



4 September 2020

Guy Barnett, Minister for Primary Industries and Water

## Tasmanians encouraged to help with seasonal worker demand

Tasmanians in need of work are being encouraged to support our vital agriculture industry and apply for work to help with the upcoming planting, production and harvest seasons.

While COVID-19 is presenting some unique challenges to our agricultural sector and impacting seasonal workers, there is immense opportunity for Tasmanians in need of work, especially young people such as university and working-age students, to help these vital industries while gaining new skills and experience.

The industry is recruiting right now to ensure it has the appropriate workforce needed to harvest produce, which feeds our state and nation.

Tasmanians can log onto the Harvest Trail at <https://jobsearch.gov.au/harvest/workers/> where there are more than 1150 jobs available for the upcoming season. Jobs are also being advertised through platforms like Gumtree and social media.

As part of our \$1.9 million Agricultural Workforce Resilience Package, a local agricultural jobs campaign will also kick off in coming weeks encouraging Tasmanians to consider new career options to help meet immediate labour needs in the industry.

We are also working to ensure there are contingency plans in place to ensure we have a harvest-ready workforce to address labour gaps.

Public health officials are working to determine how the movement of agricultural workers can be facilitated.

Tasmanians can rest assured we will not do anything to put our state at risk.

The Tasmanian Government has a target to grow the value of state's agricultural production to \$10 billion by 2050 and mobilising Tasmania's workforce to boost these pillar industries will be vital as our economy responds and rebuilds in future months.