Assistance Grants – Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals Guidelines 2018-20

| Opening date: | 3 January 2019 |
| --- | --- |
| Closing date and time: | 2.00pm AEDT on 15 February 2019 |
| Commonwealth policy entity: | Department of Agriculture and Water Resources |
| Enquiries: | If you have any questions, please contact  Community Grants Hub  Phone: 1800 020 283  Email: [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au)  Questions must be sent no later than 5.00pm AEDT 8 February 2018 |
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1. Assistance Grants – Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals Processes

**The Program is designed to achieve Australian Government objectives**

This grant opportunity is part of the Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals Grant Program. It contributes to the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources’ initiative to improve access for industry to priority minor use agricultural and veterinary (agvet) chemicals. The department works with stakeholders to plan and design the Grant Program according to the *Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines*.



**Stakeholder Consultation Process**

**We engage Rural Research and Development Corporations (RDCs) and others in national priority setting, which will take place at a collaborative face-to-face forum (the Priority Setting Forum)**

Information about the Priority Setting Forum is provided separately to stakeholders and is not included in these Grant Opportunity Guidelines.



**You submit proposed projects for consideration at the Priority Setting Forum**

Only RDCs are eligible to propose projects. We will provide a template to facilitate the forum’s consideration of proposed projects.



**We host RDCs and others at the Priority Setting Forum, to create a Priority List for funding**

The forum will produce a Priority List of proposed projects. The Priority List will then be published after the forum as part of this grant opportunity on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.home).



**Grant Process**

**The grant opportunity is published**

We publish these Grant Opportunity Guidelines on the [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.home) and [Community Grants Hub](https://www.communitygrants.gov.au/grants) websites.



**The grant opportunity opens – you are invited to apply**

The grant opportunity opens after the Priority List is published. Applications cannot be made beforehand. You are invited to submit applications for priority projects.



**You complete and submit a grant application**

You must read these grant guidelines before you submit your application. Further information can be found on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.home). Note: Any addenda for this grant opportunity will be published on GrantConnect, and by registering on this website you will be automatically notified of any changes.



**We assess all grant applications**

We assess the applications against the selection criteria.



**We make grant recommendations**

We provide advice to the decision maker on the merits of each application.



**Grant Decisions are made**

The decision maker decides which grant applications are successful.



**We notify you of the outcome**

We advise you of the outcome of your application. We may not notify unsuccessful applicants until grant agreements have been executed with successful applicants.



We enter into a grant agreement

We will enter into a grant agreement with successful applicants. The type of grant agreement is based on the nature of the grant and is proportional to the risks involved.



**Delivery of grant**

You undertake the grant activity as set out in your grant agreement. We manage the grant by working with you, monitoring your progress and making payments.



**Evaluation of the program**

We evaluate the specific grant activity and program as a whole. We base this on information you provide to us and that we collect from various sources.

* 1. Role of the Community Grants Hub

This grant opportunity will be administered by the Community Grants Hub on behalf of the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (the department) under a Whole-of-Australian Government initiative to streamline grant processes across agencies.

The stakeholder consultation to set national priorities will be administered by the department.

* 1. About the grant program

The *Assistance Grants – Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals* program (the Program) will run over two years from 2018–19 to 2019–20. These grants were announced as part of the 2018–19 Budget measure *Improved Access to Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals*, which aims to support farmers, increase productivity and grow foods for expanding export markets by improving access to agvet chemicals.

This measure forms part of the *Australian Agriculture and Export Growth Plan,* and sits within the department’s PBS Program 1.10 Agricultural Resources. It extends the 2014–15 Budget measure titled *A Competitive Agriculture Sector — improved access to agricultural and veterinary chemicals* which was scheduled to terminate on 30 June 2018.

Access to safe and effective agvet chemicals is important to Australian agricultural and livestock industries, the community and the environment. Agvet chemicals sold in Australia must be authorised by the Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA), via registration or permit. The APVMA must also approve the specific uses of every product, based on its assessment of information contained in a comprehensive data package provided by applicants.

The costs of generating this information for emerging or speciality livestock and crop industries, or new pest species, can act as a significant barrier for chemical companies given the low expected sales revenue and therefore returns on their investment. Larger industries may also face a similar problem when managing uncommon or emerging pests and diseases. These chemical access issues are referred to collectively as the ‘minor use’ problem.

