My Farm Business Plan



**Farm business planning resources and information**

The following resources and information will support you with farm business planning.

**Farm Fitness Checklist**

The Farm Fitness Checklist helps farmers assess where their business is at currently, and to identify areas and opportunities

to strengthen their farm business.

It covers subjects including people management, skills and training, business planning and financial performance, emergency management, infrastructure, water supply, natural resource management, risk management, succession planning, off‑farm activities and more.

Completing the Checklist helps farmers identify areas to prioritise in their farm business plan.

The Checklist can be accessed on the Farm Business Resilience Program webpage: **agriculture.vic.gov.au/FBRP**

**Climate Services for Agriculture**

The Climate Services for Agriculture (CSA) tool helps farmers understand the historical, seasonal and future climate at their location to help them make informed decisions

for their farm business.

It provides farmers with historical data (1961‑2021), seasonal forecasts (1‑3 months) as well as future climate projections based on the 15 years before and after 2030, 2050 and 2070, for a given location.

The CSA tool can also be accessed on the Farm Business Resilience Program webpage: **agriculture.vic.gov.au/FBRP**

**SWOT Analysis**

**SWOT** (**S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats) analysis can be used to assess and plan for your short, medium or longer term goals for your farm business.

It can assist with decision making in a wide variety of circumstances, such as climate risks (e.g. drought, fire, flood, frost), holding or selling stock, farm finances, managing people on farm, and pasture

/ crop management practices.

**Goal Setting**

A key benefit of setting goals is to describe what you want to achieve. Once a goal

is set, the resources and skills required can be identified. Importantly, priorities can also be set.

To make sure your goals are clear and achievable, each one should be **S.M.A.R.T**:

* **S**pecific (simple, sensible, significant).
* **M**easurable (meaningful, motivating).
* **A**chievable (agreed, attainable).
* **R**elevant (reasonable, realistic and resourced, results‑based).
* **T**ime bound (time‑based, time limited, time / cost limited, timely, time‑sensitive).





|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Author |  |
| Producer name: |  |  |  |
|  |  |  |  |
| Business farm details |  |  |  |
| Business / Property name: |  |  |  |
| Farm address: |  |  |  |
| Town: |  |  |  |
| Enterprise(s): | SheepBeef | MixedDairy | HorticultureGrains |
|  | Other: |  |  |
| Farm size (Ha): |  |  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Farm business vision statement |
| Where do you want your farm business to be? |

3

**SWOT** Analysis of:

**1**

[EXAMPLE my business finances or climate risk]

An analysis of your current enterprise(s) in comparison with other enterprise possibilities. The analysis of your **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats (**SWOT**) can be a useful decision making tool for both small and large scale decisions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|  |  |
| Opportunities | Threats |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Strategies to build on |
| Ways to build on STRENGTHS |  |
| Ways to take advantage of OPPORTUNITIES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of WEAKNESSES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of THREATS |  |

4



Set **S.M.A.R.T.** Goals for:

[EXAMPLE my business finances or climate risk]

To make sure your goals are clear and achievable, each one should be **S.M.A.R.T.** (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, **T**ime bound.) **S.M.A.R.T.** goals are also easy to use by anyone, anywhere, without the need for specialist tools or training.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Goal 1: | [EXAMPLE my business finances] |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |
|  |
| Goal 2: | [EXAMPLE climate risk] |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |

5

**SWOT** Analysis of:

**2**

An analysis of your current enterprise(s) in comparison with other enterprise possibilities. The analysis of your **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats (**SWOT**) can be a useful decision making tool for both small and large scale decisions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|  |  |
| Opportunities | Threats |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Strategies to build on |
| Ways to build on STRENGTHS |  |
| Ways to take advantage of OPPORTUNITIES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of WEAKNESSES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of THREATS |  |

6



Set **S.M.A.R.T.** Goals for:

To make sure your goals are clear and achievable, each one should be **S.M.A.R.T.** (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, **T**ime bound.) **S.M.A.R.T.** goals are also easy to use by anyone, anywhere, without the need for specialist tools or training.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Goal 1: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |
|  |
| Goal 2: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |

