



Annual Report

2023-24



QUEENSLAND
FARMERS'
FEDERATION



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CITATION Queensland Farmers' Federation Ltd 2024. Annual Report 2023-24. QFF, Brisbane.

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President's report

Aaron Kiely
President
Queensland Farmers' Federation

The 2023-24 year has been a strong one for QFF and our members with a number of achievements that are well worth celebrating.

In August QFF expanded our Celebration of Queensland Agriculture Ekka event attracting key stakeholders, including the agriculture ministers and other representatives at both the state and federal level.

This event was followed by our National Agriculture Day Breakfast on Friday, 17 November. The event included an engaging panel discussion on AgTech featuring commentary from QFF members Queensland Fruit & Vegetable Growers, Canegrowers and Cotton Australia on the innovation and advances being made in their industries, supported by a keynote speech from Phil Morle of the CSIRO. Following this sold out breakfast, QFF hosted a showcase in Brisbane CBD inviting the public to join QFF and our members to celebrate farmers and the agriculture sector.

This year QFF attended Beef Australia's Beef Week giving our peak body members and corporate partners a presence at Australian agriculture's biggest event which provides an invaluable networking opportunity for anyone who works within the agriculture sector.

QFF advocated strongly on behalf of our 18 peak body members throughout the year on workforce, farm finance, rural planning, workplace health and safety, and environment and natural resource management. On the latter issue QFF played a leading role in advocating for the Queensland Premier to introduce legislation banning carbon capture and storage in the Queensland component of the Great Artesian Basin (GAB).

Through our peak body members, QFF represents the interests of more than 13,000 primary producers across the state, including those of Cotton Australia, Canegrowers, Queensland Fruit & Vegetable Growers, eastAUSmilk and Nursery & Garden Industry Queensland. Each of these peak bodies remained committed in coming together

and working closely with QFF this year to achieve significant outcomes on behalf of their farmer members, their commodities, and the agriculture sector more broadly. I'd like to thank the CEOs and staff of our members for their ongoing engagement with QFF and unwavering commitment to working together to ensure a strong, unified voice for Queensland agriculture.

I extend this thanks to the QFF CEO Jo Sheppard and the entire QFF team. The team has continued to grow in the last year, delivering a tremendous amount of value to Queensland agriculture across our policy, advocacy and project work. The QFF team continues to work closely with our members ensuring our work is aligned to maximise impact for their grower members.

I'd like to express my thanks to the QFF Board and Council, QFF's policy committee representatives, as well as our members for all the work that they have done in the past year. I would also like to acknowledge my predecessor Allan Dingle and his work for QFF and the broader agriculture sector during his four-year term as President.

The QFF culture is second to none at the board level and across the QFF team. It is a privilege to work with such a positive, genuinely collaborative group of people who are dedicated to achieving results to support the future of Queensland agriculture.

In writing this report at the end of my first year as President of QFF, I look forward to continuing to work with this talented and dedicated group of professionals on the numerous challenges and opportunities we envisage on the horizon for Queensland agriculture.



CEO's report

Jo Sheppard
CEO
Queensland Farmers' Federation

2023-24 has been a year of significant advocacy priorities and strategic engagements for QFF on behalf of our 18 peak body members.

We have advocated strongly alongside our members and are proud to have supported significant policy achievements across key issues including biosecurity, water, energy, and land use planning.

QFF and our members have delivered high impact submissions across critical policy areas. These included energy submissions to the Queensland Competition Authority, the Australian Energy Regulator, and the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner on energy pricing, social licence, and community engagement.

We also provided a number of important water policy submissions during the year at both a state and federal level on issues such as water quality and productivity, a range of regional water plans, and the delivery of the Murray-Darling Basin Plan.

One of the highlights of the year was the leading role QFF and our members played in building community and government awareness of the whole of community opposition to the carbon capture and storage (CCS) project which was proposed for the Great Artesian Basin (GAB).

Following more than 18 months of advocacy alongside the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), regional mayors, fellow peak bodies, conservationists, and members of the community, QFF played an instrumental role in the Queensland Government's decision to put regulations in place to protect the Queensland component of the GAB from future CCS proposals.

This project and CCS in water producing aquifers in the GAB more broadly posed a significant risk for Queensland agriculture, water security, and regional communities. The policy outcome we achieved is a clear example of what is possible through peak body collaboration, a unified approach to advocacy, and the power of a whole of community approach.

With the State Government Election in October 2024, QFF and our peak body members worked together to develop policy priorities, engaging with political parties to advocate and secure commitments on the things that matter to the future of our state's food, fibre, and foliage production.

2023-24 also saw the continued success of QFF's corporate partner program which is supporting QFF's important policy work and providing our peak body member collective with an incredible diversity of commercial knowledge relevant to the future of the Queensland agriculture sector.

I thank the QFF Board, Council, and staff, and our members and corporate partners for all the incredible work they do to work together to build a strong future for Queensland agriculture. I would also like to acknowledge changes to the role of QFF President during the year, extend my thanks to outgoing QFF President Allan Dingle for his service and welcome Aaron Kiely as the incoming QFF President.

Together, we are contributing to a stronger future for agriculture and future generations. QFF's peak body membership model brings commodity and farmer membership organisations together so that we can collectively continue to strive to ensure a strong, united voice for agriculture.

I would like to acknowledge and thank the ongoing commitment of QFF's peak body members to coming to the QFF table together for the benefit of their members and the future of Queensland agriculture.

There are many challenges and opportunities ahead, and I look forward to working with all of you to achieve outcomes for the 13,000 Queensland farmers QFF and our peak body members represent.

About the Queensland Farmers' Federation

The Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF) is the united voice of agriculture in Queensland.

Our members are agricultural peak bodies who collectively represent more than 13,000 farmers who produce food, fibre and foliage across the state.

QFF's peak body members come together to develop policy and lead cutting edge projects on the key issues that are important to their farmer members and the Queensland agriculture sector.

Together, we form a strong, unified voice leveraging our effectiveness by working together to drive policy and initiatives that support a strong future for Queensland agriculture.



Our areas of expertise



Water



Energy



Biosecurity



**Workforce planning,
including education and
training and workplace
health and safety**



**Land use planning,
regional development
and co-existence**



**Agricultural
productivity**



**Environmental
sustainability and natural
resource management**



**Farm business planning,
including risk management and
resilience building**



**Waste management and
resource recovery**



**Animal health
and welfare**

Our history

QFF was formally established in 1992 to provide a united voice for the Queensland agriculture sector and to effectively advocate for sectorwide issues with a unity of purpose.



The establishment of QFF saw the unification of:

■ **The Council of Agriculture (1922 – 1992)** which was made up of 18 former statutory agriculture bodies,

■ **The Queensland Producers' Federation (1969 – 1989)** which was a broad coalition of agricultural commodity groups, and

■ In 2008, the **Queensland Irrigators' Council (1999- 2008)**.