To help address the ‘minor use’ problem, the Australian Government has committed $14.3 million over six years (2014–15 to 2019–20) to the *Improved Access to Agricultural and Veterinary Chemicals* initiative. The aim of the initiative is to increase the number of safe, appropriate and efficacious uses of new and existing agvet chemical products available in the Australian market. This aligns with the Australian Government’s responsibilities to develop and implement policies and programs to increase the competitiveness, profitability and sustainability of Australia's agricultural, fisheries, food and forestry industries.

The initiative has established a cross industry collaborative forum to identify priority uses of agvet chemicals in commodity sectors. The initiative has also established the *Assistance Grants – Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals* program, with the expected outcome of assisting industry to access those priority uses. The objectives of the grants program are to provide funding to assist with data generation to support an application to the APVMA that seeks to gain, maintain or broaden access to priority uses of agvet chemicals identified by the collaborative forum.

A total of $5.93 million in assistance grants were awarded in the first three rounds of the grants program from 2015–16 to 2017–18. This has funded 126 projects across a diverse range of agricultural sectors including dairy, horticulture, grains and game birds. A further $4 million for grants is available from 2018–19 to 2019–20. The 2018–19 Budget measure expands the role of the collaborative forum to enable government to more closely align grant funding with industry’s highest priority projects. Following the Priority Setting Forum, those RDCs associated with the highest priority projects within the available funding will be invited to apply for a grant for those projects. This means that not all RDCs may be invited to apply for grants, although all RDCs will have a fair and transparent opportunity to contribute to the national priority setting process before the grant opportunity opens.

The Program will be undertaken according to the Commonwealth Grants Rules and Guidelines 2017 (CGRGs).

The Priority Setting Forum contributes to ensuring the Program is in line with the CGRGs key principle of collaboration and partnership. It will help government to deliver open, transparent and equitable access to grants. It will also help ensure the relevance and impact of the grant opportunity by allowing industry to work together to identify priorities.

The Priority Setting Forum also contributes to ensuring the Program is in line with the CGRGs key principle of achieving value with relevant money. The CGRGs explain that the objective of the selection process is to select grant activities that best represent value with relevant money in the context of the objectives and outcomes of the grant opportunity. The forum is an efficient and economical method for conducting a needs analysis before the selection process in order to identify the highest priority grant activities, consistent with the intended government policy outcomes. (See Section 14 – Consultation).

* 1. About the grant opportunity

These guidelines contain information for the *Assistance Grants – Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals* from 2018–19 to 2019–20.

This document sets out:

* the purpose of the grant opportunity
* the eligibility and assessment criteria
* how to apply for the grant opportunity
* how grant applications are checked and assessed
* responsibilities and expectations in relation to the opportunity.

You must read this document before filling out an application.

1. Grant amount

The Australian Government has announced a total of $4 million over two years from 2018-19 to 2019-20 for the *Assistance Grants – Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals*.

A total of $2 million is available in each financial year – there will be invitations to apply for funding in 2018-19 and then again in 2019-20.

Grant applications will be considered for the maximum amounts, circumstances and periods listed in the table below. The grant period reflects our expectation that successful projects will be used to support an application to the APVMA within three or five years of starting the project.

Grant applications only will be considered for up to the same value as a project listed by the Priority Setting Forum, or less. For example, if the Priority Setting Forum prioritised a proposed $150,000 (GST exclusive) project to access a new label use for a particular chemical/pest/crop combination, then a grant would be considered up to this value. However, if the Priority Setting Forum prioritised a proposed $140,000 (GST exclusive) for that project, a grant would only be considered up to the lower value.

**Table 1: Amounts for this grant opportunity**

|  |  |  |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **Maximum amount of grant GST exclusive** | **Circumstances** | **Grant period** |
| $25,000 | To renew an existing permit | Three years |
| $75,000 | To access a new permit use | Three years |
| $150,000 | To access a new label use | Five years |
| $350,000 | To access a new label use for a complete crop group | Five years |

1. Grant eligibility criteria

We cannot consider your application if it does not meet **all** the eligibility criteria.

3.1 Who is eligible to apply for a grant?

To be eligible to apply, you must be one of the RDCs listed here and have received an invitation to apply through GrantConnect:

* Australian Egg Corporation Limited
* Australian Grape and Wine Authority
* Australian Livestock Export Corporation Limited
* Australian Meat Processor Corporation Limited
* Australian Pork Limited
* Australian Wool Innovation Limited
* Cotton Research and Development Corporation
* Dairy Australia Limited
* Fisheries Research and Development Corporation
* Forest and Wood Products Australia Limited
* Grains Research and Development Corporation
* Horticulture Innovation Australia Limited
* Meat and Livestock Australia Limited
* Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation t/a AgriFutures Australia
* Sugar Research Australia Limited.

