSP will fund organisations to provide vital face to face counselling and other support measures related to the drought. This measure aims to improve access to personal counselling services for drought affected families in rural regions.                                       |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Targeted regions as identified in a Needs Based Planning Model, taking into account the following variables: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• EC declared areas</li><li>• Population</li><li>• Number of Farms</li><li>• Socio-Economic Index For Areas data</li><li>• Accessibility/Remoteness Index of Australia.</li></ul> |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | People who are drought affected  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Implemented progressively following the Prime Minister's announcement on 30 May 2005.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2007  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Centrelink Drought Assistance Hotline, 13 23 16, is the first point of contact and referral for drought counseling assistance.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Services are provided free of charge   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.facsia.gov.au">www.facsia.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### Australian Government

Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA)

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>           | <b>Older Rural Homeowners - Concessional Asset Treatment for Older Australians who reside in Rural and Rural Residential Areas</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                   | Currently, only the home and adjacent land of up to two hectares is exempt from the assets test even though the land in excess of two hectares may be held on the same title document. The concessional assets test treatment reflects the view of the Australian Government that older Australians on farms and rural residential areas should not be forced to move from their principal home, where they have lived for a long period of time, to gain an adequate retirement income. The concessional assets test treatment will, in certain circumstances, increase the maximum amount of land that can be exempt from the assets test from two hectares to encompass all the land on the same title as the person's principal home. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b> | It will assist Age Pensioners, Carer Payment recipients of age pension age and qualifying Department of Veterans' Affairs (DVA) Service Pensioners, living on farms and rural residential blocks of more than two hectares.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>  | Where the principal home and adjacent land on one title document is over two hectares the concessional assets test treatment could apply. The pensioner will have to satisfy the " <i>Extended Land Use Test</i> ".   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>    | Subject to the passage of legislation the concessional assets test treatment for older Australians in rural and rural residential areas will commence on 1 January 2007.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>       | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>  | Contact Centrelink on 13 23   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>      | <a href="http://www.facsia.gov.au">www.facsia.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

**Australian Government**

**Department of Families, Community Services and Indigenous Affairs (FaCSIA)**

|                                  |  |
|----------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>           | <b>Local Answers – Strengthening Drought Affected Communities</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                   | In recognition of issues that face communities in drought affected areas this special round of Local Answers grants program 'Strengthening Drought Affected Communities', will fund projects specifically in areas that are declared 'Exceptional Circumstances' or areas that can demonstrate significant hardship as a result of the drought.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b> | Local Answers helps strengthen disadvantaged communities by funding local, small-scale, time limited projects that help communities build skills and capacity to identify opportunities and take action for the benefit of their members.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>  | Applicants should consult the guidelines, and ensure that their project meets the aims of Local Answers.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>    | 2004   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>       | 2009   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>  | <b>Local Answers toll free Hotline: 1800 607 839</b> for general questions about applications.<br><b>Indigenous toll free Hotline: 1800 625 136</b> for Indigenous communities who have questions about the application form.<br><b>TTY Service: 1800 260 402</b> only for people who have special needs. A TTY phone is required for this service.<br>email: <a href="mailto:local.answers@facsia.gov.au">local.answers@facsia.gov.au</a> |
| <b>Web address for link</b>      | <a href="http://www.facsia.gov.au">www.facsia.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

**Australian Government  
(DAFF)**

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>AAA FarmBis</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | AAA FarmBis provides assistance to primary producers to participate in business and natural resource management learning activities to improve their skills and self-reliance, as well as communicating the benefits of continuous learning. While not specifically targeting drought assistance, the aim of the programme is to improve the skills and self-reliance of people in rural Australia by improving access to services. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Australian primary producers and rural land managers.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Applicants must meet the definition of eligible primary producer, rural land manager or indigenous land manager as set out in the FarmBis Bilateral Funding Agreements with the participating States.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | The current AAA FarmBis programme commenced in 2004–2005.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | AAA FarmBis provides funding support until 2007–2008.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Contact participating state or territory AAA FarmBis representatives via 1800 686 175.  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Yes   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.farmbis.gov.au">www.farmbis.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
(DAFF)

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>             | <b>AAA Farm Help</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                     | To provide assistance to farmers experiencing severe financial difficulties while they take steps to improve their financial situation. Farm Help aims to assist farmers improve the financial performance of their farm, obtain off-farm income, or re-establish outside of farming should they choose to do so.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>   | Low-income full-time farmers who are in financial difficulties and who cannot borrow against their assets.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>    | Must be a farmer, and have been so for a continuous period of two years at the time of application. A farmer is defined as having contributed at least 50% of income, and 50% of capital, and 50% of working hours to the farm. Must not be able to borrow further against assets. Must complete a financial assessment of the farm and complete a plan for future options. Must still be in effective control of the farm and not be receiving any other form of income support such as Exceptional Circumstances Relief Payment or Newstart Allowance. Further details on the criteria can be obtained from Centrelink. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>      | The Farm Help Programme (formerly known as the Farm Family Restart Scheme) commenced on 1 December 1997 as part of the Agriculture – Advancing Australia (AAA) package.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>         | Applications for Farm Help income support can be made until 30 June 2007. Applications for the Farm Help Re-establishment Grant can be made until 30 June 2007.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>    | Call Centrelink on Freecall 1800 050 585 (for Farm Help only)   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>        | <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/farmhelp">www.daff.gov.au/farmhelp</a>  |

## **Drought Assistance Measures**

**Australian Government  
(DAFF)**

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Farm Management Deposits (FMDs)<br/>Earlier access to funds for FMD holders in<br/>Exceptional Circumstances declared areas</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To allow primary producers in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) declared areas earlier access to their FMDs, without losing the taxation benefits.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | FMD holders in EC declared areas and buffer zones.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | FMD holder in EC declared area and recognised buffer zone at the time of withdrawal. EC declaration was not in force when the deposit was made.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Effective from 1st July 2002  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | FMD holder must obtain an EC certificate from Centrelink at the time of withdrawal or within three months after the end of the year in which the withdrawal is made to confirm their EC status.<br><br>ATO Small Business and Primary Producers<br>Hotline: 13 28 66<br>Tax Practitioners: 13 72 86 |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web addresses for links</b>      | <a href="http://scaleplus.law.gov.au/html/pasteact/2/3036/top.htm">http://scaleplus.law.gov.au/html/pasteact/2/3036/top.htm</a><br><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/fmds">www.daff.gov.au/fmds</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
(DEWR)