QFF has since grown its membership to 18 peak state and national agriculture industry organisations, and the state's irrigation groups. Collectively, through its membership, QFF represents more than 13,000 primary producers across Queensland.

Today, QFF is recognised as an influential and respected leader in policy development and advocacy with a strong history of driving change to improve the operating environment for Queensland farmers.

2023-24 highlights

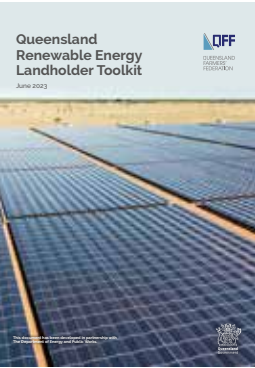


The Industry Recovery and Resilience Officer (IRRO) program kicks off to assist impacted primary producers recover from the impacts of the 2021-2022 flooding and cyclone events.

July 2023

July 2023

Queensland Renewable Energy Landholder Toolkit officially launches to support farmers and landholders make informed decisions about renewable energy projects on their farm.



November 2023

Annual National Ag Day Breakfast hosted discussing AgTech. The breakfast was followed by a showcase of Queensland agriculture with QFF members in Brisbane's CBD.



QFF thanks outgoing President Allan Dingle and welcomes new President Aaron Kiely.

November 2023



October 2023

QFF's on-farm energy efficiency program, Energy SQ, expands to the Toowoomba and Western Downs regions. The program goes on to be extended to the Lockyer Valley and Scenic Rim regions in March 2024.



August 2023

Annual Celebration of Queensland Agriculture event held as part of the 2023 Ekka.



The Agricultural Extension Work Placement Program (AEWPP) sees eight early career extension professionals placed in with host agribusinesses /natural resource management organisations to assist landholders in the Great Barrier Reef catchment areas.

March 2024

March 2024

QFF hosts “Just A Farmer” movie screening in Toowoomba with writer, producer and lead actress of the film Leila McDougall. Just A Farmer depicts the impact of mental health on rural farming families and communities in Australia.



May 2024

QFF commences SmartAg Queensland, an industry-led initiative designed to respond to the needs of farmers by delivering relevant training, in partnership with Canegrowers, Queensland Fruit & Vegetable Growers and Cotton Australia.



QFF heads to Beef24 to celebrate Queensland agriculture and Growing together: Every industry, every plate, and every person.

May 2024



May 2024

Queensland Premier the Hon Steven Miles announces ban on carbon capture and storage (CCS) in the Great Artesian Basin (GAB) following two years of advocacy from QFF and other peak industry bodies. QFF led a Queensland Parliamentary e-petition, sponsored by Robbie Katter MP, which received more than 1,200 signatures, a whole of community delegation to the Premier and a state-wide media campaign. This advocacy led to the Queensland Government putting protections in place for the Queensland component of the GAB.



Agritourism Queensland officially launches as the new peak body to represent and advocate on behalf of farmers who diversify their farming operations into agritourism.

June 2024



June 2024

QFF launches the Energy Information Service for Landholders and Queensland Ag Energy Hub to assist farmers make informed decisions about energy on their farm.

Our priorities





Water

Water planning, security, and pricing is a key focus for QFF's advocacy activity. Pressures on Queensland water resources are continuing to increase due to a changing climate, growing population in regional areas, urban spread across south-east Queensland, and competing uses from the mining and renewable energy sectors.

QFF engages strongly at both the state and national level to provide input into water planning processes to ensure water availability and affordability for agriculture and existing water entitlement holders.

Our top 3 priorities

1. Ongoing engagement with SunWater and Seqwater to ensure affordable bulk and distribution water prices.
2. Advocacy to ensure that sufficient water allocation is maintained and prioritised to meet current and future agricultural production demands and industry prosperity through national water reform and development of a future National Water Agreement.
3. Continued advocacy on behalf of the agriculture sector in state regional water assessments and water plan updates to ensure future water availability and security. Advocacy on local issues including the Lower Burdekin Rising Groundwater impacts on the agriculture sector and the restoration of Paradise Dam.



Our advocacy highlights

Water security and affordability

- Extensive representation in Queensland Government, Murray Darling, SunWater and Seqwater committees and advisory groups to advocate for water security and affordability.
- Advocacy for affordable bulk and distribution water prices for SunWater and Seqwater schemes and for agriculture to pay economically prudent and efficient costs of operation, maintenance, and refurbishment.
- Advocacy for the extension of the irrigator discount.
- Support for farmers to drive on-farm water efficiency.

Water planning

- Working toward a balanced approach to emerging and new water uses, including indigenous cultural values and environmental objectives, and that this is supported in balance with existing water entitlements and supporting water-dependant communities.
- Continued advocacy in state regional water assessments and water plan updates to ensure future water availability and security, and feeding input into the processes to represent agriculture amongst competing pressures and uses for current and future water resources.

Pricing reviews

- Advocacy on behalf of QFF members to the Queensland Competition Authority (QCA) about irrigation price reviews for 2024-25 and Price Investigation for 2025-2029.

No CCS in the GAB campaign

QFF launched the #noCCSinthegAB campaign in February 2023 in opposition to CTSCo's (a subsidiary of Glencore) proposed carbon capture and storage (CCS) project in the Great Artesian Basin (GAB).

The GAB is one of the largest underground freshwater resources in the world. It generates approximately \$13 billion in value to the national economy every year and is a vital resource for 180,000 people, 7,600 businesses and 120 towns. If approved, CTSCo's project would have seen CO₂ from a coal fired power station injected into the GAB.

QFF provided an initial submission to the project's Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) strongly encouraging government to reject the project and to amend legislation to enable the banning of CCS in the GAB in the future. QFF also commissioned an independent water analysis in regard to the project which provided strong evidence against allowing the project to proceed.

Along with the Local Government Association of Queensland (LGAQ), the Queensland Conservation Council (QCC), industry peak bodies and the community, QFF continued to call on Queensland Premier the Hon Steven Miles to reject the proposal and put regulations in place to protect the Queensland component of the GAB.

An e-petition, sponsored by Robbie Katter MP and led by QFF, received more than 12,000 signatures showing strong opposition to the proposed project.

QFF led a whole of community delegation to the Premier, and a state-wide media campaign to raise awareness of the significant potential impacts of this project, remaining steadfastly focused on achieving an outcome to protect the Queensland component of the GAB.

This work was rewarded when the state's environmental regulators handed down their decision in late May 2024 to reject the project's EIS due to the significant risk it posed to critical groundwater relied upon by Queensland agriculture, rural communities and the environment.

Premier Miles then responded to QFF's advocacy and announced a permanent ban on CCS in the Queensland component of the GAB.