As explained under Section 1.2, not all RDCs may be invited to apply for grants.

Consistent with previous funding for *Assistance Grants – Access to Industry Priority Uses of Agvet Chemicals,* the department has chosen to provide funding to RDCs because they are the Australian Government's primary vehicle for funding rural innovation, and they have extensive experience in identifying the needs of rural industries and co-ordinating research and development activities to address those needs.

No further organisations will be invited to apply.

3.4 Who is not eligible to apply for a grant?

You are not eligible to apply if you are not invited.

1. Eligible grant activities
   1. What can the grant money be used for?

To be eligible your project must seek to submit an application to the APVMA within:

* three years if seeking a new use through permit
* five years if seeking to include the use on a product label.

Funding must be predominantly spent on data generation to support an application to the APVMA that seeks to gain, maintain or broaden access to priority uses of agvet chemicals identified by the Priority Setting Forum.

You can use the grant to pay for:

* commissioning and administering studies and/or trials
* data analysis
* travel, where directly related to the grant activities
* developing and submitting an application to the APVMA
* reasonable costs to administer the grant (e.g. wages and other on costs needed to effectively deliver the project).

You can only spend grant funds on eligible grant activities as defined in the grant details in your grant agreement.

* 1. What the grant money cannot be used for?

You cannot use the grant for the following activities:

* producing previously generated data
* preparing grant applications
* protecting or patenting intellectual property
* business expenses not directly related to carrying out the grant activities, including overhead and infrastructure costs and relocation costs
* hospitality or catering beyond reasonable costs for providing refreshments at grant activity workshops or field days
* purchasing of land, infrastructure, company assets, IT equipment or activities that could be considered part of normal business or ongoing operations, unless integral to delivery of the grant activities
* any activity not directly related to carrying out or administering the grant
* retrospectively fund data already generated.

We cannot provide a grant if you receive funding from another government source for the same purpose.

1. The grant selection process

First we will assess your application against the eligibility criteria. Only eligible applications will move to the next stage. Eligible applications will be considered through a closed non-competitive grant process.

We will then assess your application against the criteria set out below. Your application will be considered on its merits, based on how well it meets the criteria and achieves value for money.

1. The assessment criteria

You will need to address both the following assessment criteria in your application. When we judge your application against the criteria each criterion is given equal weighting.

**Criterion 1:** **What national priority project will this grant activity address?**

In providing a response to this criterion you are limited to including a single unique identification code for a project on the Priority List (Appendix A).

**Criterion 2:** **How will the grant activity funds be spent?**

In providing a response to this criterion you must state the total funds requested, and must provide a budget which outlines expected activities (including trials) and estimates all costs of the project, within the available total grant amount (refer Section 2 - Grant Amount).

We provide a budget template as an attachment to the grant opportunity, and you must attach the completed template to your application.

1. The grant application process
   1. Overview of application process

You must read these grant guidelines, the Priority List from the forum once published, the Frequently Asked Questions if available, and the draft grant agreement before you submit an application.

You are responsible for ensuring that your application is complete and accurate. Giving false or misleading information will exclude your application from further consideration.

You must address all of the eligibility and assessment criteria to be considered for a grant otherwise your application will not progress to assessment. Please complete each section of the application form and make sure you provide the information we have requested.

Please keep a copy of your application and any supporting papers.

* 1. Application process timing

You must submit an application between the published opening and closing dates and times.

The Community Grants Hub will not accept late applications unless an applicant has experienced exceptional circumstances that prevent the submission of the application. Broadly, exceptional circumstances are events characterised by one or more of the following:

* reasonably unforeseeable,
* beyond the applicant’s control,
* unable to be managed or resolved within the application period.

Exceptional circumstances will be considered on their merits and in accordance with probity principles.

**How to lodge a late application**

Applicants seeking to submit a late application will be required to submit a late application request to the Community Grants Hub Hotline via [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au).

The request should include a detailed explanation of the circumstances that prevented the application being submitted prior to the closing time. Where appropriate, supporting evidence can be provided to verify the claim of exceptional circumstances.

Written requests to lodge a late application will only be accepted within three days after the grant opportunity has closed.

The Delegate or their appointed representative[[1]](#footnote-1)[1] will determine whether a late application will be accepted. The decision of the delegate will be final and not be subject to a review or appeals process.

Once the outcome is determined, the Community Grants Hub will advise the applicant if their request is accepted or declined.

The expected commencement date for the granting activities is June 2019 and the expected completion date is three or five years later, depending on the circumstances of your grant (see Section 2).

