

Media Release

The Hon Ros Spence MP

Minister for Agriculture

Minister for Treaty and First Peoples

Minister for Community Sport

Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Tuesday, 3 March 2026

KEEPING VICTORIA'S FARMERS AND ANIMALS SAFE

Labor is making it easier for Victorian farmers to protect their livestock from pests and diseases and keep their farms productive.

Minister Ros Spence today launched the 2026 Livestock Biosecurity Fund Grants Program, which funds initiatives that help prevent, monitor and control diseases in animals, including cattle, sheep, goats, swine and honeybees.

This support will make it more affordable for farmers, reducing the financial burden of managing pests and diseases while easing the day-to-day costs of keeping animals healthy.

Last year, \$15 million in grants supported 22 projects equipping farmers with the tools and support to prevent disease and protect their livestock.

The Victorian Farmers Federation used grants over \$1,660,000 to extend their Stock Sense Program to peri-urban areas and ensure owners and hobby farmers know how to keep their animals healthy.

Stock Sense works with local communities to raise awareness of biosecurity issues and preventative measures through educational workshops, webinars and resources.

Agriculture Victoria, together with the state's livestock advisory committees, developed the Livestock Biosecurity Fund Grants Program to give farmers practical support against pests and diseases.

Grant program applications close on 14 April 2026.

For eligibility and how to apply, visit agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestockbiosecurityfunds.

Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence

"We're making biosecurity management simpler, faster, and more cost-effective."

"These grants result in cutting-edge projects that support our farmers and help preserve Victorian agriculture."