QFF would like to acknowledge the efforts of the peak bodies that worked tirelessly alongside QFF to achieve the positive outcome for Queensland agriculture and regional communities. In particular, we thank John Coward for his initial advocacy in relation to the proposed project, LGAQ, QCC, other peak bodies who advocated alongside us, and regional Mayors from across Queensland.

QFF continues to work alongside industry peak bodies to advocate for amendments to the Environment Protection and Biodiversity Conservation Act (EPBC) to protect the GAB nationally.



Highlights

- ▶ 12,000+ signatures received in opposition to the proposed CCS in the GAB project
- ▶ A strong advocacy and collaborative approach, led by QFF, has protected the Queensland component of the GAB for future generations.
- ▶ Policy change rapidly delivered through evidence-based advocacy and a whole of community approach.

Energy

Energy is an essential input for growers and producers in Queensland and this significant input cost is impacting farm profitability. QFF remains committed to advocating for affordable, reliable, and secure energy for farm businesses throughout Queensland.

Regional Queensland is undergoing a major transformation in the shift to a renewable energy system by hosting renewables and new grid infrastructure such as transmission lines. This process

requires genuine consultation and community engagement. QFF continues to lead advocacy and drive initiatives that support effective land use planning in the roll-out of renewable energy in Queensland.

QFF continues to call strongly for energy affordability and reliability for Queensland's food, fibre and foliage producers, as well as support for farmers to make informed decisions about their land use.

Our top 3 priorities

1. Affordable and flexible energy pricing structures tailored to support the clean energy needs of agriculture producers, ensuring that the transition to electrification and renewable energy sources are economically viable for farmers.
2. Supporting on-farm energy efficiency and security through targeted energy audit programs that help farmers better understand their energy usage, identify opportunities for cost savings, and reduce carbon emissions.
3. Ensuring that farmers have access to reliable and current information about Queensland's renewable energy transformation, helping them make informed decisions for their operations.



Our advocacy highlights

Renewable energy transition

QFF has been at the forefront of the renewable energy transition. We actively engaged in discussions on the Regional Energy Transformation Partnerships Framework and the Queensland Renewable Energy Zones (REZ) Roadmap, working closely with the Energy Charter and the Queensland Government to develop a mandatory developers' code for renewable energy projects on farms. Our advocacy has resulted in improved information for landholders, and improved coordination and a stronger social licence framework for large-scale renewable energy projects, ensuring that agricultural communities are well-integrated and supported throughout the project lifecycle.

Electricity pricing

Addressing electricity pricing has been a top priority for QFF. We have worked closely with Energy Queensland to address the immediate needs of farmers through forums like the Joint Customer & Community Council and the Agriculture Forum. Our involvement in the 2025 Regulatory Determination Project forums for Ergon and Energex, as well as our advocacy at AEMO Consumer Forums, has led to positive policy changes aimed at reducing electricity costs. QFF has continued to push for greater integration of distributed energy resources (DER) into the grid. This has improved access to alternative energy sources on farms and promoted the development of microgrids in regional communities, directly benefiting agricultural businesses.

Emerging energy technology

QFF has dedicated efforts to exploring emerging energy technologies to support Queensland farmers. We have engaged with the Department of Environment and Climate (DEC) regarding the Queensland Hydrogen Regulatory framework and initiatives that promote on-farm solar and sustainable liquid fuel use. Our focus has been on assessing how these emerging technologies can benefit agriculture and enhance both agricultural practices and agricultural emissions targets. Our goal is to integrate these technologies into decarbonisation and electrification strategies that advance the energy transition while providing cost-effective solutions for Queensland farmers.



Projects

Energy Southern Queensland (EnergySQ)

The EnergySQ program is an innovative collaboration between ACCIONA Energía Australia and QFF. Launched in April 2023 in the Goondiwindi and Southern Downs regions, the program was expanded to include Western Downs, Toowoomba, Scenic Rim, and Lockyer Valley, demonstrating its growing reach and effectiveness in supporting farmers to understand and manage their on-farm energy consumption and carbon emissions. The program is still underway with 35 farms completed as at 30 June 2024.

The Queensland Renewable Energy Toolkit for Landholders

The Queensland Renewable Energy Toolkit for Landholders was launched on 3 July 2023, and garnered significant engagement. The Toolkit has been widely used by landholders to assist them in having informed discussions with renewable energy developers about the development of renewable energy projects on their land.

Utilisation of the Toolkit continued to grow throughout the year, with numerous references to the Toolkit being used in other states to support landholders in consideration of renewable energy developments across Australia.

Energy Information Service for Landholders

The Energy Information Service for Landholders was launched in May 2024. The project supports farmers and landholders in Queensland through a free information phone service providing information and guidance on a range of energy matters.

Following its launch, the service has been widely regarded and celebrated in energy forums and has been utilised by landholders in relation to information about tariffs, renewable energy development in their region or on a neighbouring property and associated information regarding on-farm energy use and the renewable energy transition.

QBEST and the Ag Energy Hub

QFF conducted free energy audits through the Queensland Business Energy Saving and Transformation (QBEST) Ag Program to support large energy user farms (farms consuming greater than 100,000kWh per year on a single National Metering Identifier (NMI)) to reduce their energy spend.

Learnings were captured and published to a new QFF developed website, the Queensland Ag Energy Hub, alongside other energy resources developed to assist Queensland farmers and landholders access information about energy on their farm.



**Electricity savings of
550,114 kWh/annum**



**Emissions reductions of
614 tCO2-e/annum**

55 farms participated in EnergySQ in 2023-24 across six local government areas identifying electricity savings of 550,114 kWh per annum and emissions reductions of 614 tCO2-e per annum.



35 farms
throughout Queensland
participated in the
QBEST Ag Program.



528 users
visited the Queensland Ag
Energy Hub following its
release in May 2024.



Planning and land use planning

QFF works to empower farmers to make informed decisions about their land while identifying opportunities that benefit both agricultural productivity and regional communities.

Cohesive and well-informed planning strategies require feedback from key stakeholders across both regional and rural communities to ensure that environmental and planning policy is aligned with the realities of agricultural production.

We advocate for a unified planning framework that balances industry needs and the safeguarding of Queensland and Australia's food security, with infrastructure and community development to promote sustainable practices and foster rural economic resilience and a profitable future for Queensland agriculture.

Our top 3 priorities

1. Strengthen land use protections for priority, highly productive and potentially highly productive agricultural land.
2. Ensure landholders and producers are well-informed about their rights and opportunities during Queensland's renewable energy transition.
3. Remove planning roadblocks and bureaucratic red tape to better enable farmers to diversify into agritourism opportunities.



Our advocacy highlights

Government engagement and policy development

QFF initiated regular meetings with the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) to discuss state land use planning updates, industry needs and concerns, and changes to the Southeast Queensland and Far North Queensland state plans.

Local planning

QFF launched Agritourism Queensland, a new peak body to support farming enterprises diversify into agritourism while protecting their interests to ensure that opportunities are harnessed, and challenges are navigated successfully.