Expected timing for the 2018–19 grant opportunity is in the table below. We expect to open applications for 2019–20 funding in early 2020.

Table 1: Expected timing for the 2018–19 grant opportunity

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Activity | Timeframe |
| Application period | Open: 3/1/2019  Close: 2pm AEDT 15/2/2019 |
| Assessment of applications | 4 weeks |
| Approval of outcomes of selection process | 4 weeks |
| Negotiations and award of grant agreements | Up to 6 weeks |
| Notification to unsuccessful applicants | 2 weeks |
| Activity commences by | June 2019 |
| End date | June 2022 (three year grants)  June 2024 (five year grants) |

* 1. Completing the grant application

You must submit your grant application using the application form, which is available on the [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/) website. The Application Form can only be accessed by invitees for this grant opportunity. The application form includes help information.

This is an online application form that you must submit electronically. If you have any technical difficulties please contact 1800 020 283 or email [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au).

Applicants must submit a separate application for each activity. If more than one application is submitted for the same activity the latest accepted application will progress. The Community Grants Hub will not provide application forms or accept applications for this grant opportunity by fax or mail.

You must make sure that your application is complete, accurate and submitted by the closing date and time in accordance with these guidelines.

If you find a mistake in your application after it has been submitted, you should contact the Community Grants Hub by phone on 1800 020 283 or by email at [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au) straight away.

The Commonwealth may ask you for more information, as long as it does not change the substance of your application. We do not have to accept any additional information, nor requests from applicants to correct applications after the closing time.

You cannot change your application after the application submission period has closed.

* 1. Attachments to the application

A budget for the project proposal **must** be included with your application and you must use the provided template (a template is provided for your use with the grant opportunity documents).

**Please note:** There is a 2mb limit for each attachment.

* 1. Questions during the application process

Only invited applicants’ questions will be responded to during the application period, please call the Community Grants Hub on 1800 020 283 or email to [support@communitygrants.gov.au](mailto:support@communitygrants.gov.au). The Community Grants Hub will respond to emailed questions within five working days. Answers to questions will be posted on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/) and only accessible by invited applicants.

The question period will close at 5.00pm AEDT on **8 February 2019.** Following this time, only questions relating to using and/or submitting the application form will be answered.

* 1. Further grant opportunities

In the event that there are insufficient suitable applications to meet program objectives, we may approach organisations directly and invite them to apply through a closed non-competitive selection process.

1. Assessment of grant applications
   1. Who will assess applications?

An assessment team will assess all eligible and compliant applications based on their merits. The assessment team will be comprised of Commonwealth staff. The assessment team will undertake training to ensure consistent assessment of all applications.

If the selection process identifies unintentional errors in your application, you may be contacted to correct or explain the information.

The Assessment Report will make recommendations having regards to conformance with eligibility and assessment criteria outlined in these guidelines.

• value for money, and

• (if known) minimise possible duplication with other Commonwealth/State/Territory government programs/service delivery.

The assessment team may seek information about you or your application. They may do this from within the Commonwealth. The assessment team may also consider information about you or your application that is available through the normal course of business.

* 1. Who will approve grants?

The assessment team will make recommendations to the relevant Minister. The relevant Minister or their delegate will make the final decision to approve a grant.

The relevant Minister’s decision is final in all matters, including:

* the approval of the grant
* the grant funding amount to be awarded
* the terms and conditions of the grant.

The relevant Minister must not approve funding if they reasonably consider the program funding available across financial years will not accommodate the funding offer, and/or the application does not represent value for money.

There is no appeal mechanism for decisions to approve or not approve a grant.

1. Notification of application outcomes

You will be advised of the outcomes of your application in writing, following a decision by the relevant Minister**.** If you are successful, you will also be advisedabout any specific conditions attached to the grant.

* 1. Feedback on your application

A Feedback Summary will be published on the Community Grants Hub website to provide all organisations with easy to access information about the assessment process and the main strengths and areas for improving their applications.

Individual feedback will be available. The process for requesting individual feedback will be included in the letter advising of the outcome of your application.

1. Successful grant applications
   1. The grant agreement

If you are successful and you choose to accept a grant offer, you must enter into a legally binding grant agreement with the Commonwealth represented by the department. The department will use the [*Commonwealth Simple Grant Agreement*](http://www.finance.gov.au/financial-framework/financial-management-policy-guidance/grants/grant-agreement-template-project.html). Simple terms and conditions for the grant agreement will apply and cannot be changed. A schedule may be used to outline the specific grant requirements. Any additional conditions attached to the grant will be identified in the grant offer or during the grant agreement negotiations.

