

# Media Release

**The Hon Ros Spence MP**  
Minister for Agriculture  
Minister for Community Sport  
Minister for Carers and Volunteers



Friday, 7 March 2025

## SAFEGUARDING LIVESTOCK FROM PESTS AND DISEASE

The Allan Labor Government is helping to protect Victoria's thriving agricultural industry with support for new projects that better control pests and disease that impact our livestock.

Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence opened the 2025 Livestock Biosecurity Funds program today, encouraging eligible organisations to apply.

Organisations can use the grants to adopt emerging technologies to respond to unsolved livestock biosecurity issues, encourage collaboration where possible, and provide measurable benefits to livestock and beekeeping industries.

Victoria will continue to face new and emerging biosecurity risks – driven by climate change and increasing trade and travel – so innovative solutions will be essential to help protect Victoria's agriculture industry.

Agriculture Victoria and the state's livestock advisory committees set up the grants program which is funded through duties generated by the sale of cattle, sheep, goat and pigs and their carcasses in Victoria, and beekeeper registration fees.

Prospective applicants joined an online forum today to hear from the livestock advisory committees about what they are hoping to see in applications this round. A recording of the session will be available on the Agriculture Victoria website.

Last year the Cattle Compensation Fund awarded \$1.5 million to Veterinary Support Services to run the Victorian Livestock Veterinary Scholarship program – supporting eight early career veterinarians across regional Victoria, providing one-to-one clinical supervision and training from an experienced large animal veterinarian

To apply visit [agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestockbiosecurityfunds](https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/livestockbiosecurityfunds). Applications close on 14 April.

### Quotes attributable to Minister for Agriculture Ros Spence

*"We want to ensure farmers have the right resources to face biosecurity challenges when they arise, and this program will help them prepare for this."*

*"These grants will help farmers adopt new technologies that will be key to solving complex livestock biosecurity issues."*

### Quote attributable to Cattle Compensation Advisory Committee Chair Ron Harris

*"The Livestock Biosecurity Funds reinvests duties into the industry to help meet emerging biosecurity challenges head on, for the benefit of all livestock producers."*