QFF worked closely with peak body members Cotton Australia and CDIL to strengthen protections for farmers and regional communities in relation to CSG induced subsidence.

QFF provided advocacy representing the agriculture sector in the review of State code 23: Wind farm development and the associated Planning Guidance.

Advocacy and significant participation in the consultation for the development of a mandatory developer code.

QFF advocated strongly for appropriate land use planning, farmer protections and shared community benefit for the regions in the renewable energy roll-out.



Projects

Agritourism planning reform

This project provided an opportunity for QFF and DAF to collaborate on the development of capability building resources to help local governments achieve a more streamlined, industry-friendly and consistent approach to planning requirements in agritourism and provided guidance on interpretation of planning for rural worker accommodation on farm.

QFF engaged the services of an experienced planner to develop a report outlining the challenges with planning regulation barriers that primary producers in agritourism are facing. This report will be used in conjunction with DAF and local governments as the basis to engage key stakeholders, including the Department of Housing, Local Government, Planning and Public Works and the Local Government Association of Queensland, for their support and endorsement.

In June 2024, QFF officially launched Agritourism Queensland, a new peak industry body to represent and advocate on behalf of farmers who diversify their farming operations into agritourism.

Agritourism Queensland

In June 2024, QFF officially launched Agritourism Queensland (AQ) – a new peak industry body to represent and advocate on behalf of farmers who diversify their farming operations with agritourism. AQ was established through a partnership between QFF and the Queensland Government and builds on the Queensland Agritourism Roadmap (the Roadmap) developed by QFF and Regionality Pty Ltd in 2020. The peak body officially commenced taking on members from 1 July 2024.



Farm business resilience

QFF supports farm enterprises to better manage their risk and resilience across the farm business in the event of drought and natural hazards such as floods, cyclones and severe hailstorms.

We advocate for better frameworks to support farmers across the cycle of natural hazards and weather events, while also delivering projects to support farms to build

their strategic management capacity to prepare for and manage these risks.

It is critical that farm enterprises are enabled to develop viable farm income streams to secure long-term profitability for their business, as well as economic sustainability for the Queensland agriculture sector.

Our top 3 priorities

1. Ensuring drought policy remains a priority for all levels of government with a viable feedback mechanism from industry.
2. Building capacity for farmers to prepare and respond to natural hazards including floods, cyclones, bushfires, and severe storms through establishing a 'spine of resources' for the agriculture sector in collaboration with industry to support farmers across the cycle of weather events.
3. Supporting industry groups to access government funding schemes to build farm resilience programs that are fit-for-purpose.



Our advocacy highlights

▀ Drought reform

QFF continued to be active in the review of drought reform processes, including participation in the Queensland Government review of Local Drought Committees; the Drought Assistance Scheme offered through QRIDA; the National Drought Network, and the National Farmers' Federation (NFF) National Drought Forum held in Rockhampton.

▀ Natural disasters

QFF represented members at the Queensland Department of Agriculture and Fisheries' (DAF) regular Agriculture Disaster Taskforce (ADT) meetings and the Climate Industry Coordination Group to discuss seasonal floods, bushfires and cyclones and their impacts on producers throughout the year.

▀ Continuity of resourcing

QFF advocated for a review of the national Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA) and consistency on the definition of a primary producer in Queensland Rural Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) guidelines on drought and disaster assistance products. QFF called for long term and timely government investment in a 'spine of resources' for natural hazard mitigation to support the needs of farm businesses throughout the cycle of natural disasters and drought.

Projects

Farm Business Resilience Program

QFF continued to deliver the Farm Business Resilience Program (FBRP) with members Cotton Australia, Nursery & Garden Industry Queensland and Turf Queensland. The program works with intensive primary producers to build their capacity to prepare for and manage the risks of drought and climate variability while identifying priority risks and actions farmers can undertake to continuously improve production and business practices.

Industry Resilience and Recovery Officers

QFF's Industry Recovery and Resilience Officer (IRRO) program supported the development of 78 Flood Management Plans across the cotton, nursery, horticulture, dairy, turf, pork, cattle, sheep, goat, mixed cropping, and grains industries. 'Resilience in agriculture' resources were delivered to producers through workshops held across the Western Downs, Scenic Rim, Balonne Shire, Goondiwindi, Somerset and Banana Shire regions. The IRROs also completed several property visits and workshop presentations and attended field days and networking events across 13 local government areas (LGAs).

Completed Flood Management Plans have resulted in a total of six 'QRIDA Flood Management Grant' applications, of which five have currently been successful, with this number expected to increase.



Managing the Financial Impact of Weather Risks

QFF continued to research the viability of parametric insurance for the agriculture sector in 2023-24. Through the project, parametric insurance products were developed for drought, heat, hail and other natural hazard indexes to maximise farm profitability and income stability. A hail monitoring trial was established with 10 horticulture producers. Hail plates were installed on their farms to measure storm intensity, velocity and duration.

The project was funded through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund and the project partners were University of Southern Queensland, WTW and Celsius Pro.



78 Flood Management Plans
delivered through IRRO program



185 farm self-assessments
completed as part of FBRP program AND 128 Farm Business Plans developed.



10 farms
participated in a hail monitoring trial



Workforce, skills and training

Workforce shortages remain a critical issue for agribusinesses across all industries and supply chains. QFF is committed to working alongside industry and government to develop and implement practical solutions to these workforce challenges.

In collaboration with industry and government partners, QFF promotes strong vocational education and training (VET) pathways for agricultural skills

development. We also participate in workforce planning initiatives to ensure the skills needed for the future are cultivated today.

QFF and our partners across the agriculture sector are developing and implementing strategies that address current workforce challenges and build a more robust and resilient future for Queensland agriculture.

Our top 3 priorities

1. Promoting adaptability and capability through initiatives that address employment trends, skills development, industry training, and workforce development programs.
2. Offering resources and guidance to help agribusinesses attract, retain, and manage their workforce effectively, including facilitating access to relevant funding opportunities.
3. Advocating for policies and initiatives that support and attract a diverse talent pool from all backgrounds and leverage the unique skillsets individuals can contribute.



Our advocacy highlights

- ▶ Branding agriculture in schools through storytelling and work experience opportunities.
- ▶ Promoting agriculture as an employer of choice through attraction and retention strategies.
- ▶ Supporting agribusiness leaders and supervisors to make better decisions and develop their leadership skills.
- ▶ Advocacy alongside peak body members calling for the federal government to reconsider its plans to remove the 88-Day Working Holiday Maker Visa Program.
- ▶ Advocacy for the Queensland Government to provide support for workforce and skills in the agriculture sector. This resulted in the Premier announcing funding at the Rockhampton Bush Summit in August 2023 which led to the establishment of SmartAg Queensland.

