



TasFarmers is an active and powerful advocacy organisation dedicated to the best interests of all farmers, and to making a difference in rural communities in Tasmania.

In a world of social, economic and environmental volatility, combined with increasing regulation, TasFarmers provides a strong, united voice to ensure our Tasmanian farmers are represented when decisions are made that impact Tasmanian agriculture.

TasFarmers is committed to achieving this through active, effective engagement and advocacy with all levels of government and other stakeholders, to ensure our members can continue to operate sustainable, profitable agricultural businesses.

TasFarmers Values

Safety First, Respect for People, Teamwork, Integrity and Industry Aware

Position Description

The position of the Drought Community Support Coordinator will support TasFarmers as the eminent policy and advocacy body for Tasmanian farmers and agriculture, in collaboration with relevant rural support service organisations, TAS Farm Innovation Hub and Tasmanian Government agencies. As a member of a small but effective team this role will for a fixed period support regions of Tasmania to prepare for, respond to and recover from drought. The role will be based within the community being supported and ideally the candidate will be a local member of that community (although not essential).

Responsibilities

- Collaborate effectively with TasFarmers, State Government and TAS Farm Innovation Hub and other stakeholders to support members and communities within agricultural regions that are preparing for, or currently impacted by drought.
- Seek input from communities impacted by drought to understand current constraints, risks and further needs
- Support coordination of drought preparedness and in-drought response activities including
 - Logistics coordination to assist farmers in the sourcing of feed, and de-stocking.
 - Access to technical support and advice, and
 - Access to tools and information from relevant State Government programs, TAS Farm Innovation Hub, Rural Financial Counselling Service, Farm Business Resilience Program, and Australian Government Hardship and Support Programs such as Farm Household Allowance, Farm Management Deposits, Regional Investment Corporation
 - Liaise with TAS Farm Innovation hub and NRE to support coordination of drought preparedness and response extension activities, workshops and events in the region.
- Help local farmers to connect with community and Government support programs and information services to meet immediate needs (e.g. Rural Alive and Well, LifeLine, NRE Tas (e.g. AgriGrowth, Liaison Officers, Biosecurity Tasmania, Animal Welfare, Water)

- Support TasFarmers to engage with Future Drought Fund initiatives such as the Regional Drought Resilience Program and Farm Business Resilience Program, and TAS Farm Innovation Hub to enhance the understanding of constraints, risks and future needs to build drought preparedness
- Post drought, support recovery activities and resilience development
- Provide high quality, evidence-based advice to TasFarmers, NRE and TAS Farm Innovation Hub to support advocacy activities and inform extension and other support activities.
- Provide weekly reports of current state, key activities delivered, further supports required to TasFarmers, State Government and TAS Farm Innovation Hub
- Contribute monitoring and evaluation data, and contribute to discussions with TAS Farmers, NRE, and TAS Farm Innovation Hub about the effectiveness and value of the role, and any lessons for similar roles in the future.
- Maintain confidences and sensitive information shared through role
- Maintain a clean, safe, and healthy working environment

Qualifications and Experience:

- Experience within the agricultural sector
- Understanding of rural community settings
- Skills and experience in logistics coordination
- Experience in stakeholder relationship management and community engagement
- Strong communication skills
- Self direction, organisation and coordination skills
- Basic computer literacy and experience with Microsoft Office suite of applications
- Hold a current Tasmanian driver licence

Reporting

This position reports directly to the Projects and Advocacy Leader

Key Relationships

Internally

Chief Executive Officer
 Policy Advisors
 Program and Project Officers
 TasFarmers Staff
 TasFarmers Board, Councils & Committees
 TasFarmers Members

Externally

Community Members
 NRE Tasmania
 TAS Farm Innovation Hub (Drought Hub) incl
 Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture
 NRE Tasmania
 Department State Growth
 Rural Alive and Well
 Rural Business Tasmania
 Business & Industry Service Providers
 Forum of Rural Stakeholders

Other

Members of the general public

Term

Fixed Term - Four months. This may be extended based on further need.

