

Australian Dairy Farmers Limited
Level 2, Swann House
22 William Street
Melbourne Victoria 3000

Phone +61 3 8621 4200
Fax +61 3 8621 4280

www.australiandairyfarmers.com.au

ABN 76 060 549 653

Tuesday October 15 2019

Australian Dairy Farmers statement on re-regulating the dairy industry

For Immediate Release

AUSTRALIAN Dairy Farmers (ADF) welcomes the recognition that dairy farmers are doing it tough, with sustained high input costs and flat farmgate returns leading to increasing numbers of farmers exiting the industry.

ADF does not have policy to support re-regulation of the Australian dairy industry. We have supported the Mandatory Code of Conduct and we look forward to the Government's draft code, which we expect will be released shortly for comment.

The industry supported de-regulation nearly 20 years ago. The federal Government initiated the Dairy Structural Adjustment Program, which provided \$1.63 billion in payments to farmers, and the Supplementary Dairy Assistance Package, which provided a further \$120 million to farmers, to make the transition to a deregulated environment.

We will continue to work with our state member organisations, the Government and Opposition, Senator Pauline Hanson as well as other representatives in Canberra to ensure that all suitable action be taken to secure the sustainability of dairy farmers. Sustainable pricing through the supply chain is paramount and we will continue, in concert with our members and the Government, to identify the most suitable actions that support dairy farmers.

Clearly this is an extremely complex policy discussion, particularly given our export exposure. However, it is important to note that the dairy the industry is at a critical point and these issues must be addressed.

-ends-

For further information, contact:

Ashley Mackinnon
Media & Communications Manager, Australian Dairy Farmers
Tel: 0447 161 919
Email: media@australiandairyfarmers.com.au