Projects

Rural Jobs and Skills Alliance

The Rural Jobs and Skills Alliance (QFF) delivers strategic advice to the Queensland Government for skills and workforce planning issues for the Queensland agriculture sector. In 2023-24, the RJSA:

- Conducted research to identify the non-technical skills needed for growers and agribusinesses to be better managers and supervisors resulting in a nationally accredited course being delivered in 24-25.
- Provided feedback and endorsed the research to explore the best apprenticeship/traineeship model design for the cotton and grains industries.
- Supported smoother school-to-work transitions for Queensland students through sitting on the steering committee for the Regional School Industry Partnership (RSIP) program.
- Developed an industry-led program to support producers in their Ag Tech adoption journey.

RJSA members include:

- QFF
- Canegrowers
- Cotton Australia
- Queensland Fruit & Vegetable Growers
- Nursery & Garden Industry Queensland
- Irrigation Australia
- Timber and Building Materials Association
- Australian Prawn Farmers' Association
- eastAUSmilk
- AgForce Queensland
- Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Industry Skills Advisor

QFF hosts the Industry Skills Advisor (ISA) for Agribusiness in Queensland to support agribusinesses to navigate the vocational education and training (VET) sector and explore subsidised training and incentive opportunities on offer. The ISA also serves as a critical conduit between industry and government. Through the past year, the ISA engaged with 75 stakeholders and led and assisted industry to navigate skills and training pathways while gathering intelligence on emerging industries, production trends and providing advice on potential solutions.

Industry Workforce Advisor

The Industry Workforce Advisor (IWA) hosted by QFF supports agribusinesses to gain the tools and capability to manage their workforce effectively from attraction and recruitment, through to retention. During the 2023-24 year, the IWA engaged in 38 activities with more than 2,000 stakeholders addressing workforce issues

and workforce development, covering agriculture, horticulture, and diverse subsectors like animal care, aquaculture, forestry and timber, landscaping, dairy, and other industries.

SmartAg Queensland

QFF is now delivering the SmartAg Queensland program – an industry-led initiative designed to respond to the needs of farmers and growers by subsidising the delivery of relevant training – particularly in rural and regional locations.

Supported by the Queensland Government and delivered in partnership with QFF peak body members Cotton Australia, Canegrowers and Queensland Fruit & Vegetable Growers, SmartAg Queensland provides farmers access to accredited, non-accredited and micro-credential training. The program commenced in May 2024 and will run until June 2027. As of 30 June 2024, 100 farmers and staff had already accessed training.

Agricultural Extension Work Placement Program

The Agricultural Extension Work Placement Program (AEWPP) connects early career extension professionals with host agribusinesses or natural resource management organisations to assist landholders in Great Barrier Reef catchment regions. In January 2024, QFF successfully recruited eight agricultural trainees to undertake a 15-month placement in their host organisation through to March 2025.

Since the pilot program ran in 2017, the AEWPP has upskilled and retained 31 agricultural advisors, with another 16 in the making.

Agricultural Digital Support Work Placement Program

The Agricultural Digital Support Work Placement Program connects graduates or people working in IT/technology and agriculture related fields to accredited training, mentorship, and networking opportunities through a 12-month placement program. QFF successfully recruited 15 agribusinesses to host a trainee AgTech Officer for a 12-month paid work placement commencing in March 2024.



Project outcomes

91

Workforce Action Plans completed through the Industry Workforce Advisor program.

75

Industry engagements through the Industry Skills Advisor program.

8

Graduates involved in the Agricultural Extension Work Placement Program.

15

Businesses recruited for the Agricultural Digital Support Work Placement Program.

100

Farmers accessed training through SmartAg Queensland.

Natural resource management and environment

QFF celebrates the efforts and achievements of producers while continuing to support and encourage methods which further reduce on-farm emissions, and enable strong environmental outcomes as well as productivity and profitability for food, fibre and foliage producers.

It is important that emission reduction initiatives in agriculture are balanced with productivity and food security.

QFF recognises that improved sustainability will be achieved through new and innovative farm practices that maintain a high degree of safety and productivity for farmers whose livelihoods are linked with these farms.

If we are to achieve our mutual goals of increased environmental outcomes and increased agricultural productivity, decarbonisation must be achieved with the agriculture sector, not imposed on the sector.

Our top 3 priorities

1. Ensure all emission reduction strategies form part of an overarching climate adaptation strategy and are not addressed in isolation.
2. Advocating for better environmental scheme inclusions for farmers, including methodologies which aid farmers in developing better emission benchmarking and grandfathering clauses to recognise and reward landholders which have been proactive in emissions reduction.
3. Advocating for continued investment at or above current levels in voluntary-led Best Management Practice (BMP) programs.



Our advocacy highlights

▀ No CCS in the GAB

Successfully advocated for the introduction of Queensland legislation to protect Queensland's portion of the Great Artesian Basin.

▀ Biochar

Successfully advocated for adjusted criteria for the use of biochar on farming properties, resulting in safe and fairer conditions of use.

▀ Carbon methodology for farmers

Consulted and provided advice on the new carbon methodology for farmers called the Integrated Farm and Land Management methodology which is currently in development.

▀ Environmental credit schemes

Consulted with industry to push for better access for producers into environmental credit schemes, and continues to call for support to assist farmers in making informed decisions in relation to emerging markets.



Projects

Supporting farmers to make informed decisions

QFF rolled out this project to engage with producers to assess the potential benefits of environmental credit programs. Environmental credit programs have the potential to diversify a grower's income streams and smooth year to year variability, productivity and profitability linked to climate related risk. The project will conclude in September 2026 resulting in a number of resources to assist landholders make informed decisions about competing environmental projects.

- Conducted and finalised the 'Environmentally Beneficial Agricultural Income Stream Survey', surveying over 50 landholders across three states (QLD, NSW, VIC).
- Produced four video case studies with producers about the potential for a carbon farming project.
- Mapped and quantified the environmental credit opportunities in Queensland cropping zones which revealed the ideal time for farmers to start considering environmental credit scheme options.

Supporting farmers to make informed decisions in relation to environmental opportunities is critical.

Carbon Community of Practice

QFF hosts the Carbon Community of Practice (CoP) to facilitate collaboration among industry organisations and natural resource management (NRM) groups who work directly with landholders. The CoP meets quarterly to hear from an industry speaker on carbon farming, exchange insights and information, and stay informed about developments within the Land Restoration Fund (LRF) branch of the Department of Environment, Science and Innovation (DESI). The network serves as a pivotal resource for DESI funding and future initiatives aimed at enhancing engagement with landholders.

QFF will continue its involvement in the CoP as a key mechanism to enhance understanding in carbon farming and effective participation in the LRF program in Queensland.

Project Outcomes



4 case studies developed with producers about carbon farming projects.



50 responses to a landholder survey on diversifying income through environmental credit programs.