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Access to Job Search Support for redundant rural workers in drought-affected areas</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To give employees who have been made redundant or facing redundancy access to Job Search Support services.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Individuals who have been made redundant, or facing redundancy, as a result of the drought.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Individuals must have been working in a drought-affected area i.e. Exceptional Circumstances (EC)-declared or <i>prima facie</i> EC area. In assessing eligibility for Job Search Support Only services for individuals in drought affected areas, the normal criteria that excluded job seekers working more than 15 hours per week will not apply. All other job seeker eligibility criteria for Job Search Support will apply. Eligible individuals successfully referred and placed into employment that provides the minimum outcome requirements under Job Placement Licence arrangements may attract a Job Placement outcome fee. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 9 December 2002  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Job Search Support services are available through Job Network members. Individuals will also be able to access the full range of self-help facilities available at Job Network member locations and at Centrelink offices.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.workplace.gov.au">www.workplace.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
(DEWR)

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Early access to Intensive Support (job search training) for rural workers in drought-affected areas</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide individuals in drought affected areas who have been laid off as a result of the drought, with early access to Intensive Support (job search training). |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Job seekers who have been laid off as a result of the drought residing in Exceptional Circumstances (EC)-declared or <i>prima facie</i> EC areas.                 |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | To be eligible there needs to be a clear link between being laid off and the drought, and meet all other eligibility criteria for Intensive Support.              |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 9 December 2002   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Job seeker presents at Centrelink office and is referred by Centrelink to a Job Network Member.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.workplace.gov.au">www.workplace.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
Department of Health and Ageing (DoHA)

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>"Just Ask" - a national rural mental health information service; and "Toolkit for getting through the Drought" - publication</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | The service provides information and referral for people with mental health problems, as well as to concerned friends, relatives and others who request information. Just Ask informs callers about relevant local services, as well as books and web sites. Self-help information sheets on a range of areas are also available. Just Ask is not a counselling service; callers requiring counselling are encouraged to contact Lifeline's telephone counselling service on 13 11 14 for 24 hour telephone counselling assistance. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | People living in rural locations.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | None  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | The service was established in 2000 and is an ongoing service provided by Lifeline with financial support provided by the Department of Health and Ageing. The "Toolkit for getting through the Drought" has been available from 6 December 2002.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Service is ongoing. The "Toolkit" is available upon request, as well as via the <i>Just Ask</i> website.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Local call 1300 13 11 14. The service is staffed from 9 am to 5 pm (AEST), Monday to Friday. A voice mail system operates outside these hours.  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | None  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.lifeline.org.au">www.lifeline.org.au</a><br><a href="http://www.justask.org.au">www.justask.org.au</a><br><a href="http://www.justlook.org.au">www.justlook.org.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Australian Government  
(DEWR)

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Flexible Arrangements for Newstart allowance and other benefits for people unemployed due to drought</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | The measure is designed to help unemployed people in drought affected areas get onto Newstart allowance and other payments quickly.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Flexible arrangements apply to Exceptional Circumstances (EC)-declared and <i>prima facie</i> EC areas.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | To claim Newstart allowance a person must be unemployed, or regarded as unemployed (this can include some people who work), actively seeking and capable of undertaking suitable paid work, be aged 21 or over but under Age Pension Age, and in addition satisfy income and assets test criteria. Unemployed people aged under 21 may be eligible for Youth Allowance. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | The measure was announced on 19 November 2002 and implemented by the Centrelink Network from 20 November 2002.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Regular reviews taking into account weather conditions and labour market conditions.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | People can apply for Newstart allowance by contacting Centrelink on the Drought Assistance Hotline: 13 23 16.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.centrelink.gov.au">www.centrelink.gov.au</a>  |

## **Drought Assistance Measures**

**Australian Government  
(DoHA)**

### **Name of Measure**

### **Regional Health Services**

### **Purpose**

The Regional Health Services Programme (RHSP) is to assist small communities to develop and operate local primary health care services. While not specifically targeting drought assistance, the aim of the programme is to improve the health and well being of people in rural Australia by improving access to services. Eligible communities are those with populations of 5000 or less.

The Programme forms part of the Australian Government's Rural Health Strategy that accommodates the RHSP as well as the More Allied Health Services (MAHS) programme and the Primary Health Projects (PHP) programme. Services provided under the programmes include a broad range of allied health services such as mental health and counselling, men's health, women's health, GP services and drug and alcohol services.

### **Target region(s)/group(s)**

Small communities in Rural Australia

### **Date Measure commenced**

2 May 2004

### **Duration of Measure**

Four years

### **How to access (information)**

[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au)

### **Web address for link**

[www.health.gov.au](http://www.health.gov.au) – look up Rural Health

## Drought Assistance Measures

**Australian Government**  
(DAFF)

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>           | <b>Rural Financial Counselling Service Programme</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                   | The Rural Financial Counselling Service (RFCS) Programme provides grants to support the provision of a free and impartial rural financial counselling service to primary producers, fishers and small rural businesses in financial difficulty. Rural financial counsellors across Australia provide information and support about drought issues for rural communities. While not specifically targeting drought assistance, the aim of the programme is to provide information and support to people in rural Australia by improving access to services |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b> | Primary producers, fishers and small rural businesses.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>  | Clients must be primary producers, fishers or small rural businesses in financial difficulty and may be assisted with identifying financial and business options, information about assistance schemes, referrals to appropriate professionals for advice on financial options, and referrals to Centrelink or to social counselling if required. Rural financial counsellors are not able to provide financial advice, personal or emotional counselling or succession planning.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>    | The RFCS Programme began in 1986 and is now part of the Australian Government's Agriculture Advancing Australia package. The programme was reviewed in 2004 and an enhanced programme, based on delivery through state, regional or community based organisations, will be fully implemented by 1 October 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>       | Currently funded to 30 June 2008.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>  | Counsellor contact details for each state are available at <a href="http://www.rfcs.gov.au">www.rfcs.gov.au</a>   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>      | <a href="http://www.rfcs.gov.au">www.rfcs.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

