

# Wine Industry Support

*The Victorian Government is providing a range of measures to support the wine industry following recent bushfires. This comes in addition to the strong investment in programs and services already provided to Victorian wine makers and grape growers.*

SUPPORT TO ASSESS AND MANAGE THE IMPACTS OF BUSHFIRE SMOKE		
<p><b>Wine Grape Testing Rebate</b></p>	<p>The Victorian Government is providing a rebate to assist Victorian wine grape growers assess the impact of smoke exposure from the 2019-20 bushfires on wine grapes grown during the 2019-20 growing season.</p> <p>The program offers a rebate of up to \$1,200 to Victorian wine grape growers on wine grape, grape juice and wine samples submitted for laboratory analysis between 1 January 2020 and 30 April 2020.</p>	<p>For further information contact Rural Finance on 1800 260 425, <a href="http://www.ruralfinance.com.au">www.ruralfinance.com.au</a> or <a href="mailto:governmentservices@ruralfinance.com.au">governmentservices@ruralfinance.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>Technical advice and support</b></p>	<p>A technical support package will be delivered to ensure that growers, wine makers and regional associations are supported to understand and respond to the impacts of smoke exposure on wine made in the current vintage.</p>	<p>For more information, contact Agriculture Victoria: <a href="mailto:smoke.taint@agriculture.vic.gov.au">smoke.taint@agriculture.vic.gov.au</a></p>
<p><b>Shuttle service to laboratories</b></p>	<p>Agriculture Victoria currently provides a shuttle service to enable the movement of wine grape samples from phylloxera management zones to designated laboratories for smoke taint testing.</p> <p>Frozen diagnostic samples will be picked up at regional collection points.</p> <p><b>North East Victoria Collection Points</b></p> <p><b>Rutherglen:</b> DJPR Rutherglen, 124 Chiltern Valley Road, Rutherglen.</p> <p><b>King Valley:</b> Brown Brothers, 239 Milawa-Bobinawarra Rd, Milawa.</p> <p><b>Southern Victoria Collection Points</b></p> <p><b>Yarra Valley:</b> Domaine Chandon, 727 Maroondah Hwy, Coldstream (access via Loading Dock).</p>	<p>For more information, contact Agriculture Victoria: <a href="mailto:smoke.taint@agriculture.vic.gov.au">smoke.taint@agriculture.vic.gov.au</a></p> <p><b>North East Victoria</b> Andy Clark, 0436 804 656</p> <p><b>Southern Victoria</b> Yan Lai, 0436 830 944</p>

	<p><b>Mornington Peninsula:</b> Moorooduc Estate, 501 Derril Rd, Moorooduc.</p> <p><b>Gippsland:</b> Traralgon Vineyard, Burnets Rd, Traralgon East.</p>	
<b>RECOVERY ASSISTANCE FOR THOSE IMPACTED BY BUSHFIRES</b>		
<p><b>Emergency Bushfire Response in Primary Industries Grants (Commonwealth/State support)</b></p>	<p>Grants of up to \$75,000 to assist primary producers directly affected by the 2019-2020 bushfire with recovery costs.</p> <p>Eligible activities include rebuilding or replacing damaged or destroyed on-farm infrastructure, including fencing and trellises.</p> <p>Wine grape growers who are located in eligible fire affected local government areas and have had crops affected by smoke taint may be able to claim for costs associated with the salvage, harvest and disposal of the smoke taint affected crops. Where no fire has occurred on the property, evidence of smoke impact, such as smoke taint testing results are required.</p> <p>Available in eligible fire affected local government areas across Victoria.</p>	<p>For further information contact Rural Finance 1800 260 425 or <a href="http://www.ruralfinance.com.au">www.ruralfinance.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>Victorian Bushfires Concessional Loans (Commonwealth/State support)</b></p>	<p>Concessional loans of up to \$500,000 are available to support small business, primary producers and non-profit organisations impacted by the Victorian bushfires that commenced 21 November 2019.</p> <p>The loans are intended to be used for the purposes of restoring and/or replacing damaged assets and/or to meet working capital expenses.</p> <p>Available to eligible wine grape growers in Ararat, Alpine, Ballarat, East Gippsland, Glenelg, Golden Plains, Greater Bendigo, Indigo, Mansfield, Moyne, Northern Grampians, Pyrenees, Southern Grampians, Strathbogie, Towong, Wangaratta, Wellington and Wodonga.</p>	<p>For further information contact Rural Finance 1800 260 425 or <a href="http://www.ruralfinance.com.au">www.ruralfinance.com.au</a></p>
<p><b>Small Business Bushfire Recovery Grants</b></p>	<p>Grants of up to \$50,000 are available for small businesses and non-profit organisations (who are not primary producers) that have suffered direct</p>	<p>For further information contact the Victorian Chamber of Commerce and Industry 03 8662 5160 or</p>

