



August (Winter) 2011, 1 page

MEDIA RELEASE

FarmReady (17 June 2011)

DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE, FISHERIES AND FORESTRY

The Australian Government is now making the successful FarmReady Reimbursement Grants Program accessible to primary producers and Indigenous land managers who wish to undertake training in agritourism and food tourism. The FarmReady Reimbursement Grant Guidelines have been amended to include this new key learning area, meeting the government's election commitment. Training providers interested in registering relevant food tourism and agritourism training courses for 2011-2012 should contact the Program Administrator (ANU Enterprise).

In addition to the inclusion of food tourism and agritourism training, primary producers and wild game harvesters are also now encouraged to invest in their own training. The FarmReady Reimbursement Grant Guidelines have been amended to include a co-contribution requirement for primary producers. Primary producers are required to contribute 35 per cent towards their training costs with FarmReady reimbursing the remaining 65 per cent up to a maximum of \$1500 per financial year.

The amended guidelines can be found on the farmready website (www.farmready.gov.au/).

At this stage there will be no further rounds of FarmReady Industry Grants. Funding continues for projects funded in the previous two rounds until 30 June 2012.

The Australian Government's FarmReady program aims to boost training opportunities for primary producers and Indigenous land managers, and enable industry, farming groups and natural resource management groups develop strategies to adapt and respond to the impacts of climate change.

Two grants are available through the FarmReady program:

FarmReady Reimbursement Grants - primary producers, wild game harvesters and Indigenous land managers are able to claim up to \$1500 each financial year to attend approved training courses, with funding also available to cover excess travel, accommodation and child care expenses. For more information please call the FarmReady Administrators on 1800 087 670.

FarmReady Industry Grants – up to \$80,000 each financial year is available to eligible industry, farming and natural resource management groups for projects that develop strategies to manage climate change impacts.