**Australian Government**  
(Australian Taxation Office)

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>           | <b>Tax Office - help available for drought affected areas; and<br/>Taxation measures applicable to drought affected farmers</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                   | <p>The Tax Office can help taxpayers affected by the drought by giving them more time to lodge and pay their income tax and activity statements.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ allowing more time to lodge activity statements or tax returns without penalty;</li><li>○ allowing additional time to pay tax debts without incurring charges;</li><li>○ arranging for tax debts to be paid in instalments;</li><li>○ remitting penalties or interest that may have been imposed; and</li><li>○ fast tracking refunds.</li></ul> <p><b>Taxation measures:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ farm management deposits;</li><li>○ profit from forced disposal or death of livestock;</li><li>○ double wool clips;</li><li>○ insurance recoveries;</li><li>○ water facilities; and</li><li>○ landcare operations.</li></ul> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b> | The Tax office will work one-on-one with individuals, businesses and tax agents to help them out during their time of hardship.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>    | 10 November 2006.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>  | People affected by the drought can contact the Tax Office for information or assistance with any of their tax matters. They should call as soon as possible on <b>13 11 42</b> for individuals and businesses, or <b>13 72 86</b> for tax agents.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>      | <a href="http://www.ato.gov.au">www.ato.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### Australian Capital Territory

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(ACT 10% contribution. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (interest rate subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Viable farmers in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in 1993  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Available in yearly tranches for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for two years).  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applications through the NSW Rural Assistance Authority.<br>RAA Hotline: 1800 678 593  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au">www.raa.nsw.gov.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

New South Wales

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Assistance for Farm Families</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. NSW Drought Hotline</li><li>2.. Employment of Drought Support Workers who provide support and advice and referral to other service providers.</li><li>3. Farm Family Gatherings and Drought Workshops – informal social activities that allow rural families to get together and discuss issues and listen to advice relating to the current drought.</li></ol> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought affected areas   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Drought affected areas   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 29 July 2002   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Duration of drought  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. 1800 814 647<br/>(NSW Department of Primary Industries)</li><li>2&amp; 3 NSW Department of Primary Industries</li></ol>   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au">www.dpi.nsw.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

New South Wales

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Business Drought Assistance</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Payroll tax relief.</li><li>2. Small business assistance:<ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>A. Business Improvement and Recovery Strategies (grant up to \$3,000)</li><li>B. Financial Position Assessment and Mini Diagnostic.</li></ol></li></ol>   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Regional businesses severely affected by drought  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | In addition to other key criteria: <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Small/medium business shows a 50% decrease (or expected decrease) in Annual Sales or EBIT over period 1 July 2005 to 30 June 2006 and retain at least 85% of staff, compared to base period 1 July 2001 to 30 June 2002.</li><li>2. A&amp;B Primarily service or draw supplies from farmers or small business located in farm-dependant community with population under 15,000.</li></ol> |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 2002–03 financial year  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Currently to 2006–07 financial year   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Department of State and Regional Development  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.business.nsw.gov.au">www.business.nsw.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

New South Wales

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Household Payments</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Financial assistance (grant up to \$2,000) for people financially disadvantaged by the drought.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought declared areas   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | <p><u>Farm Households</u> (cash grant up to \$2,000): Reliant on property for substantial proportion of gross income; insufficient income and/or cash reserves to meet basic living needs; not eligible for Exceptional Circumstances income support.</p> <p><u>Non-farm Households</u> (one-off cash grant up to \$2,000 to new applicants): Directly dependent on primary production or indirectly dependent on drought affected rural economy and as result of drought have insufficient income and/or cash reserves to meet basic living needs.</p> <p><u>Other non-farm households</u> (one-off cash grant up to \$400 for the purchase of household water): Low income households who are not connected to town water supply and significantly financially disadvantaged by the drought.</p> |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 2002   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Duration of drought  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | NSW Department of Community Services   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.community.nsw.gov.au">www.community.nsw.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

New South Wales

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Proofing</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Extension of the criteria for the Special Conservation Scheme to include dam desilting, major repairs to stock water systems, piping and storage of stock water, planting of perennial species and construction of hay and grain storage facilities to improve land management practices.                     |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Landholders across NSW  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Majority of income from the farm enterprise; assets test; works must have a significant beneficial impact on the land, community and environment; complement or improve the natural resource base; agree to a charge on the land to support the loan.<br><br>Application submitted prior to works commencing. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 14 September 2002 (drought proofing extension announced).   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | NSW Rural Assistance Authority<br>RAA Hotline: 1800 678 593   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Capital costs and repayment of loan   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au">www.raa.nsw.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### New South Wales

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(NSW 10% contribution. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To assist farmers who would otherwise have prospects of long-term profitability and sustainability to recover from the effects of adverse seasonal conditions arising from drought which has detrimentally affected the farmer's income, leading to financial difficulty.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Exceptional Circumstances (EC) declared areas  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 1993   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | While individual area is EC declared   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | NSW Rural Assistance Authority<br>RAA Hotline: 1800 678 593  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.raa.nsw.gov.au">www.raa.nsw.gov.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

New South Wales

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Farm Business Cost Reduction</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Waivers and deferments of NSW Government charges to reduce farm business costs, including:<br>1 waiving of rural Western Land lease rent payments for 2006–07;<br>2 waiving of Wild Dog Destruction Board rates for 2006 and 2007;<br>3 waiving fixed water charges for Lachlan Valley irrigators for 2006-07<br>4 deferring payment of the Pest Insect Levy for 2007 |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | <b>1&amp;2</b> Western Division<br><b>3.Lachlan Valley Irrigators</b><br><b>4.Rural Lands Protection Boards</b>   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Nil   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 2002  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | 2006–2007   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | <b>1, 2 &amp; 3</b> Department of Natural Resources<br><b>4 Rural Lands Protection Boards &amp; NSW DPI</b>   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dipnr.nsw.gov.au">www.dipnr.nsw.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