Biosecurity

Biosecurity is a growing concern for QFF and our members. A single incursion of a pest or disease can result in the closure of a farm enterprise, leading to wider impacts on the viability of supply chains, other agricultural industries and regional communities.

QFF prioritises prevention, preparedness, response, and recovery as a critical framework that ensures constant vigilance, awareness, and strategic action.

In 2023-24 several ongoing high-profile pest and disease incursions impacted Queensland, including Red Imported Fire Ants. QFF advocates for greater funding and cooperation between all levels of government to eradicate or otherwise efficiently manage pests and diseases to ensure minimal impacts upon Queensland's agriculture sector.

Our top 3 priorities

1. Prevention and biosecurity planning is a critical strategy to ensure farm properties and supply chains remain bio secure.
2. QFF facilitates a range of activities to increase awareness, develop skills and identify gaps to best prepare the sector to respond to pest and disease outbreaks.
3. Collaboration and advocacy with government and industry is a key priority to ensure optimal biosecurity response and recovery.



Our advocacy highlights

■ Biosecurity Protection Levy

QFF advocated strongly against the Federal Government's proposed Biosecurity Protection Levy which failed to pass the Senate and has now been withdrawn.

■ Red Imported Fire Ants

QFF was actively involved in advocating for a stronger response to the current Red Imported Fire Ant incursion through submissions, Senate hearings and stakeholder engagement sessions with. QFF has been providing feedback and input throughout the eradication program's and continues to advocate for more effective fire ant protections.

■ Stakeholder Engagement

As a member of Biosecurity Queensland Ministerial Advisory Council (BQMAC), QFF provided input into the refreshed Queensland Biosecurity Strategy and the Queensland Invasive Plant and Animals Strategy 2025 – 2030.

■ Biosecurity investment

QFF continues its advocacy to the Queensland Government calling for the prioritisation of a whole-of-government approach and a shared responsibility model for investment and delivery, to strengthen the state's biosecurity surveillance, preparedness and response capabilities to manage the increased risks ahead.



Projects

Pig industry biosecurity projects

QFF completed an emergency response exercise for the pig industry which examined how the supply chain would be affected in the event of an exotic disease outbreak. Exercise Ham Strung was funded by the African Swine Fever (ASF) Prevention and Preparedness Project which QFF has been participating in since 2021. The project was led by the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries to enhance biosecurity in the pig industry.

The Intensive Animals Industry Roadmap

Three workshops were held with the major intensive animal industries to look at opportunities and challenges for the next 10 years. Animal health, welfare and biosecurity are key priorities of the roadmap. Attendees at the workshops came from the pig, chicken meat, eggs, dairy and feedlot industries and with government, this marked the first time the intensive industries have come together to develop a roadmap for the future. It is anticipated the roadmap will be finalised in late 2024.

Exercise Prepare Implementation project

QFF coordinated five meetings in 2023-24 year of the Exercise Prepare Implementation working party as a follow up from the successful Exercise Prepare in 2022. This joint industry and government group brought practical proposals to the table which generated national conversations and follow up projects from other agricultural peak bodies.

Highlights



Over 60 attendees for QFF's Exercise Ham Strung in person and online workshops with most attendees coming from industry.

3 workshops were held to facilitate the development of the intensive animal industries roadmap project.



A note from our members



A note from Canegrowers



Dan Galligan
CEO, CANEGROWERS

The 2023–24 financial year has been a period of significant change and opportunity for CANEGROWERS, marked by achievements that align with our core purpose of leading a strong, profitable, and innovative sugarcane industry. Our strategic plan, built on the lessons of the past and a vision for the future, guides us in addressing both current challenges and future needs.

In partnership with key organisations, such as the Queensland Farmers' Federation (QFF), the National Farmers' Federation, and the World Association of Beet and Cane Growers, CANEGROWERS has reinforced its commitment to superior advocacy for our members.

This year, we successfully opposed a national biosecurity levy and secured reinvestment in the fire ant eradication program.

Through our collaboration with industry partners and our advocacy with the federal government we were able to prevent Australia from signing a free trade agreement with the European Union that would have resulted in poor outcomes for Queensland agriculture.

Service to members remains a top priority, and we have expanded our efforts to enhance farm profitability. Programs such as monthly marketing updates, Business Essentials training, and succession planning workshops have been well-received as has our free legal service and CANEGROWES insurance offerings.

Organisational collaboration is at the heart of CANEGROWERS' operations, with our 13 districts providing direct support to local growers. From payroll services to industrial relations support, cane supply negotiations with sugar milling companies and assistance with leasing, we offer a comprehensive suite of services to help members manage their businesses effectively.

Recognising the importance of industry partnerships, we have deepened our collaboration across the supply chain, particularly in bioenergy. Joining BioEnergy Australia has allowed us to advocate for a national biofuels feedstock strategy and position our industry for future growth.

The future of the sugarcane industry looks bright, and CANEGROWERS is committed to supporting this evolution through investment in education and leadership initiatives like the Next Ratoon Mentoring Program, the inaugural Sugar Cubed conference and our new school curriculum-based education strategy. We are proud to serve our members in the best interests of the industry and we look forward to continuing successful collaboration with QFF and other industry partners in the years ahead.



A note from Cotton Australia



Michael Murray
General Manager,
Cotton Australia

It's pleasing to be able to say that the 2023-24 Queensland cotton season was again a successful one despite the September 2023 predictions of an El Nino. Our growers were expecting a long hot and dry summer forcing a revision downward of crop expectations. However, rain across some of our largest growing areas was very welcome, leading to an upgrade in crop yields. Conversely rain close to harvest did impact some growers in regard to yield and quality, and we recognise the impact this has had on those growers.

Not every region received the conditions needed to maximise their yields with growers at St George reporting reduced hectares due to the rain coming too late. Dirranbandi didn't fare as well as expected due to the lack of available water while Mungindi had some fantastic results, particularly the dryland crops with rain coming at the right time. In the Macintyre Valley boll size was down but they achieved average yields.

Overall, the Queensland crop added significant financial support to the economy with estimates of 1,195,000 bales and when combined with cotton seed, an estimated total of around \$860 million generated, with most of that flowing back into growing communities in supplies and services.

With the first post-Covid Cotton Conference taking place in 2022, growers and all industry stakeholders looked for a social and learning focus for 2023 and that came in the form of the Cotton Collective, held in Toowoomba in August.

Hundreds descended on Toowoomba to attend two days of presentations, panel discussions and keynote addresses along with the largest cotton trade show in the region with over 80 exhibitors.

Of course, a key focus of the Collective was the awards dinner during which all award recipients were announced in a glittering event, celebrating the collective achievements of the cotton industry.

The EKKA was again a standout for our ability to engage with people face to face, promote cotton and sustainability while dispelling the myths. Our collaboration with QFF and a number of other organisations provide invaluable in attaining the best policy outcomes, both within the state and nationally. Worthy of noting are the gains made in water and energy.

