



VICTORIAN COUNTRY FARMING NEWS

\$3000 REBATE TO INCREASE ON-FARM PRODUCTIVITY

THE Victorian Government has announced a grant to assist farmers affected by drought of up to \$3,000 for farmers in northern Victoria. The grants will fund half the total cost of on-farm infrastructure improvements up to a maximum of \$3000. The infrastructure will help drought proofing and increase productivity of farmers.

The grants apply to the following municipalities in northern Victoria: Mildura, Hindmarsh, West Wimmera, Horsham, Yarriambiack, Buloke, Swan Hill, Gannawarra, Loddon, Northern Grampians, Central Goldfields, Pyrenees, Mount Alexander, Greater Bendigo, Campaspe,



Use the grant to improve your farms efficiency.

Mitchell, Strathbogie, Greater Shepparton, Moira and Benalla. For full eligibility criteria, contact your local Rural Finance branch or see www.ruralfinance.com.au.

Farmers will be able to use the grants to undertake infrastructure improvements such as feeding systems to minimise feed losses. Proprietor of Advantage Feeders, Gerard Roney said this is a great opportunity for farmers to pay off infrastructure in half the time. Farmers have felt the pinch of the high feed prices due to the recent droughts. This program will have a practical implication on-farm as it will reduce feeding costs by saving waste. It will also reduce overheads as less feed will need to be bought or stocked for when supplement feeding is needed.

Roney said Advantage Feeders grain and hay feeders often saved 20% of feed through reducing waste. This is seen on your bottom line and will continue to for many years. These feeders can be adjusted to feed a low 15% ration due to the dual

adjustment system which make them ideal for supplement feeding, especially when feed costs are so high.

The other main benefit of these products is the saving in labour from tending stock. This can be significant, because the grain feeders contain about 2.5 tonnes and the hay feeders contain complete bales.

Roney said a simple calculation can show the value of these feeders. Example: feeding 250 ewes, from January to June, by 1 feeder, ration of 0.25 kg/day, cost of \$360/tonne and a 15% saving in waste, will save over \$600 a year without equating the saving of labour. With a saving of this magnitude and the grain feeders retailing for \$1280 +GST, the feeders can almost repay themselves in just one year after the grant rebate. Roney said there hasn't been a better opportunity to buy these products.

Advantage Feeders products are sold in all Landmark stores. More information can be found at www.advantagefeeders.com.au. Details: Roney 1300 88 15 75 or gerard.roney@advantagefeeders.com.au in regard to are inquiries you have about waste saving feeding equipment.

FLAT PACK FEEDERS INCREASE EFFICIENCY AND SAVE WASTE

ADVANTAGE Feeders understands that increasing on farm efficiency is vital, but only if it is cost-effective to do so. For this reason, they have developed a feed outlet system on its grain and pellet self-feeders that can

more accurately and safely control the outflow of feed while being offered to farmers flat packed or assembled. The superior rationing ability can eliminate the risk of grain poisoning as fresh stock onto the feeders can be weaned on from a low 15% ration, up to full ration over a 2 week period to correctly adjust to different feed. The feeders are transported Australia-wide and transport is usually free! This is achieved because 6 grain feeders can be stacked on a single pallet so freight is included in the price.

With the ability of feeding a low ration, the advanced adjustment system makes the feeders highly versatile as they can also be placed out in paddocks to supplement stock. This is achieved because there are 8 adjustment gauges on the feeder to help set the outflow and a volume scale so the farmer can easily keep track of feed outflow. Roney said that a lot of farmers use the feeders in a feed lot situation to finish their stock off for market and then put them out with their mature stock to supplement feed. Therefore, the feeders are more cost-effective through higher functionality.

Advantage Feeders prides itself on its weather protection so there is less wasted feed and restricted need to clean outlets. The feeders are easy to move from paddock to paddock as they are mounted on skids and can be lifted with forks on a FEL.

Roney said that the use of the grain and pellet feeders for supplement feeding has become increasingly accepted recently because farmers cant afford to be putting feed on the ground, especially at the current price of grain.

Advantage Feeders also make hay heeders that can dramatically reduce hay and silage waste by stopping stock from trampling, ruining and spreading the hay around. These are particularly suitable for sheep, lambs and calves as they can gain full access to the bales. The feeders can handle all round and square bales.

Advantage Feeders products are retailed in all Landmark stores, but feel free to contact Roney on 1300 88 15 75 or email to gerard.roney@advantagefeeders.com.au in regard to are inquiries you have.

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