New South Wales

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Transport Subsidies</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Drought transport subsidies including 100% subsidy for transporting donated fodder and a 50% subsidy on the cost of transporting: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• fodder, including for bees</li><li>• stock water, including for bees</li><li>• domestic water</li><li>• stock to and from agistment</li><li>• stock to sale or slaughter.</li></ul> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Primary producers in state drought declared areas. Subsidies are only available for grazing sheep, cattle, goats, deer, emus, ostriches, alpacas, llamas, camels, free range pigs and horses.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Claimants must own the stock and operate an agricultural enterprise that provides a significant proportion of gross income.<br>Limit of \$20,000 per calendar year for animal subsidies and \$5,000 per calendar year for domestic water.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Various - First announced 18 July 2002  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Duration of drought   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | All claim forms to be submitted to claimants' local Rural Lands Protection Board within 3 months of the movement.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | All of the above subsidies except donated fodder transport require 50% matching contribution from producers and purchase price of fodder, agistment and water.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.nsw.gov.au">www.dpi.nsw.gov.au</a>  |
| <b>NSW DPI Drought Hotline</b>      | 1800 814 647  |

## **Drought Assistance Measures**

**New South Wales**

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Mental Health Services</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <b>Targeted mental health services including:</b> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• funding six additional mental health workers for rural NSW</li><li>• 15 mental health workshops in rural communities</li><li>• 50 Mental Health First Aid training sessions for frontline service providers across NSW</li></ul> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Primary producers and communities in state drought declared areas.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | None   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 31 October 2006  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | <b>Currently to June 2007</b>  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Department of Health – Centre of Rural and Remote Mental Health  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | None   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.health.nsw.gov.au">www.health.nsw.gov.au</a>   |
| <b>NSW DPI Drought Hotline</b>      | 1800 814 647   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Apiary Site Permit Relief</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Provides payment options for apiarists using Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries (DPI&F) forestry land. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Apiarists in drought declared shires   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Shire must be drought declared   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Local DPI&F Forestry - Contact DPI Call Centre 13 25 23  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au">www.dpi.qld.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Crisis Care Service</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide a referral service about family issues such as depression, domestic violence, or health. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought affected communities and any other individuals who may require this service.                |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Nil   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 2001  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Department of Communities<br>Freecall: 1800 600 636 (Men)<br>1800 811 811 (Women)                   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought</a>                          |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Carry-On Finance</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To assist in providing business carry-on requirements to primary producers.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Primary producers severely affected by drought  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Concessional loans are available to assist primary producers (including aquaculture, agriculture, livestock, apiculture and horticulture (excluding retail amenity horticulture) industries) to fund carry-on operations. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | February 2003   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | To be re-assessed in June 2007  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applications through the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority – Free Call 1800 623 946   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Must demonstrate appropriate risk management strategies.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au">www.qraa.qld.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Queensland DPI&amp;F Drought Hotline</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Referral service providing information to callers seeking drought relief assistance measures or advice. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Queensland primary producers  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Nil   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 2002  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | DPI&F Drought Hotline 1800 025 656  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought</a>                              |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Preparedness</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Provides research, planning and development information to primary producers through a range of mechanisms to promote primary producer self-reliance. For example: Monthly climate forecasts; Rural Risk Strategies facilitates; Managing for Climate and Weather; and Risk Management workshops. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | All primary producers   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Nil   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Contact DPI&F Call Centre 13 25 23  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Some programmes are provided on a fee for service basis.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au">www.dpi.qld.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Recovery Scheme</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To assist primary producers recover from drought and re-establish their enterprises.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Primary producers severely affected by drought   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Concessional loans are available to assist primary producers (including aquaculture, agriculture, livestock, apiculture and horticulture (excluding retail amenity horticulture) industries) to purchase seed, seedlings, chemical fertiliser and fuel to enable the planting and/or reinvigorating of a successful post-drought crop and to purchase stock to enable post-drought restocking. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | February 2003  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Up to two years post-drought   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Application through the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority - Free Call 1800 623 946   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Must demonstrate appropriate risk management strategies.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au">www.qraa.qld.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Relief Assistance Scheme</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Provides freight subsidy assistance for transport of fodder, stock drinking water, livestock returning from agistment and restocking post drought. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought declared primary producers in drought declared areas.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Property must be drought declared  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 1960s  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing and subject to annual review   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Application through DPI&F<br>Contact DPI&F Call Centre 13 25 23  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil - producers must demonstrate a commitment to appropriate risk management strategies.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au">www.dpi.qld.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(QLD 10% contribution. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (interest rate subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Viable farmers in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in 1993  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Available in yearly tranches for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for two years).  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applications through the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority<br>Freecall: 1800 623 946<br>Telephone: 07 3032 0100  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au">www.qraa.qld.gov.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                    |   |
|------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>             | <b>Electricity Tariff Relief</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                     | Waiving of fixed charge components and deferral of payment for pumping of irrigation water. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>   | Irrigators  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>    | Drought declaration status  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>      | 1994  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>         | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>    | Energex - Call Centre 13 12 53 OR<br>Ergon - Call Centre 13 10 46                           |
| <b>Contribution from applicant</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>        | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought</a>                  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Farm Financial Counsellors</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Assist primary producers manage risk by preparing financial analyses to identify and assess the economic impact of their options, and to develop strategies and plans for adjustment. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Queensland primary producers  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Nil   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Department of Primary Industries and Fisheries<br>Call Centre – 13 25 23  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au">www.dpi.qld.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Feedlink</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | An electronic trading site for producers and suppliers seeking to buy or sell stockfeed and supplements. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Queensland primary producers   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Nil  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 2001   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | DPI&F Drought Hotline 1800 025 656 or<br>DPI&F website   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought</a>                               |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Primary Industry Productivity Enhancement Scheme</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To increase the capacity of primary producers to improve their sustainable production, protect the environment and achieve self-reliance by providing targeted financial assistance. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Primary producers  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Need and viability tests   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Application through the Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority - Free Call 1800 623 946   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Must have a business plan  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au">www.qraa.qld.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Rural Family Support Service</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide assistance to families experiencing crisis due to drought conditions.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Families in drought declared areas experiencing crisis due to drought conditions.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Nil  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | June 2003  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Crisis Care 1800 177 135<br>Lifeline 13 11 14<br>Salvation Army 1300 363 622<br>Relationships Australia 1300 364 277<br>Kids Helpline 1800 551 800<br>Women's Infolink 1800 177 577 or the<br>DPI&F Drought Hotline 1800 025 656 |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Small Business Emergency Assistance Scheme</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <p>Interest rate subsidies are available for locally owned small businesses who have been affected by drought conditions declared as Exceptional Circumstances to assist in meeting operating and other essential costs.</p> <p>The business does not have to be directly located within the drought declared area. It can be adjacent to or dependant upon the areas affected by Exceptional Circumstances.</p> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Small Businesses whose trading is impacted by the downstream effects of drought.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Majority of business activity must be in EC declared areas.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 1989   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Application through Queensland Rural Adjustment Authority - Free Call 1800 623 946   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.qraa.qld.gov.au">www.qraa.qld.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Queensland

