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TASMANIAN GOVERNMENT MEDIA RELEASE

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water
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Agfest back in the paddock

Agfest is one of the highlights of the Tasmanian rural calendar, and today I was pleased to join crowds and organisers to celebrate its return.

Agfest was forced to move online in 2020 due to COVID-19, so yesterday's official opening marked a significant milestone for the much loved event.

Our Government provided \$65,000 for the Agfest in the Cloud online portal in 2020, and also committed \$300,000 in the 2020-21 State Budget to assist Rural Youth Tasmania return Agfest to the paddock in 2021.

The event will run over four days, and will comply with public health regulations and restrictions, including patron numbers and entry and exit points to ensure the health and safety of Tasmanians.

The iconic event has been a Tasmanian tradition for more than 35 years, and is a significant contributor to the state's economy and agriculture sector.

We understand the importance of growing this vital sector, committing almost \$50 million over the next four years to accelerate the industry.

Agfest's return to the paddock will also help to support our vision to grow the farm-gate value of agriculture to \$10 billion by 2050.