

# 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



Monday, 16 March 2026

## HELP KICK PESTS OUT WITH NEW GRANTS OPEN

Invasive pests threaten farms and communities, and Labor is helping Victorians farmers protect their land with targeted pest management funding.

Minister Ros Spence announced the opening of the final round of the Partnerships Against Pests program today.

The program will help farmers protect their crops, and livestock pasture from invasive pests, and improve the long-term health of their land.

Applicants can apply for grants of between \$10,000 and \$50,000 to deliver projects over a 12-month period.

Our farms, bushland and parks support many regional communities and Victoria's agricultural industry.

Labor is making sure farmers and other land managers have the support they need to keep their land healthy and productive.

We're proud to have supported 66 organisations to deliver projects that have helped to get rid of harmful pests.

This includes the Maffra and District Landcare Network, which used funding to create short films to increase awareness and understanding of weed and pest management techniques.

Another example is Kiewa Catchment Landcare Group, who used the funding to help locals and farmers with blackberry control.

A webinar will be run on 27 March 2026 for prospective applicants to ask questions, learn from previous successful groups and be shown the online application process.

Applications are open until 11 May 2026. Total funding available for Round 5 of the program is \$600,000.

For more information and to apply visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/protecting-victoria/partnerships-against-pests-program-and-grants/partnerships-against-pests-grants](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/protecting-victoria/partnerships-against-pests-program-and-grants/partnerships-against-pests-grants).

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence

*"Labor is investing in local communities to manage weeds and pest animals, so Victorians can enjoy healthier, thriving urban and rural landscapes for years to come."*

*"Local groups know their land best, and these grants give them the support they need to tackle pests and protect the environments their communities rely on."*