You will be required to provide regular progress reports and a final report to cover all activities and expenditure under the grant, and may be required to provide evidence to support your reports.

The Commonwealth will negotiate agreements with successful applicants by mid May 2019. **If there are unreasonable delays in finalising** a grant agreement, the grant offer may be withdrawn and the grant may be awarded to a different applicant.

Where a grantee fails to meet the obligations of the grant agreement, the department may require the grantee to repay some or all of the grant money received.

You should not make financial commitments related to this grant, until a grant agreement has been executed by the Commonwealth.

* 1. How the grant will be paid

The grant agreement will state the maximum grant amount to be paid

We will not exceed the maximum grant amount under any circumstances.

We will make a single payment on execution of the grant agreement.

1. Announcement of grants

If successful, your grant will be listed on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/?event=public.home) no later than 21 calendar days after the date of effect as required by Section 5.3 of the *CGRGs.*

1. Delivery of grant activities
   1. Your responsibilities

You must submit reportsin line with the timeframes in the [grant agreement](file://prod.protected.ind/User/user03/LLau2/insert%20link%20here). We may provide sample templates for these reports. We will expect you to report on:

* progress against agreed project milestones, including:
  + progress or delays during the reporting period and whether the project is on-track to reasonably deliver a submission to the APVMA within the expected timeframe
  + details of any changes or proposed changes to activities or budget
  + for the final report – the outcomes of the project and justification for any differences from the outcomes expected in the project application.
* contributions of participants directly related to the project
* eligible expenditure of grant funds.

You will alsobe responsible for:

* meeting the terms and conditions of the grant agreement and managing the activity efficiently and effectively
* complying with record keeping, reporting and acquittal requirements as set out in the grant agreement
* participating in a grant program evaluation as specified in the grant agreement.
  1. Community Grants Hub’s responsibilities

We will:

* meet the terms and conditions set out in the grant agreement
* provide timely administration of the grant
* evaluate the grantee’s performance.

We will monitor the progress of your project by assessing reports you submit and may conduct site visits to confirm details of your reports if necessary. Occasionally we may need to re-examine claims, seek further information or request an independent audit of claims and payments.

* 1. Grant payments and GST

Payments will be made as set out in the grant agreement. Payments will be GST Exclusive as payments between the Commonwealth and RDCs do not attract GST.

A single payment will be made once the grant agreement is signed by the Commonwealth.

If you receive a grant, you should consider speaking to a tax advisor about the effect of receiving a grant before you enter into a grant agreement. You can also visit the [Australian Taxation Office website](http://www.ato.gov.au/) for more information.

* 1. Evaluation

The department will evaluate the grant program to measure how well the outcomes and objectives have been achieved.

The department will evaluate a range of issues, including but not limited to the performance of the program, including the efficiency of implementation and effectiveness of the program meeting the outcomes.

Your grant agreement requires you to provide information to help with this evaluation.

* 1. Acknowledgement

All publications related to grants under the Program must acknowledge the Commonwealth as follows:

‘This activity received grant funding from the Australian Government.’

1. Probity

The Australian Government will make sure that the programprocess is fair, according to the published guidelines, incorporates appropriate safeguards against fraud, unlawful activities and other inappropriate conduct and is consistent with the CGRGs.

**Note:** These guidelines may be changed from time-to-time bythe department. When this happens the revised guidelines will be published on [GrantConnect](https://www.grants.gov.au/) and the [Community Grants Hub](http://www.communitygrants.gov.au/) websites.

* 1. Complaints process

**Complaints about the Process**

Applicants can contact the complaints service with complaints about Community Grants Hub’s service(s) or the application process.

Details of what constitutes an eligible complaint can be provided upon request by the Community Grants Hub.  Applicants can lodge complaints using the [complaints form](https://www.dss.gov.au/contact/feedback-compliments-complaints-and-enquiries/feedback-form) on the Department of Social Services’ website or by phone or mail.

Phone: 1800 634 035

Mail: Complaints

GPO Box 9820

Canberra ACT 2601

**Complaints to the Ombudsman**

If you do not agree with the way the Commonwealthhas handled your complaint, you may complain to the Commonwealth Ombudsman. The Ombudsman will not usually look into a complaint unless the matter has first been raised directly with the department.