It was also pleasing to host political leaders and their senior advisors from both sides of politics for the annual dinner briefing to discuss with our leaders the status of cotton and also the desired policy outcomes.

Another impressive display of collaboration was the development of the cotton industry strategic roadmap, which was developed by industry, for industry, with over 600 people involved in the process.

With the objective of helping the industry remain competitive in a changing fashion and textiles market, the five key areas of focus include traceability, sustainably certified cotton from Australia, human rights, industry data and Australian cotton marketing.

I would add a note that rain close to harvest did impact some growers in regard to yield and quality, and we recognise the impacts this has had on those growers.



A note from Queensland Fruit & Vegetable Growers



Rachel Chambers
CEO, Queensland Fruit and
Vegetable Growers

The 2023-24 year brought about the need for some of the strongest advocacy our industry has needed in a generation.

30-65% increases in costs without any corresponding increase in returns have put many growers' businesses at risk. Rising costs of fertilizer, fuel, energy, transport, machinery, labour, and compliance with government and third-party regulations have placed enormous pressure on our industry. The demands on both time and resources have grown exponentially, making it increasingly challenging for growers to remain competitive.

This year's scrutiny of grocery retailer practices has further complicated matters, as major supermarkets are under further pressure to keep prices low for consumers – usually at the expense of suppliers. These pressures are unlikely to ease in the near term.

Against this backdrop, we launched the "We Give A Fork" campaign in November 2023, culminating our Year of Horticulture celebrations. The campaign focused on three key issues facing our industry: Margin Squeeze, Policy Pile-on and Reputation and Brand of the Sector.

Our efforts have already produced tangible outcomes. QFVG has engaged with over 60 government representatives and 90 industry stakeholders, responded to hundreds of media requests, and made multiple submissions to various inquiries. Notably, the Biosecurity Protection Levy was rejected by the Senate, and the Geared Up Growers Pilot Project was launched, inspired by our discussions with the Queensland Government.

This year has also brought valuable insights. One key realization is that we need to rethink how we advocate for our industry. We've traditionally focused on food security, assuming people would only respond when scarcity became a reality. However, it's the rising cost of food at point of sale that has sparked concern among Australians, highlighting the need to change the narrative.

Australians care deeply about the future of their food producers. This was evident during our return to the Ekka in 2023, where we showcased different commodities and regions. Our growers engaged directly with thousands of visitors, answering questions and sharing their passion for what they do. The overwhelming support we received from consumers, and the heartfelt messages left on our 'Dear Grower' board, demonstrated a strong appreciation for the hard work and dedication that goes into producing fresh, nutritious food.

As we look toward the coming year, I propose a shift in our conversation. It's time to move beyond discussing costs and instead

address what we're truly facing—a crisis of perspective. We must help people understand the difference between the cost, price, value, and worth of food.

To find real solutions, we need to change how we advocate and communicate. Are we fully capturing the value that our food producers bring to the table, quite literally? And is this the conversation we need to be having with consumers?

As we navigate the challenges and opportunities ahead, QFVG remains committed to advocating for our industry, strengthening our community of growers, and ensuring that our voices are heard at every level. Together, we will continue to champion the value of fresh, locally grown produce in Queensland and beyond.



A note from eastAUSmilk



Eric Danzi
CEO,
eastAUSmilk

We had the second full year of operation by eastAUSmilk where we built on our foundations.

The year started dry in most areas but turned very wet in late 2023. A number of significant disasters occurred in north Queensland and the Scenic Rim area where support from the Federal and State Governments have enabled dairy farmers to recover somewhat from the damage caused by excessive wet. Farmers are just starting to get back on their feet in many areas but in North Queensland the wet continues.

Farm gate prices were up slightly this year largely in line with cost increases. The fear of falling pricing in Victoria has many farmers on edge about future years.

The Queensland Dairy Plan is being developed during 2024 and expected to be completed by the end of the year. The industry is determined to stop the decline of the industry and turn production around. It is expected that the plan will be completed by the end of 2024 with clear direction for the industry.

It's been a very busy year for government relations, with substantive submissions made to inquiries into the Dairy Industry Code and the Food and Grocery Code, and several inquiries into the behaviour of supermarkets. While the Food and Grocery Code Review saw very good outcomes, endorsed by government, aimed at stamping out the more egregious bad behaviour by supermarkets, our proposals

relating to national pricing and a stronger response to retaliatory behaviour were not taken up.

A November 2023 report from the House of Representatives Standing Committee on Agriculture, Australian Food Story: Feeding the Nation and Beyond, called for a national dairy food strategy, and we have pressed Commonwealth and state governments to support that recommendation. Relations have been continued and expanded with multiple meetings held with public service and political stakeholders.

Multiple representations have been made to governments about their inadequate responses to natural disasters. Work is well underway on development of a Queensland Dairy Industry Plan, as a step towards the long-discussed Northern Dairy Industry Plan.

We continue to face the challenge of getting government to understand that there is not a functioning competitive market in the dairy industry, and that this means governments should not interfere. We need to keep reminding them that market in which much of EAMs membership operates is distorted and dysfunctional and cannot be relied on to produce an efficient or fair industry.

All involved at eastAUSmilk will continue to advocate, provide services and projects for our members. We hope that the weather is more kind to farmers in the upcoming year and that prices increase to a sustainable level for farmers.



A note from Nursery & Garden Industry Queensland



Brett Kelly
CEO, Nursery and Garden Industry Queensland

The market continued to be tough throughout the FYE2024 in terms of cost of production/business and slow in sales. However there has been good signs of growth and opportunity for a number of members in their specific channels to market. The new financial year should show signs of improvement, and particularly the NGIQ Events. These Events are the key to getting a better commercial outcome for members and will continue to be supported and developed by all industry stakeholders. Our focus this year is on continuing to develop resources to improve Price, Profit and Sustainability for our members.

The NGIQ was successful through the QFF and DAFF in obtaining an extension carried on from end date of June 2024 for the FBRP (Farmer Business Resilience Project) for another 12 months. This achieved further funding in the FYE25 year of \$250,000 for the NGIQ. Moshies have been engaged to deliver this project in-conjunction with QFF and the NGIQ team.

Both Queensland Garden Expo (Nambour) and Green Expo (Gold Coast) were successful in terms of attendance and promotion of the industry. There were great attendances at both events with a good lift in the NGIQ profile. The NGIQ is also looking at developing an

annual Event in Far North Queensland for our members starting from November this year.

The NGIQ has been through a lot of change recently and is now restructured with a focus on communications, membership growth and building income streams to enable better benefits and resources to members. There is a Strategic Operational Plan in place, and we are working on centralising and consolidating the overall organisation to have a stronger united voice and industry position. There is great opportunity in our industry if everyone works together to achieve the overall objectives. The QFF has been a great partner and support to the NGIQ, and we will continue to work closely together for the benefit of our members.

