

Media Release

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



Tuesday, 18 November 2025

EMPOWERING YOUNG FARMERS TO GROW THEIR FUTURES

The Allan Labor Government is investing in the next generation of Victorian farmers to help grow careers and support the long-term sustainability of the agriculture sector.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence today announced 13 recipients of the 2025 Young Farmer Upskill and Invest Scholarship, with each receiving up to \$10,000 to boost their careers – \$5,000 for new learning opportunities and another \$5,000 to put their new skills into practice.

This year's recipients reflect the diversity and dynamic nature of modern agriculture – some from proud intergenerational farming traditions, and others forging new and innovative pathways into the industry.

Recipients hail from across the state, including Tammy Stone, a seventh-generation dairy farmer from Katunga, who will gain better knowledge of cattle nutrition to boost animal health, ensure greater milk production, and build her skills in cattle reproduction.

Jacob Scicluna from Riverslea aspires to work full-time on his beef and cropping farm and make it his primary income. The young farmer will use the scholarship to develop his skills in compost production and soil science to improve nutrient efficiency and fodder production on his farm.

Bonnie Hiscock, a native flower grower at Stratford, will use the scholarship to develop expertise in sustainable farming practices, plant health and resource management.

The Government provides a range of supports for young farmers including helping to buy their first farmland property through the Young Farmer Duty Exemption or Concession – either a full or partial duty exemption on farmland purchased for up to \$750,000.

The government established the Young Farmers Advisory Council to provide it with advice on issues impacting young people working across agriculture and to act as ambassadors for agriculture as a career.

Young Farmer Business Bootcamps are held across Victoria, helping young farmers and producers new to farming to understand and manage business risks, develop a business plan to grow their business and build the confidence to make sound business decisions.

Quote attributable to Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence

"We want to help young farmers and make sure they have the support they need to grow and progress in their careers. Caring for agriculture means investing at all levels to ensure the heart of every successful farm business."

Quote attributable to Young Farmers Advisory Council Chair Clay Gowers

"As a former recipient of the scholarship, I know how important it is to have government support to move ahead in my career and try something a bit different to benefit my farming business."