The Commonwealth Ombudsman can be contacted on:

Phone (Toll free): 1300 362 072  
Email: [ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au](mailto:ombudsman@ombudsman.gov.au)   
Website: [www.ombudsman.gov.au](http://www.ombudsman.gov.au)

* 1. Conflict of interest

Any conflicts of interest could affect the performance of the grant. There may be a [conflict of interest](http://www.apsc.gov.au/publications-and-media/current-publications/aps-values-and-code-of-conduct-in-practice/conflict-of-interest), or perceived conflict of interest, if the Commonwealth’sstaff, and/or you or any of your personnel:

* has a professional, commercial or personal relationship with a party who is able to influence the application selection process, such as an Australian Government officer
* has a relationship with an organisation, or in an organisation, which is likely to interfere with or restrict the applicants from carrying out the proposed activities fairly and independently or
* has a relationship with, or interest in, an organisation from which they will receive personal gain because the organisation receives funding under the Program.

You will be asked to declare, as part of your application, any perceived or existing conflicts of interests or that, to the best of your knowledge, there is no conflict of interest.

If you later identify that there is an actual, apparent, or potential conflict of interest or that one might arise in relation to a grant application, you must inform thedepartment and the Community Grants Hub in writing immediately. Commonwealth staff and the decision maker must also declare any conflicts of interest.

The assessment team will be made aware of any conflicts of interest and will handle them as set out in Australian Government policies and procedures. Conflicts of interest for Australian Government staff will be handled as set out in the Australian Public Service Code of Conduct (Section 13(7)) of the *Public Service Act 1999*.

* 1. Privacy: confidentiality and protection of personal information

We treat your personal information according to the 13 Australian Privacy Principles and the *Privacy Act 1988*. This includes letting you know:

* what personal information we collect
* why we collect your personal information
* who we give your personal information to

You are required, as part of your application, to declare your ability to comply with the [*Privacy Act 1988*](http://www.comlaw.gov.au/Details/C2014C00757)*,* including the Australian Privacy Principles and impose the same privacy obligations on any subcontractors you engage to assist with the activity. You must ask for the Australian Government’s consent in writing before disclosing confidential information.

Your personal information can only be disclosed to someone else if you are given reasonable notice of the disclosure; where disclosure is authorised or required by law or is reasonably necessary for the enforcement of the criminal law; if it will prevent or lessen a serious and imminent threat to a person’s life or health; or if you have consented to the disclosure.

The Australian Government may also use and disclose information about grant applicants and grant recipients under the Program in any other Australian Government business or function. This includes giving information to the Australian Taxation Office for compliance purposes.

We may reveal confidential information to:

* employees and contractors of our department so we can research, assess, monitor and analyse our programs and activities
* employees and contractors of other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes, including government administration, research or service delivery
* other Commonwealth, State, Territory or local government agencies in program reports and consultations
* the Auditor-General, Ombudsman or Privacy Commissioner
* the responsible Minister or Parliamentary Secretary
* a House or a Committee of the Australian Parliament.

We may share the information you give us with other Commonwealth agencies for any purposes including government administration, research or service delivery and according to Australian laws, including the:

* *Public Service Act 1999*
* *Public Service Regulations 1999*
* *Public Governance, Performance and Accountability Act*
* *Privacy Act 1988*
* *Crimes Act 1914*
* *Criminal Code Act 1995*

We’ll treat the information you give us as sensitive and therefore confidential if it meets all of the four conditions below:

1. you clearly identify the information as confidential and explain why we should treat it as confidential
2. the information is commercially sensitive
3. revealing the information would cause unreasonable harm to you or someone else
4. you provide the information with an understanding that it will stay confidential.

The grant agreement will include any specific requirements about special categories of information collected, created or held under the grant agreement.

* 1. Freedom of information

All documents in the possession of the Australian Government, including those about the Program, are subject to the *Freedom of Information Act 1982* *(FOI Act).*

The purpose of the FOI Act is to give members of the public rights of access to information held by the Australian Government and its entities. Under the FOI Act, members of the public can seek access to documents held by the Australian Government. This right of access is limited only by the exceptions and exemptions necessary to protect essential public interests and private and business affairs of persons in respect of whom the information relates.

All Freedom of Information requests must be referred to the Freedom of Information Coordinator in writing.

By mail: Freedom of Information Coordinator

Department of Social Services

Government and Executive Services Branch

GPO Box 9820

Canberra ACT 2601

By email: [foi@dss.gov.au](mailto:foi@dss.gov.au)

1. Consultation

We expect that RDCs will propose projects for consideration at the forum, which have been informed by agricultural producers, peak bodies and chemical companies. Stakeholders are encouraged to contact their relevant RDC should they wish to be involved or support an RDC in preparing a project for consideration at the forum.

