

## Drought Management Plan

Please ensure you submit your drought management plan with your completed drought loan application form.

Your drought management plan must include the specific activities that you propose will be funded by the loan, as well as your drought preparedness, management and recovery strategies.

- **Strategies to prepare for drought:**

A description of the activities and practices your farm business undertakes to prepare for drought. This might include using forecasting tools to inform production decisions, reduction or agistment of stock, changing to a more water efficient crop type etc.

- If you are applying for a loan for drought management or drought recovery activities, your drought management plan must demonstrate reasonable steps have been undertaken to prepare for the effects of drought.
- If applying for a loan for drought preparedness activities, your drought management plan must demonstrate that reasonable steps will be undertaken to prepare for the effects of drought.
- Your drought management plan must cover all elements (i.e. preparedness, management and recovery).

- **Strategies to manage drought:**

A description of the practices your farm business undertakes to manage through drought conditions. This might include activities related to financial and farm business management, grazing land management, livestock management, cropping and water supply.

- **Strategies to recover from drought:**

A description of the activities your farm business is currently undertaking or is likely to undertake to recover from drought when conditions improve. If you plan on carrying out planting and restocking activities, you will need to provide supporting evidence that seasonal conditions allow planting and/or restocking activities to commence.

*Note:*

*In very limited circumstances, we will consider allowing loan funding for the purchase of additional farmland where it clearly supports the farm business to prepare for drought and achieve long-term viability. If you are proposing to purchase additional farmland, you will need to outline this in your drought management plan and include a business case supported by independent financial advice. Please attach additional information (e.g. business case and financial advice) to your drought loan application form (where applicable).*

**Drought Preparedness**

You must demonstrate that you have taken or will take reasonable steps to prepare your farm business for the effects of drought. Please list the steps you have undertaken and where possible, provide evidence confirming completion of these activities. Some examples are listed below:

- Any use of weather and seasonal climate forecasting products or tools to inform production decisions
- Any proactive water management measures, such as increasing dam capacity, investment in water reticulation and groundwater
- Water-efficient cropping techniques
- Stock management strategies
- Reduction or agistment of stock
- Accumulation of feed reserves for stock or sale
- Adoption of early weaning practices.

**Drought Management**

You must provide a description of the practices your farm business undertakes to manage through drought conditions. Please list the steps you have undertaken and where possible, provide evidence confirming completion of these activities. Activities may include financial management, grazing land management, livestock management or activities to manage water supply and crops.

**Drought Recovery**

You must provide a description of the activities your farm business is currently undertaking, or is likely to undertake, to recover from drought when conditions improve. If you plan on carrying out planting and restocking activities, you will need to provide supporting evidence that seasonal conditions allow planting and/or restocking activities to commence.