

Topic	Information by area of interest
Dairy Farming	<p><u>Cool Cows web page.</u> Shifting weather patterns and a trend towards higher temperatures means heat stress and its impact on cow performance, health and welfare is becoming a serious issue for Australian dairy farmers. Dairy Australia is helping farmers adapt to this changing operating environment through the Cool Cows program, which offers dairy farmers and their advisers information and tools to help stay ahead of heat stress. http://www.coolcows.com.au/index.htm</p> <p><u>Dairying for Tomorrow- A practical natural resource management (NRM) program to secure the future of Australia's dairy farms.</u> Dairying for Tomorrow supports dairy farmers and the industry reduce their environmental footprint by enabling activities such as reduced on-farm fertiliser loss, improved effluent systems, retaining native bush and the fencing of waterways. http://www.dairyingfortomorrow.com/index.php?id=17</p>
Beef Farming	<p><u>Feed Demand Calculator</u> Match your natural pasture supply with your livestock demand to increase your productivity and efficiency. How this will help you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Balance feed supply and demand of your herd throughout the year. •Understand the impact of changing time of calving on annual feed demand. •Identify feed gaps and how modifying your stocking rate may help close these gaps. <p>http://tools.mla.com.au/fdc/</p>
Sheep Farming	<p><u>Feed Demand Calculator</u> Match your natural pasture supply with your livestock demand to increase your productivity and efficiency. How this will help you</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> •Balance feed supply and demand of your flock throughout the year. •Understand the impact of changing time of lambing on annual feed demand. •Identify feed gaps and how modifying your stocking rate may help close these gaps. <p>http://tools.mla.com.au/fdc/</p>

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<p>General Grazing enterprises</p>	<p><u>Effect of warming on the productivity of perennial ryegrass and kikuyu pastures in south-eastern Australia</u> Abstract Grazed pastures in south-eastern Australia are typically based on temperate (C3) species, such as perennial ryegrass (<i>Lolium perenne</i>). With predictions of warming to occur in this region, there has been growing interest in the performance of more heat-tolerant and deep-rooted subtropical (C4) pasture grasses, such as kikuyu (<i>Pennisetum clandestinum</i>). This study used an existing pasture model to estimate the production of kikuyu compared with the commonly used perennial ryegrass at seven sites in south-eastern Australia, http://www.publish.csiro.au/?paper=CP12358</p>
<p>Horticulture</p>	<p><u>Vegnotes 39 (2013)</u> Understanding and managing impacts of climate change and variability on vegetable industry productivity and profits. Project VG12041 assessed the likely impacts of climate change and increased climatic variability on the productivity and profitability of the Australian vegetable industry. It aimed to identify measures that could be undertaken to minimise adverse impacts and take advantage of opportunities. http://ausveg.com.au/publications/Vegenotes/Vegenotes39.pdf</p> <p><u>Vegetable Industry Development Program has produced a fact sheet.</u> The fact sheet introduces the causes of climate change and discusses the contribution of horticulture. Possible industry impacts, future adaptations and an instructive case study are also presented. Climate Change: Managing Variability and Carbon http://www.vgavic.org.au/pdf/VIDP_Climate-Carbon.pdf</p>

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<p>General advice for food producers.</p>	<p><u>The Economic Benefits of Native Shelter Belts Report.</u> The protection of existing native vegetation and the planting of shelterbelts may provide a multitude of productivity and biodiversity benefits for farming industries. The value of shelterbelts in raising agricultural productivity has been demonstrated in many countries suggesting potential improvements in crop yields (25%), pasture yields (20-30%), and dairy milk production (10-20%). Read more.. - <u>http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/Files/Sustainability/The_Economic_Benefits_of_Native_Shelter_Belts.PDF</u></p> <p><u>Climate change impacts on pest animals and weeds.</u> Producers are likely to have time to adapt their pest animal and weed management strategies to climate change.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Pests will generally extend southwards and to higher altitudes as a result of warming trends. • Increased pest surveillance is crucial to prevention and management. • With greater climatic variation, strategic pest management will become more important. Read more.. - <u>http://www.southgippsland.vic.gov.au/Files/Sustainability/Climate-change-weeds-and-pests.PDF</u> <p><u>Life Cycle Assessments: A useful tool for Australian agriculture</u> Climate change poses specific challenges for Australia's primary industries, with mounting public concern and media scrutiny about the way food is grown and distributed through markets. As well, there is increasing domestic and international legal and regulatory pressures to reduce greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. All primary industries use energy and water resources throughout their supply chains for purchased inputs, production, processing, refrigeration, transport and retail. Life Cycle Assessment (LCA) is a technique that enables industries to identify the resource flows (inputs such as energy and water) and environmental impacts (such as GHG emissions) associated with the provision of products and services. It is a tool that is being increasingly used by agricultural enterprises for evaluating the environmental impacts associated with a product, process or activity over its entire life cycle, from cradle to grave. http://ausveg.com.au/enviroveg/RIRDC-CCRSPI-LCA-Brochure.pdf</p> <p><u>Weather to pasture outlook tool</u> http://rainfall.mla.com.au/Station/AllLocations</p>

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Weather information	<p><u>Climate Tools for Decision Makers</u> CliMate is a suite of climate analysis tools delivered on the Web, iPhone, iPad and iPod Touch devices. CliMate allows you to interrogate climate records to ask questions relating to rainfall, temperature, radiation, and derived variables such as heat sums, soil water and soil nitrate, and well as El Nino Southern Oscillation status. It is designed for decision makers whose business relies on the weather. http://www.australianclimate.net.au/</p> <p><u>The Climate Dogs</u> Here is the link to the DEPI website with the climate dog animations http://www.depi.vic.gov.au/agriculture-and-food/farm-management/weather-and-climate/understanding-weather-and-climate/the-climatedogs-the-four-drivers-that-influence-victoriaas-climate</p>
Soil Health	<p><u>A free online course.</u> Do you actually know what's in your soil? This free introductory course called 'Getting to Know Your Soil' is rich with information. You'll learn about the best way to grow sustainably. Presented by Dr Elaine Ingham. http://soilfoodwebcourse.com</p> <p><u>Soils are alive</u> This site provides background information relevant to soil health and the sustainable use of land for agriculture, horticulture and other practices, including forestry. The information emphasises the biological processes in soil. http://www.soilhealth.see.uwa.edu.au/index</p> <p><u>Victorian Resources Online</u> Access key information on soils and how to assess them from the Victorian State Government - http://vro.depi.vic.gov.au/dpi/vro/vrosite.nsf/pages/soil_health_tools_1</p>