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Transport Concessions</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Assistance provided for drought affected producers including payment options for vehicle inspection fees, drought road train permits and increased vehicle height limit when transporting machine baled hay. Families that drive their children to school or connect with a school bus run may be eligible for an increase in the school transport allowance. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought declared producers  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Applicants must demonstrate drought declared status.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 1993  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Queensland Transport - Call centre 13 23 80   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil - but must demonstrate commitment to apply appropriate risk management strategies.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.qld.gov.au/drought</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Link Hotline and Website</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide farmers with a first contact point so that they can be directed to the appropriate assistance, department or office.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Farmers and producers affected by drought.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | None  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 1 October 2002  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Farmers should call the Drought Hotline Number <b>180 20 20</b><br><br>The Drought Link website can be accessed by <a href="http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought">www.service.sa.gov.au/drought</a> |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp">www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp</a><br><a href="http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought">www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought</a>                                |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(SA 10% contribution. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (interest rate subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Viable farmers in EC declared areas who meet all eligibility criteria.. Details of EC declared areas are available on the PIRSA and DAFF websites.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on commercial farm debt for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$500,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in 1993   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Available in yearly tranches for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for two years).   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applications are made to Primary Industries and Resources South Australia, Prudential & Rural Financial Services.<br>Telephone: 1800 182 235  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought">www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy for Small Businesses</b><br>(SA 10% contribution. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To assist Small Business in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) declared areas who are experiencing difficulties meeting basic operational expenses. The assistance provides Exceptional Circumstances Relief Payments – income support, (delivered by Centrelink) and Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidies - business support (administered by state/territory Rural Assistance Authorities).   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Small Business in EC declared areas which derive at least 70 per cent of their income directly from agriculture. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website at <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Demonstrate 70 per cent or more of the normal business turnover of the small business is from farm businesses located in EC declared areas. (Examples of businesses include contract harvesters, fencing contractors, seed, feed and fertiliser suppliers, livestock transporters, shearing contractors and suppliers of farm machinery and equipment); have a current Australian Business Number (ABN); employ less than 20 full-time or equivalent employees; and be viable. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 7 November 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Until at least March 2008.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | <i>Income support</i> Delivered by Centrelink<br>Tel: 13 23 16<br><i>Business Support</i> –relevant State/Territory Rural Assistance Authority   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.centrelink.gov.au">www.centrelink.gov.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Support for the Development of High Quality Exceptional Circumstances Applications and Case Study Grants</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <p>To provide support to regional communities to collaboratively submit an application to the Australian Government for an Exceptional Circumstances declaration.</p> <p><b>The measure includes:</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Funding of \$250,000 for the provision of EC Coordinators who assist communities develop high quality Exceptional Circumstances applications.</li><li>• \$250,000 in grants of up to \$15,000 each are available for the preparation of a minimum of four case studies that analyse the impacts of drought on individual farm business enterprises.</li></ul> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | All South Australian regions developing EC applications.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | The grants are available to regional groups within a rural area affected by drought conditions. Applications must be prepared and lodged according to the Case Study guidelines, which includes endorsement by relevant Natural Resource Management, Local Government and Regional Development Boards.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced October 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Until 28 February 2007 or until funds exhausted, whichever occurs first.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Guidelines to access case study grants have been prepared and are available from the SA Farmers Federation (phone 08 8232 5555).  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.saff.com.au">www.saff.com.au</a> or, PIRSA Prudential & Rural Financial Services, phone toll free 1800 182 235  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Stamp Duty Relief</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | In consultation with the SA Farmers Federation and banks, this measure seeks to provide stamp duty relief for farmers needing to extend finance as a result of the drought.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Eligible farmers state wide.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Stamp duty relief only applies to borrowings of additional working capital to fund normal operating costs of the farm enterprise as the consequence of drought, and does not include additional borrowings for capital items such as land, property improvements, vehicles, plant and equipment, investments and farm management deposits. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced 25 October 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Until 31 December 2007.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | In considering working capital for next year, farmers are encouraged to discuss accessing this support with their bank or Revenue SA.  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.revenuesa.sa.gov.au">www.revenuesa.sa.gov.au</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Financial Mediation</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To make available financial mediation services for primary producers who need assistance negotiating with their bank.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | All drought affected areas.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | None.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in Nov 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | PIRSA, in consultation with the Australian Bankers Association, SA Farmers Federation and the Rural Financial Counselling Service of SA, is updating a voluntary code of practice. |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought">www.service.sa.gov.au/drought</a><br>Details to be placed on website when voluntary code updated.                                   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

### Name of Measure

### Mental Health Support

### Purpose

The provision of additional mental health support to assist SA farmers in managing their businesses and coping with the stresses experienced during difficult times.

#### **The measure includes:**

Additional mental health training tools and resources for regional health workers, to help farmers cope with the impact of the drought. Developed in partnership with SAFF.

The recruitment of an additional 3 counsellors, positioned in areas of highest impact.