<b>(Commonwealth/State Support)</b>	damage as a result of bushfire. Grants are to help pay for costs of clean-up and reinstatement of eligible small businesses.	<a href="http://www.victorianchamber.com.au/bushfires">www.victorianchamber.com.au/bushfires</a>
<b>Small Business Bushfire Support Grant (Commonwealth/State support)</b>	<p>Grants of up to \$10,000 to support small businesses (including primary producers) significantly affected by the 2019-20 bushfires to recover and rebuild resilient businesses.</p> <p>Eligible activities include meeting standard business costs, seeking financial advice, adjusting the business to be viable in the changed local context following bushfire and improvements to make the business more resilient to future disasters.</p> <p>Available to eligible small businesses in the local government areas of East Gippsland, Towong and Alpine who have suffered a decline in revenue of 40 per cent or more in a relevant three-month period.</p> <p>Businesses can apply for this grant in addition to other bushfire grants.</p>	For further information contact Rural Finance 1800 260 425 or <a href="http://www.ruralfinance.com.au">www.ruralfinance.com.au</a>

## FINANCIAL COUNSELLING

<b>Rural Financial Counselling Service</b>	<p>The Rural Financial Counselling Service provides free financial counselling to farmers and small related businesses who are in, or at risk of, financial hardship.</p> <p>Counsellors can provide referrals to other professional services including accountants, agricultural advisors, education, or wellbeing support services.</p> <p>Counsellors can also assist applicants to apply for financial support.</p>	Call the Rural Financial Counselling Service on 1800 686 175.
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## AGRICULTURE VICTORIA ACTIVITIES AND GRANTS

<b>Tackling Phylloxera and related research and development (\$1.9 million)</b>	<p>Phylloxera is a small insect that feed on the roots and sometimes the leaves of grapevines. It can severely damage the plant and cause it to die. Agriculture Victoria leads a comprehensive program to reduce the burden of managing phylloxera.</p> <p>This includes:</p>	For more information, visit: <a href="http://agriculture.vic.gov.au">agriculture.vic.gov.au</a>
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	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• research and development on novel methods of detection for phylloxera such as aerial drone surveillance and a rapid DNA-based field methodology,</li> <li>• social research to understand attitudes towards biosecurity and any barriers to the use of best practices</li> <li>• state-wide awareness campaign to improve awareness of biosecurity risks in viticulture.</li> <li>• a surveillance program to confirm the phylloxera-free status of the Mornington Peninsula</li> </ul>	
<b>Agriculture Energy Investment Plan (\$30 million)</b>	The Agriculture Energy Investment Plan provides free on-farm energy assessments for eligible businesses, including wine grape growers and wineries. Grants are also provided for businesses to invest in energy efficient or own-generation technology.	For more information: <a href="http://agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture/farm-management/agriculture-energy-investment-plan">agriculture.vic.gov.au/agriculture / farm-management/agriculture-energy-investment-plan</a> or call 136 186
<b>Agriculture Victoria services</b>	<p>Agriculture Victoria provides a broad range of services to support agricultural industries, many are relevant to the wine industry:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Workshops and incentives for farmers to undertake whole farm planning and make improvements in irrigation and on-farm water efficiency</li> <li>• Climate and seasonal risk information providing technical expertise in climate change and industry development.</li> <li>• The Horticulture Industry Network consists of cross-horticultural state and national industry bodies who work towards improving industry capability, accelerating practice change and providing an effective and efficient link between industry, Government, research institutions and innovative businesses.</li> <li>• The Young Farmers Business program provides learning and sharing activities for new entrants and young farmers across all sectors.</li> </ul>	For more information, visit: <a href="http://agriculture.vic.gov.au">agriculture.vic.gov.au</a> or call 136 186
<b>OTHER SUPPORT</b>		
<b>Trade, marketing and tourism</b>	The Victorian Government provides a range of additional programs and activities to support the wine industry, including through	For more information, visit the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions website: <a href="http://djpr.vic.gov.au">djpr.vic.gov.au</a>

	international and domestic marketing, trade, tourism investment and small business advice.	
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	Examples include the Five Pillars program, which targets international wine tourism and the \$5 million Wine to the World election commitment, which supports a series of export development and inbound trade activities to boost the profile of Victorian wines in key export markets (including the US and China).	
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## ACCESSIBILITY

If you would like to receive this publication in an accessible format, please telephone the Department of Jobs, Precincts and Regions on 136 186.

This document is also available in (insert HTML and/or PDF and/or Word) format at <http://www.victoriangovernmentdepartment.vic.gov.au>

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