



## Financial Support for Farmers

# Farm Business Concessional Loans Scheme

Eligible farmers in Victoria are able to apply for either **Drought Assistance Concessional Loan** or **Dairy Recovery Concessional Loan**.

The **Drought Concessional Loan Scheme** is designed to assist farming operations that have been operating for at least three years and have experienced significant financial impact as a result of the effects of drought, but have good long-term prospects of returning to profitable trading and sustainable debt levels. Applications will close on or about 30 June 2017, or earlier should loan funds be exhausted. Applications are assessed by Rural Finance. The Scheme offers Concessional Loans for the purpose of:

- re-structuring existing eligible farm debt including existing Farm Finance and/or Drought Concessional Loans
- providing new debt for operating expenses necessary to continue normal operations
- drought recovery activities and/or
- drought preparedness activities

for a term of **ten years**, with variable interest rate of **2.47%** (effective April 2017) and maximum loan amount of **\$1,000,000** (capped at 50% of the Farm Business Final Debt Position). A valid Bureau of Meteorology Rainfall Deficiency Report must be submitted as part of an application.

The **Dairy Recovery Concessional Loans Scheme** aims to assist eligible Dairy Farm Businesses affected by the May 2016 decision of Murray Goulburn Co-operative Co., Fonterra Australia Ltd and National Dairy Products Pty Ltd to reduce farm gate milk prices in the 2015/16 year. Applications must be received by the close date, expected to be 30 June 2017 or sooner if funding is fully committed and are assessed by Rural Finance. The Scheme offers Concessional Loans for the purpose of:

- re-structuring existing eligible farm debt including existing Farm Finance and/or Drought Concessional Loans
- funding operating expenses necessary to continue normal operations and/or
- providing new debt for Productivity Enhancement Activities
- for a term of **ten years**, with variable interest rate of **2.47%** (effective April 2017) and maximum loan amount of **\$1,000,000** (capped at 50% of the Farm Business Final Debt Position).

Further details and information about the Scheme can be found at [Rural Finance website](#).

**Contact a Rural Financial Counsellor to find out more, establish eligibility and help you apply. Funds are limited so don't delay.**

**Rural Financial Counsellors outreach from Mildura, Swan Hill, Pyramid Hill and Bendigo**

**Ph. 1300 769 489**

**Email: [info@sunrcs.com.au](mailto:info@sunrcs.com.au)**

**Web Address: [www.sunrcs.com.au](http://www.sunrcs.com.au)**