A free self-help book *Taking Care of Yourself and Your Family* provides basic information for people and families for dealing with prolonged stressful conditions such as drought periods. The book aims to give people some confidence in understanding how people behave in situations during such times as drought.

'*Managing the Pressures of Farming*' consisting of a range of materials including a business planning / support services tool with web-based application, handbook and CD (adapted to the South Australian context), to assist people in drought affected areas. These materials are expected to be released early in the New Year.

Preparation and printing of an information brochure, '*Vital Information for People in Drought Affected Communities*' for distribution through country health networks.

Printing of the SA Government Drought Response flyer in A1 poster format (1000 copies), to be displayed in every government service delivery point in drought affected areas of South Australia; and 5000 SA Government Drought Response business cards with the Drought Link contact number and website, to leave on reception counters government service delivery points in drought affected areas.

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Statewide.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | None.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced October 2006.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | <p>The book, <i>Taking Care of Yourself and Your Family</i> is distributed through SAFF, phone (08) 8232 5555.</p> <p>Distribution of <i>Managing the Pressures of Farming</i> will occur through key rural contacts and networks.</p> <p>Counselling support is available by contacting the SA Government Drought Link Hotline 180 20 20.</p> <p>Posters and business cards are reserved for government agencies with service outlets in drought affected areas of South Australia.</p> |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought">www.service.sa.gov.au/drought</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Information Workshops</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To coordinate and deliver 100 workshops for rural businesses and families affected by the drought of 2006, providing them with tools to enable management of their farm, their finances and their family through the drought towards recovery. Workshops series will be developed as the drought progresses, tailoring subject matter to address identified priority issues. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Farmers and producers in drought affected areas.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | None.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in September 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | A number of workshops have been delivered to date and planning for the next phase of activity has begun. Input from industry is encouraged.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Greg Cock is the contact for dryland/livestock workshops (phone 08 8303 9346) and Barry Philp for horticulture workshops (phone 08 8389 8800).   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp">www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp</a><br><a href="http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought">www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Additional Rural Financial Counselling Support</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide \$330,000 in additional rural financial counselling support to primary producers, fishers and small business affected by the drought. The Rural Financial Counselling Service of SA (RFCS SA) will provide this service. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought affected areas of South Australia.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Identified client groups experiencing financial difficulty due to drought.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in December 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | 30 June 2008.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Kay Matthias is the General Manager of RFCS SA, and can be contacted on 1800 836 211.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp">www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp</a><br><a href="http://www.rfcssa.org.au">www.rfcssa.org.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Community Support Grants</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <p>Individual grants of up to \$5,000 each are available for rural communities to stage activities specifically for building resilience and coping with the drought, as part of the South Australian Government's package of measures to support the farm sector through and beyond the drought conditions of 2006.</p> <p>Activities funded will support rural communities to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Maintain or improve the spirit and resilience of the rural community;</li><li>• Maintain or improve the well-being of younger people in rural areas;</li><li>• Maintain or improve the functions of key rural community organisations; or</li><li>• Develop or learn better mechanisms for managing drought conditions in the future.</li></ul> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | All drought affected areas of South Australia.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | The grants are available to any not-for-profit rural community and/or industry associations in rural areas affected by drought conditions. See guidelines for more information.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced November 2006.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Until 30 June 2007 or until funds are fully committed, whichever occurs first.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applicants are required to submit an outline of the activity, as detailed in the guidelines: <i>Community Support Grants Fact Sheet</i> . Guidelines are available from PIRSA Prudential and Rural Financial Services (phone toll free 1800 182 235), Service SA Drought link website (see web links below).  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp">www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp</a><br><a href="http://www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought">www.pir.sa.gov.au/drought</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Postponing the payment deadline, on a case-by-case basis, for lessees who are in the process of freeholding perpetual leases through the Perpetual Lease Accelerated Freeholding (PLAF) project.</b> |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide financial relief to farmers in drought-affected areas who are part of the accelerated free holding project, by postponing payment deadlines according to individual needs.                   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Lessees who are in the process of freeholding perpetual leases in South Australia through the PLAF project.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | As above.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced 25 October 2006.  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | At PLAF project discretion.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Contact Susan Ball, Project Director, PLAF, Department of Environment and Heritage Level 2 77 Grenfell St, Adelaide. Phone 08 8204 1649   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.crownlands.sa.gov.au">www.crownlands.sa.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

South Australia

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Financial Relief for Irrigators</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <p>To make available financial relief measures to South Australian River Murray irrigators who have had their allocations restricted to 60% because of the extremely low flows to South Australia. These measures are:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• \$300,000 in transfer fees will be waived for irrigators who buy in water to “top up” restricted water allocations before July 1 next year.</li><li>• \$857,000 in once off ex gratia payments to offset an equivalent amount of 40% of irrigator’s water based NRM levy.</li></ul> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | South Australian licensed River Murray water users.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | River Murray Licensees who are not Local or State Government entities.   |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced November 2006.   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | 2006-2007.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | All levy payers will receive information about this shortly.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | As above.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         |  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Victoria

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(Victoria contributes 10%. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (interest rate subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Viable farmers in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in 1993  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Available in yearly tranches for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for two years).  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applications through the Rural Finance Corporation.<br>Telephone: 03 5448 2600   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.ruralfinance.com.au">www.ruralfinance.com.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Victoria

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Additional, fully State funded rural financial counsellors</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To support adjustment and development in drought affected regions of Victoria, by assisting clients with relevant information to assist their business decision making, through free financial counselling. |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Primary producers, fishers and small rural businesses that are experiencing financial hardship and do not have access to alternative sources of financial counselling.                                      |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 7 September 2006  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Two years   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Through local councils or by phoning the DPI hotline on 13 61 86  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Victoria

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>50% Subsidy on Municipal rates and charges</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Drought management and assistance   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Farmers currently assessed to be in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) and who are receiving Centrelink EC Relief Payments. |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Eligibility is tied to receipt of Centrelink EC Relief Payments at the time rates are paid.                             |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 7 July 2005   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | To 30 June 2007   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Through local Councils  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Victoria