The Priority Setting Forum then contributes specifically to the CGRGs key principles of collaboration and partnership. It will help government to deliver open, transparent and equitable access to grants. Industry will also help ensure the relevance and impact of the grant opportunity by working together to identify funding priorities.

1. Glossary

| **Term** | **Definition** |
| --- | --- |
| assessment criteria | The specified principles or standards against which applications will be judged. These criteria are also used to assess the merits of proposals and, in the case of a competitive granting activity, to determine applicant rankings. |
| commencement date | The expected start date for the grant activity. |
| completion date | The expected date that the grant activity must be completed and the grant spent by. |
| Commonwealth entity | A Department of State, or a Parliamentary Department, or a listed entity or a body corporate established by a law of the Commonwealth. See subsections 10(1) and (2) of the PGPA Act. |
| cost shifting | Involves ‘substitution of effort’ by the Commonwealth for activities of another organisation or level of government. For example, cost shifting occurs where the Commonwealth provides a grant for an activity that would usually be paid for by a state, territory, or local government, such as municipal services. |
| date of effect | This will depend on the particular grant. It can be the date in which a grant agreement is signed or a specified starting date. Where there is no grant agreement, entities must publish information on individual grants as soon as practicable. |
| decision maker | The person who makes a decision to award a grant. |
| double dipping | Double dipping occurs where a grant recipient is able to obtain a grant for the same project or activity from more than one source. |
| eligibility criteria | The principles, standards or rules that a grant applicant must meet to qualify for consideration of a grant. Eligibility criteria may apply in addition to assessment criteria. |
| grant | A grant is an arrangement for the provision of financial assistance by the Commonwealth or on behalf of the Commonwealth:   1. under which relevant money or other CRF money, is to be paid to a grantee other than the Commonwealth 2. which is intended to help address one or more of the Australian Government’s policy outcomes while assisting the grantee achieve its objectives. |
| grant activity | Is the project /tasks /services that the Grantee is required to undertake with the grant money. It is described in the Grant Agreement. |
| grant agreement | Sets out the relationship between the parties to the agreement, and specifies the details of the grant. |
| grant opportunity | A notice published on GrantConnect advertising the availability of Commonwealth grants. |
| grant program | May be advertised within the ‘Forecast Opportunity’ (FO) section of GrantConnect to provide a consolidated view of associated grant opportunities and provide strategic context for specific grant opportunities |
| grantee | An individual/organisation that has been awarded a grant. |
| permit | A document issued by the APVMA (under the Agvet Code) that allows a person in certain circumstances to possess, supply, use or manufacture a chemical product, which would otherwise be an offence under the Agvet Code, or would involve contravention of a civil penalty provision under that Code. |
| PBS Program | Described within the entity’s Portfolio Budget Statement, PBS programs each link to a single outcome and provide transparency for funding decisions. These high level PBS programs often comprise a number of lower level, more publicly recognised programs, some of which will be Grant Programs. A PBS Program may have more than one Grant Program associated with it, and each of these may have one or more grant opportunities |
| selection criteria | Comprise eligibility criteria and assessment criteria. |
| selection process | The method used to select potential grantees. This process may involve comparative assessment of applications or the assessment of applications against the eligibility criteria and/or the assessment criteria. |

