## **Media Release**

The Hon Ros Spence MP
Minister for Agriculture
Minister for Community Sport
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Wednesday, 30 July 2025

## **BACKING THE HEART OF AGRICULTURE THROUGH GRANTS**

Victorian agricultural and pastoral societies will receive greater support from the Allan Labor Government to upgrade infrastructure and participate in regional shows.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence today announced the opening of applications for this year's Agricultural and Pastoral Society Grants Program, helping organisations with projects that encourage community involvement and promote Victoria's rich agriculture industry.

The grants provide successful applicants with up to \$10,000 to support infrastructure development and upgrades to celebrate Victoria's agricultural communities, industries and produce.

The grants can be used to upgrade or establish new facilities, enhance public amenities, improve essential infrastructure, improve business management activities, biosecurity planning and promote reporting of livestock movements.

In previous rounds, the Rochester Agricultural Society received a grant worth \$8,100 to purchase cattle fencing panels, and Wodonga Show Society Incorporated upgraded its amenities block at the local showgrounds with a \$9,977 grant.

Agricultural and Pastoral Societies are community groups with a shared interest in agriculture, horticulture or livestock.

These groups can be found across rural and regional areas, dedicating their time to a wide range of roles in their communities, such as hosting events and fundraisers to support local priorities and agricultural activities.

With over 100 societies across the state, the grant program plays a significant role in regional Victoria's vibrant calendar of events – building community spirit by celebrating agriculture in a fun, entertaining, educational and inclusive environment.

Applications for the latest round of grants close 12 September 2025.

For more information or to apply, please visit <u>agriculture.vic.gov.au/support-and-resources/funds-grants-programs/agricultural-and-pastoral-society-grants</u>

## **Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence**

"Agricultural shows and events are an integral part of rural communities, especially during challenging times such as drought, allowing communities to come together."

"Events are also often used to support services and dedicated drought initiatives, as well as raising awareness on work that's being done to support communities."

Media contact: Pam Kiriakidis 0472 725 548 | pam.kiriakidis@minstaff.vic.gov.au