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>           | <b>Rebate on purchase of Water Tanks by eligible customers of the Grampians Wimmera Mallee Water Authority (GWMW)</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                   | About 3,800 customers of GWMW will not be supplied with domestic and stock water in 2006/07 as there will not be a channel run from the Grampians bulk storages. These customers, many of whom are financially stressed due to drought, need to purchase water tanks to enable carting to their properties. The Victorian Government is providing a partial rebate on the purchase of these tanks.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b> | Customers of GWMW that do not receive a domestic and stock water dam fill in 2006/07.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>  | <p>The Victorian Government will provide a Water Tank Rebate to GWMW customers who:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>Have a GWMW Account;</li><li>Will not be supplied with a dam fill from a channel run from the Grampians bulk storages in the 2006/07 financial year;</li><li>Fully pay for and install one or more new water tanks, with a minimum total capacity of 30,000 litres, on a property identified on the customer's GWMW Account. Each tank must be fitted with Country Fire Authority compatible connections;</li><li>Purchase and install the tanks between 1 July 2006 and 30 June 2007.</li></ol> <p><u>Note</u><br/>Customers who were supplied with a dam fill from the Waranga Western channel system are not eligible for the rebate.</p> <p>Eligible GWMW customers that do not have a registered house dam can receive a \$1,500 rebate. Eligible GWMW customers that do have a registered house dam can receive a rebate of \$1,500 to \$3,000, depending on the total capacity of the tanks purchased and installed.</p> |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>    | 7 September 2006  |

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | To 30 June 2007   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Through GWMW (telephone: 1300 659 961) or phoning the DPI hotline on 13 61 86   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Applications for the rebate can be made after an eligible customer has purchased and installed one or more water tanks. |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Victoria

|                                  |   |
|----------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>           | <b>Assistance for rural water users</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                   | To provide assistance with the fixed water supply charges of rural water users receiving very low water allocation since 2006/07.   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b> | Rural water users receiving less than 50% of their normal water allocation on 23 October 2006 (or on 1 December 2006 for unregulated surface water diverters). These rural water users are eligible for assistance with their fixed water supply charges for 2006/07, comprising a rebate of up to \$5,000 for these charges and deferral of any fixed charge amount exceeding \$5,000. Fixed water supply charges are the charges that do not vary with the annual allocation.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>  | <p>Rural water customers receiving less than 50% of their normal entitlement. This includes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• irrigators supplied by regulated systems who are receiving less than 50% of their normal entitlement as at 23 October 2006;</li><li>• regulated surface water diverters receiving less than 50% of their normal entitlement as at 23 October 2006;</li><li>• stock and domestic customers supplied by regulated systems that are operating at less than 50% of their normal allocation as at 23 October 2006;</li><li>• groundwater diverters within Water Supply Protection Areas who are receiving less than an amount equivalent to 50% of their normal entitlement as at 23 October 2006 and</li><li>• unregulated surface water diverters likely to have access to less than 50% of their water (as assessed by water authorities on 1 December 2006).</li></ul> <p><i>Regulated systems</i> are those where the flow of the river is regulated through the operation of large dams or weirs.</p> <p><i>Water Supply Protection Areas</i> are land areas declared under the Water Act 1989 to protect groundwater or surface water resources.</p> |

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 23 October 2006   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | 2006/07 financial year only.  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | <p>Eligible customers whose fixed water supply charges are greater than \$5,000 will need to advise their water authority by December 2006 if they propose to defer payment of the balance of their fixed water supply charges and pay the balance in instalments over the following four years (2007/08 to 2010/11).</p> <p>Eligible customers do not need to apply for the rebate of up to \$5,000. This will be automatically provided through water authorities as a deduction from the amount of water supply charges owing. Those customers that have already paid their fixed water supply charges in full will be offered an equivalent credit or refund.</p> |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Victoria

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Drought Apprenticeship Retention Bonus</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide support to rural towns and communities by helping businesses retain rural apprentices.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Businesses that are located in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) areas and derive the majority of their income from servicing primary producers.<br><br>The payment to the employer will be a total of \$1500 and will be available for each apprentice retained. The payment will be made in two parts - \$750 for the six months to 31 December 2006 and \$750 at 30 June 2007.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Businesses that derive the majority of their income by supplying inputs or processing outputs from primary producers and whose properties are located in Exceptional Circumstances (EC) areas.<br><br>To receive the first payment, the business must have had one or more apprentices in employment for the six months from 1 July to 31 December 2006, and for the six months to 30 June 2007 to receive the second payment. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 23 October 2006  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | 2006/07 financial year only.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Initially registrations will be taken by the DPI Customer Service Centre on 136 186. Call and leave your name, address and phone number. Applications forms will be available as soon as possible and those who register will be sent an application form.   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil.   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought">www.dpi.vic.gov.au/drought</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Western Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Dry Season &amp; Natural Disaster Hotline</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide farmers with a first contact point, so that they can be directed to the appropriate assistance, Department or office.                    |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Farmers affected by dry season or natural disasters.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | None  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 1 October 2002  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Ongoing   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Farmers should call the Department of Agriculture and Food WA's Hotline Freecall number 1800 198 231 – during normal office hours Monday to Friday. |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.agric.wa.gov.au">www.agric.wa.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### Western Australia

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(WA contributes 10% of funding. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (Interest Rate Subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Viable farmers in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | When area is declared due to the impact of an exceptional event over 2 years   |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Available in yearly tranches for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for two years).  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applications to the Department of Agriculture and Food WA. Contact 1800 198 231  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.agric.wa.gov.au">www.agric.wa.gov.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### Western Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>2006 Dry Season Assistance Scheme – Farmer Grants</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Grants up to \$7,500 for any one or a combination of any of the following 6 areas of assistance to a maximum of \$7,500, for eligible expenditure from 1 May 2006: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>○ Freight on Fodder to the farm</li><li>○ Freight to Agistment</li><li>○ Water and its Transport</li><li>○ Water enhancement – dam cleaning, catchment improvement and piping</li><li>○ Feedlot Infrastructure</li><li>○ Professional and Technical Advice</li></ul>   |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Drought affected shires and stations as specified on the eligibility criteria.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Eligibility criteria are equity under \$2.5 million or less for 1 or 2 partners/shareholders/beneficiaries or \$3.5 million or less for 3 or more partners/shareholders/beneficiaries; if majority of farm income from cropping, must demonstrate there will be at least a 50% decline in grain production in 2006 compared to the average of 1995 to 1999 crop years; if majority of farm income is obtained from livestock, must demonstrate a minimum of 40% decline in total stock numbers when compared to normal stock numbers carried. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 21 August 2006  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Applications close 31 March 2007  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Application to the Department of Agriculture and Food WA – Contact 1800 198 231   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.agric.wa.gov.au">www.agric.wa.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