The NGIQ will be celebrating a milestone of 90 years in November this year at our AGM and annual dinner. This is a great achievement and shows the resilience of the industry.

I am finishing up my role as CEO for the NGIQ in November 2024. I would like to thank all those industry stakeholders I have engaged with during my tenure as CEO for your support. I wish you all the best in your future endeavours.



Our 2023-24 submissions

Biosecurity



Submission to Department of Agriculture and Fisheries – [Queensland Invasive Plants and Animals Strategy 2025-2030](#) – May 2024



Submission to the Senate Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport Legislation Committee – [Agriculture \(Biosecurity Protection\) Levies Bill 2024 and Other Related Bills](#) – April 2024



Submission to the Senate Standing Committees on Rural and Regional Affairs and Transport – [National Red Imported Fire Ants Eradication Program](#) – January 2024



Submission to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – [Biosecurity Protection Levy: consultation paper](#) – October 2023



Submission to Hon. Dr Steven Miles, Deputy Premier, Minister for the State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning – [Response to the proposed updates to State Code 23: Wind Farm Development and the associated Planning Guidance](#) – September 2023



Submission to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, Environment and Water – [Review of National Hydrogen Strategy 2023](#) – September 2023



Submission to the Honourable Mick de Brenni, Minister for Energy, Renewables and Hydrogen and Minister for Public Works and Procurement – [Sustainable Liquid Fuels Strategy 2023: Options and Opportunities Paper](#) – August 2023

Education and training



Submission to the Department of Employment and Workplace Relations – [Strategic Review of the Australian Apprenticeship Incentive System](#) – May 2024



Submission to the Jobs and Skills Australia – [Food Supply Chain Capacity Study](#) – May 2024



RJSA submission to the Education, Employment and Training Committee – [Inquiry into the Delivery of VET in Regional Rural and Remote Queensland](#) – January 2023

Energy



Submission to the Queensland Competition Authority – [QCA Draft Determination: Regulated retail electricity prices for 2024-25](#) – May 2024



Submission to the Queensland Competition Authority – [QCA Interim Consultation Paper Regulated Retail Electricity Prices 2024-25 \(December 2023\)](#) – January 2024



Submission to the Australian Energy Regulator – [AER Directions Paper on Social Licence for Electricity Transmission Projects](#) – November 2023



Submission to the Australian Energy Infrastructure Commissioner – [AEIC Community Engagement Review](#) – October 2023



Submission to the Department of Energy and Public Works – [Response to the Queensland Renewable Energy Zone Roadmap](#) – September 2023



Submission to the Senate Standing Committees on Environment and Communications – [Senate Inquiry – Glencore's Proposed Carbon Capture and Storage Project](#) – April 2024



Submission to the Clean Economy Jobs, Resources and the Transport Committee – [Clean Economy Jobs Bill 2024](#) – March 2024



Submission to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – [Agriculture and Land Sectoral Plan](#) – December 2023



Submission to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water – [Proposed Integrated Farm and Land Management Methodology](#) – December 2023



Submission to the Department of Environment and Science – [Independent Review of Powers and Penalties Provisions Under the Environmental Protection Act 1994](#) – November 2023



Submission to the ACCU Review Secretariat at the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water – [Independent Review of Australian Carbon Credit Units](#) – October 2023



Submission to Department of Environment and Science – [End of Waste Code Biochar](#) – October 2023



Submission to the State Development and Regional Industries Committee – [Inquiry into the impact of Climate Change on Queensland Agricultural Production](#) – September 2023



Submission to the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – [New National Drought Agreement](#) – September 2023

Farm finance, and debt



Submission to the [Independent Review of the Operation of the Regional Investment Corporation \(RIC\) Act 2018](#) – January 2024



Submission to the Treasury – [Consultation Regulation Impact Statement: Protecting Consumers from Unfair Trading Practices](#) – November 2023



Submission to the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries – [Review of the Rural and Regional Adjustment Act 1994](#) – August 2023

Mining and agriculture



Submission to the Department of State Development, Local Government and Planning – [Proposed Reforms to Coexistence Framework and RPI Act 2014](#) – December 2023



Submission to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water – [Australia and New Zealand Draft Guidelines for Fresh and Marine Water Quality](#) – December 2023



Submission to the Senate and Standing Committees on Environment and Communications – [Water Amendment \(Restoring Our Rivers\) Bill 2023](#) – October 2023



Submission to the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water – [Preliminary public consultation notice – Proposed replacement of the Logan Water Plan \(June 2023\)](#) – August 2023



Submission to the Department of Regional Development, Manufacturing and Water – [Preliminary public consultation notice – Proposed replacement of the Gold Coast Water Plan \(June 2023\)](#) – August 2023

Rural planning



Submission to the Committee Secretary, Clean Economy Jobs, Resources and Transport Committee – [Mineral and Energy Resources and Other Legislation Amendment Bill 2024](#) – May 2024



Submission to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning – [Far North Queensland Regional Plan Review](#) – December 2023



Submission to the Department of State Development, Infrastructure, Local Government and Planning – [Shaping SEQ 2023 Update](#) – September 2023

Water



Submission to the Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water – [Discussion Paper: Seeking Views on a Future National Water Agreement \(March, 2024\)](#) – May 2024



Submission to the National Water Reform 2024 Productivity Commission – [Productivity Commission National Water Reform 2024, Interim Report](#) – May 2024



Submission to Department of Climate Change, Energy, the Environment and Water – [Delivering the Basin Plan 2012 Draft Framework for Delivering the 450GL of Additional Environmental Water](#) – March 2024



Submission to the Queensland Competition Authority – [Irrigation Price Investigation 2025-2029](#) – February 2024

Workplace health and safety



Submission to the Work Health and Safety Prosecutor – [Review of Industrial Manslaughter Provisions in Queensland](#) – January 2024



Submission to the Office of Industrial Relations – [Implementation of Recommendation 38 from the Best Practice Review 2017](#) – October 2023

Other



Submission to the Senate Select Committee on Supermarket Prices – [Inquiry into price setting practices and market power of major supermarkets](#) – April 2024



Submission to the National Transport Commission – [Heavy Vehicle National Law Review](#) – November 2023



Submission to the National Emergency Management Agency – [Independent Review of Commonwealth Disaster Funding](#) – July 2023

Industry members

Commodity members



Irrigator members



CENTRAL DOWNS
IRRIGATORS LIMITED (CDIL)



PIONEER VALLEY
WATER CO-OPERATIVE
LIMITED (PVWATER)



Corporate partners

QFF introduced our Corporate Partners Program in 2022-23 to build strong partnerships within industry, across sectors and with private enterprise to deliver positive economic, social, environmental outcomes for Queensland agriculture and regional communities.

Thank you to QFF's Corporate Partners for their ongoing support. For more information, please visit www.qff.org.au/qff-corporate-partners/





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