

Media Release

The Hon Jaclyn Symes MLC

Leader of the Government in the Legislative Council

Minister for Regional Development

Minister for Agriculture

Minister for Resources



Monday, 7 September 2020

NEW APP MILKING THE OPPORTUNITIES IN OUR DAIRY INDUSTRY

Recently hired dairy industry workers will be able to learn the skills and knowledge needed in their new field in an easier way, with the launch of an app supported by the Victorian Government's Agriculture Workforce Plan.

Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes today launched the updated Dairy Passport app developed by Dairy Australia, which is now available on desktop, iPhone and Android devices.

Dairy Passport provides coaching guides, learning modules and support resources as employees are inducted over their first 90 days on the job. Victorian dairy farmers will also have access to a capability coach to provide additional training support.

The app provides an easier way for employers looking to quickly and safely develop workers' skills, while providing the knowledge and capabilities needed for on-farm roles. Topics covered include farm safety, animal handling and essential tasks such as milking.

The app has been developed as part of the broader Pathways for People in Dairy Program. As well as Dairy Passport, the program includes an online experience allowing jobseekers interested in dairy to virtually explore and prepare for a career in the industry.

Dairy Australia's development of Dairy Passport has been supported by \$715,000 from the Victorian Government, under the Agriculture Workforce Plan.

The plan is providing targeted support to agriculture, food processing and critical food supply chain businesses during the coronavirus pandemic.

To find out more about the Agriculture Workforce Plan visit: agriculture.vic.gov.au/agworkforceplan

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Jaclyn Symes

"Our agricultural sector is full of exciting and interesting jobs – new dairy industry employees could find this is the job of their dreams – that's why we're backing initiatives like this to make the introduction to the job as smooth as possible."

"The fundamental skills and knowledge that Dairy Passport training offers creates a solid foundation for a successful career in dairy, providing help and advice for both farmers and employees."

Quote attributable to Managing Director of Dairy Australia David Nation

"The Victorian Government's support has enabled us to rapidly develop new induction and training resources for Dairy Passport, designed to help farmers safely employ newcomers to the industry at short notice."