Western Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>2006 Dry Season Assistance Scheme –<br/>Community and Social Support Services<br/>Grants</b>   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | <ol style="list-style-type: none"><li>1. Community Grants of up to \$5,000 per project for 2 projects per Shire to provide community events.</li><li>2. Grants of up to \$5,000 to social service groups offering counselling and other support services to farmers in the affected Shires.</li></ol> |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Eligible Shires as specified on the eligibility criteria.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Must have community benefit within the Shires listed in the Information Notes.  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 21 August 2006  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Applications close 31 March 2007  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Application to the Department of Agriculture and Food WA. Contact 1800 198 231  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.agric.wa.gov.au">www.agric.wa.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### Western Australia

|                                     |   |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Nullarbor Dry Season Assistance Scheme 2006</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | Grants for Nullarbor pastoralists who have experienced two consecutive poor seasons since 2002 to reimburse their Pastoral Lease Rents and their Agriculture Protection Rates for both the 2004/2005 and 2005/2006 financial years.                                     |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Stations as specified on the eligibility criteria.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | Demonstrate that other resources are not available; have a total equity of \$2 million or less (for 1 or 2 partners/shareholders/beneficiaries) or \$3 million or less (for .3 or more partners/shareholders/beneficiaries); demonstrate the impact of the dry seasons. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | 10 July 2006  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Applications close 30 September 2006  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Application to the Department of Agriculture and Food WA – Contact 1800 198 231   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil   |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.agric.wa.gov.au">www.agric.wa.gov.au</a>  |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### Northern Territory

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(NT 10% contribution. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)   |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (interest rate subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.  |
| <b>Target regions</b>               | EC declared areas.   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in 1993  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | While EC declared  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | The Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines.<br>Telephone: 08 8999 2077  |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |

## Drought Assistance Measures

### Northern Territory

|                                 |  |
|---------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>          | <b>Northern Territory Drought Assistance Arrangements (NTDAA)</b>  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                  | <p>Encourage primary producers and those associated with the rural industries to adopt self-reliant approaches in managing for risk, especially climatic variability;</p> <p>Facilitate the maintenance and protection of the agricultural and environmental resource base of the NT during periods of increasing climatic stress;</p> <p>Facilitate the early recovery of rural industries consistent with long-term sustainable levels.</p> <p>In the NT, ‘severe drought’ occurs when there are two or more years of declared drought. Measures under the NTDAA include loans, grants and freight subsidies:</p> <p><b>Concessional loans</b> have a limit of \$60,000 per producer in any one year, with concessional interest rates while ‘severe drought’ persists and for up to three years in the recovery period. Concessional interest rates during ‘severe drought’ periods are nil and 50% of commercial rates during the recovery period. Commercial rates then apply and recipients are encouraged to repay or refinance through commercial sources. Loans generally do not exceed 5 years.</p> <p><b>Grants</b> are generally limited to the concessional benefit of loans to enable producers to make their own commercial financial arrangements.</p> <p><b>Freight subsidies</b>, for re-stocking and/or de-stocking, are limited to a total of \$20,000 per property for each year of ‘severe drought’ (non-cumulative)</p> |
| <b>Target region</b>            | Northern Territory   |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b> | Primary producers  |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>   | 1995, updated in 1998  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>      | From the second year of NT drought declaration (i.e. ‘severe drought’) and for up to three years in a recovery period.   |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b> | Delivered by the NT Department of Primary Industry, Fisheries and Mines. Tel: (08) 8999 2077   |

**Contribution from applicant?** Support measures require a contribution from the primary producer.

**Web address for link** [www.nt.gov.au/dpifm](http://www.nt.gov.au/dpifm)

## Drought Assistance Measures

Tasmania

|                                     |  |
|-------------------------------------|--|
| <b>Name of Measure</b>              | <b>Exceptional Circumstances Interest Rate Subsidy</b><br>(TAS 10% contribution. The Australian Government provides the remaining 90%. See under Australian Government assistance.)  |
| <b>Purpose</b>                      | To provide business support (interest rate subsidy) to farm enterprises that are viable in the long term, but are in financial difficulties due to an Exceptional Circumstances (EC) event.  |
| <b>Target region(s)/group(s)</b>    | Viable farmers in EC declared areas. Details of EC declared areas are available on the DAFF drought assistance website.  |
| <b>Eligibility requirements</b>     | A subsidy of up to 50% of the interest payable on new and existing loans for the first year of an EC declaration, and up to 80% in the second and subsequent years, is available, up to a maximum of \$100,000 in any 12-month period and \$300,000 over five years. Only available to farm businesses where the owner is also the farmer (that is, under normal circumstances the applicant contributes at least 75% of his/her labour to the farm enterprise and derives at least 50% of income from farming and has been a farmer for at least two years). Applicants are subject to an off-farm assets test. |
| <b>Date Measure commenced</b>       | Commenced in 1993  |
| <b>Duration of Measure</b>          | Available in yearly tranches for the duration of an EC declaration (usually for two years).  |
| <b>How to access (delivery)</b>     | Applications through the Department of Primary Industries and Water<br>Telephone: 1300 368 550   |
| <b>Contribution from applicant?</b> | Nil  |
| <b>Web address for link</b>         | <a href="http://www.dpiw.tas.gov.au">www.dpiw.tas.gov.au</a><br><a href="http://www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist">www.daff.gov.au/droughtassist</a>   |