7

**SWOT** Analysis of:

**3**

An analysis of your current enterprise(s) in comparison with other enterprise possibilities. The analysis of your **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats (**SWOT**) can be a useful decision making tool for both small and large scale decisions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|  |  |
| Opportunities | Threats |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Strategies to build on |
| Ways to build on STRENGTHS |  |
| Ways to take advantage of OPPORTUNITIES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of WEAKNESSES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of THREATS |  |

8



Set **S.M.A.R.T.** Goals for:

To make sure your goals are clear and achievable, each one should be **S.M.A.R.T.** (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, **T**ime bound.) **S.M.A.R.T.** goals are also easy to use by anyone, anywhere, without the need for specialist tools or training.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Goal 1: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |
|  |
| Goal 2: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |

9

**SWOT** Analysis of:

**4**

An analysis of your current enterprise(s) in comparison with other enterprise possibilities. The analysis of your **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats (**SWOT**) can be a useful decision making tool for both small and large scale decisions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|  |  |
| Opportunities | Threats |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Strategies to build on |
| Ways to build on STRENGTHS |  |
| Ways to take advantage of OPPORTUNITIES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of WEAKNESSES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of THREATS |  |

10



Set **S.M.A.R.T.** Goals for:

To make sure your goals are clear and achievable, each one should be **S.M.A.R.T.** (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, **T**ime bound.) **S.M.A.R.T.** goals are also easy to use by anyone, anywhere, without the need for specialist tools or training.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Goal 1: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |
|  |
| Goal 2: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |

11

**SWOT** Analysis of:

**5**

An analysis of your current enterprise(s) in comparison with other enterprise possibilities. The analysis of your **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats (**SWOT**) can be a useful decision making tool for both small and large scale decisions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|  |  |
| Opportunities | Threats |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Strategies to build on |
| Ways to build on STRENGTHS |  |
| Ways to take advantage of OPPORTUNITIES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of WEAKNESSES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of THREATS |  |

12



Set **S.M.A.R.T.** Goals for:

To make sure your goals are clear and achievable, each one should be **S.M.A.R.T.** (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, **T**ime bound.) **S.M.A.R.T.** goals are also easy to use by anyone, anywhere, without the need for specialist tools or training.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Goal 1: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |
|  |
| Goal 2: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |

13

**SWOT** Analysis of:

**6**

An analysis of your current enterprise(s) in comparison with other enterprise possibilities. The analysis of your **S**trengths, **W**eaknesses, **O**pportunities and **T**hreats (**SWOT**) can be a useful decision making tool for both small and large scale decisions.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Strengths | Weaknesses |
|  |  |
| Opportunities | Threats |
|  |  |

|  |
| --- |
| Strategies to build on |
| Ways to build on STRENGTHS |  |
| Ways to take advantage of OPPORTUNITIES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of WEAKNESSES |  |
| Ways to reduce the effects of THREATS |  |

14



Set **S.M.A.R.T.** Goals for:

To make sure your goals are clear and achievable, each one should be **S.M.A.R.T.** (**S**pecific, **M**easurable, **A**chievable, **R**elevant, **T**ime bound.) **S.M.A.R.T.** goals are also easy to use by anyone, anywhere, without the need for specialist tools or training.

|  |  |
| --- | --- |
| Goal 1: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |
|  |
| Goal 2: |  |
| Overview |  |
| 1 year |  |
| 5 years |  |
| 10 years |  |

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After completing your Farm Business Plan, have a go at prioritising your goals using the Action Plan template.

**Action Plan**

Review date

**PRIORITY:** 1 = High | 3 = Medium | 5 = Low

**The Farm Business Resilience Program is supporting farmers to build stronger, more productive agricultural businesses. Visit: agriculture.vic.gov.au/FBRP**

The Farm Business Resilience Program is jointly funded through the Australian Government’s Future Drought Fund and the Victorian Government’s Future Agriculture Skills Capacity Fund.

L O N G

– T E R M

M E D I U M

– T E R M

S H O R T

– T E R M

Outcome

Information or support required

Time frame

Farm management action proposed

Priority (1-5)

Issue or opportunity identified

The Action Plan template can be accessed on the Farm Business Resilience Program webpage: agriculture.vic.gov.au/FBRP

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Scan for more



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