



**THE HON DAVID LITTLEPROUD MP**  
Minister for Agriculture and Northern Australia

**SENATOR THE HON JONNO DUNIAM**  
Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries  
Assistant Minister for Industry Development  
Senator for Tasmania

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## **Liberal National Government creates history with new Agriculture Visa**

The Liberal National Government has delivered a vital agriculture visa to help secure the future of rural and regional Australia.

The Agricultural Worker Visa will provide a long term, reliable workforce for our critical industries while solving one of the great challenges facing regional Australia in recent history.

Assistant Minister for Forestry and Fisheries Jonno Duniam said he was incredibly proud to be a part of the government that has consistently fought for and delivered for regional communities.

“The agriculture visa will be in place by the end of September 2021, with the full implementation of this demand driven visa complete within three years,” Assistant Minister Duniam said.

“The visa will be open to applicants from a range of countries and will be available to skilled, semi-skilled and unskilled workers.

“It will include meat processing, fisheries and forestry sectors and provide a basis for the ongoing growth of our primary industries.

“We’ve listened to our communities and our industries, and this is what they’ve asked for. This will also help keep our next generation in Tasmania knowing that the future of regional Australia is bright and prosperous.”

Deputy Leader of the Nationals and Minister for Agriculture, David Littleproud said the agriculture workforce shortage has been a major issue during COVID.

“While our farmers and industries have gone about their work keeping Australians and the world fed and clothed, they have done so under workforce constraints,” Minister Littleproud said.

“With the changes to the Working Holiday Maker program following the UKFTA, the Government knew this was the time to put the agriculture visa in place.

“This is a structural change to the agricultural workforce. It gives our farmers a confidence to know they can go and plant a crop and know that they’ll be able to get it off.

“It will complement the Pacific programs we have got in place, and we will also be considering permanent residency options under the new Ag visa.”

**ENDS**

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