2. APPENDIX A: Priority List

| **Identification Code** | **Rural Research and Development Corporation** | **Project Title (Crop/animal – pest – chemical)** | **Max Grant Amount ($GST exclusive)** | **Circumstances** | **Grant period (years)** |
| --- | --- | --- | --- | --- | --- |
| 2018Priority01 | Fisheries RDC | Non-salmon finfish — Bacterial infections — Oxytetracycline | $ 75,000.00 | Seek a new permit use | 3 |
| 2018Priority02 | Horticulture Innovation | Passionfruit — Aphids Silverleaf Whitefly — Afidopyropen | $ 60,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority03 | Horticulture Innovation | Lychee — Aphids - Potato aphid, Rose aphid — Afidopyropen | $ 60,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority04 | Horticulture Innovation | Onions — Annual Ryegrass — Prosulfocarb + S-metolachlor herbicide - Boxer Gold | $ 144,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority05 | Forest and Wood Products Australia | Eucalypt plantations, native forest — Teratosphaeria leaf disease (formerly Mycosphaerella leaf disease) — Chlorothalonil (foliar); Propiconazole (foliar); Trifloxistrobin (foliar); Indilfin (foliar); Flutriafol (foliar, soil injection) | $ 55,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority06 | AgriFutures Australia | Plantago (Plantago ovata) — Fungus thrips, Blossom thrips, Black plague thrips, Robust thrips, Sunflower thrips — Diafenthiuron + Cyantraniliprole (SYNFOI20) | $ 102,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority07 | Horticulture Innovation | Citrus Crop Group — Broad mite PLUS Brown citrus rust mite, Citrus bud mite, Citrus flat (Bunch) mite, Citrus red mite, Citrus rust (Maori) mite, Oriental spider mite, Two-spotted mite — Spiromesifen (Oberon 240 SC) | $ 156,000.00 | Seek a new crop group label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority08 | Horticulture Innovation | Spinach & Silverbeet — Two-spotted, Tomato russet, European red, Rust mite — Spiromesifen (Oberon 240 SC) | $ 72,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority09 | Grains RDC | Safflower, Linseed — Annual Grasses (annual rye grass, wild oats) — Clethodim | $ 75,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority10 | AgriFutures Australia | Pasture seed - lucerne (Medicago sativa) — Heliothis (Helicoverpa spp), Green mirids (Creontiades dilutus) — Emamectin benzoate (Affirm) | $ 96,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority11 | Grains RDC | Safflower, Linseed, Sunflower — Desiccation — Glyphosate | $ 50,000.00 | Seek a new permit use | 3 |
| 2018Priority12 | Dairy Australia Limited | Forage Brassica — post emergent grass weed control — clethodim | $ 130,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority13 | Horticulture Innovation | Passionfruit — Passionvine mite & two-spotted — Spiromesifen (Oberon 240 SC) | $ 72,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority14 | Horticulture Innovation | Raspberries, Blackberries & Blueberries — Aphids Apple & dimpling bug — Afidopyropen | $ 96,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority15 | Horticulture Innovation | Banana — Aphids – banana — Afidopyropen | $ 150,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority16 | Horticulture Innovation | Pineapple — Root-Knot Nematodes — Fluopyram | $ 150,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority17 | Forest and Wood Products Australia | Eucalypt plantations (post planting) — Brassica — Active consitituent Metosulam 100 g/L, Product label Eclipse 100 SC | $ 30,000.00 | Seek a new crop group label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority18 | Australian Pork Limited | Pork — Pasteurella multocida and Haemophilus parasuis — Novel combination autogenous vaccine for porcine respiratory disease complex | $ 20,000.00 | Renew an existing permit | 3 |
| 2018Priority19 | AgriFutures Australia | Quinoa (Chenopodium quinoa) — Heliothis (Helicoverpa spp), Looper (Chrysodeixis spp.), Armyworm (Spodoptera spp.) — Chlorantraniliprole (Altacor) | $ 75,000.00 | Seek a new permit use | 3 |
| 2018Priority20 | AgriFutures Australia | 1. Truffle (Tuber spp) — Grass and broadleaf weeds (various species) — Glufosinate (Basta)  2. Truffle (Tuber spp) — Slugs and snails (various species) — Metaldehyde (Metarex) | $ 124,800.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority21 | AgriFutures Australia | Rice (Oryza spp) — Stem rot (Sclerotium oryae) — Azoxystrobin + difenoconazole (Amistar Top) | $ 102,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority22 | Grains RDC | Maize — Two Spotted Mite — Diafenthiuron - Pegasus | $ 75,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority23 | Australian Eggs | Chickens (primarily free-range) — Erysipelas – a disease caused by Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae. — Commercial vaccines containing adjuvant and killed organism. Currently includes two specific vaccines: Eryvac Vaccine (Zoetis) and Coopers Eryguard Vaccine for sheep lambs and pigs (MSD – Intervet) | $ 150,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority24 | Horticulture Innovation | Custard apple — Two-spotted mite Banana Spider Mite — Spiromesifen (Oberon 240 SC) | $ 50,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority25 | AgriFutures Australia | Quinoa (Chenopodium quinoa) — Heliothis, Looper, Armyworm, Rutherglen bug, Green mirids — Acetamiprid + emamectin (Skope) | $ 122,400.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |
| 2018Priority26 | Grains RDC | Wheat, Barley, Chickpea, Lupin, Field pea & Canola — Feathertop Rhodes Grass — Prosulfocarb, Trifluralin, Triallate: Investigation of co-formulated mixtures (Bolta Duo / Jetti Duo / Diablo Duo) | $ 150,000.00 | Seek a new label use | 5 |

1. [1] This may be the Hub delegate or nominated staff member of the client agency at the EL2 level or above. [↑](#footnote-ref-1)