

1. Description

To provide a subsidy on the transport of fodder and/or water to a property, stock to/from agistment and stock to sale or slaughter following a declared natural disaster event,

Note: Drought is no longer a declared natural disaster

2. Assistance available

A maximum subsidy of \$15,000 can be claimed once by an eligible applicant for each declared natural disaster event, regardless of how many parcels of land, and regardless of whether that disaster spans one or two financial years.

3. Eligibility

This assistance measure may be provided to primary producers defined as an individual, partnership, trust or company which:

- has a right or interest in a farm enterprise (this can include a lessee)
- contributes a part of their labour and capital to the enterprise
- derives at least 50 per cent of their income from the enterprise
- has assets that have been significantly damaged by the declared natural disaster event.
- is identified by the Australian Taxation Office as a primary producer, and has an Australian Business Number (ABN).
- has a primary production enterprise located within a declared local government area.

Primary producers are defined as those that are listed under the Australian New Zealand Standard Industrial Classification 2006 (ANZSIC) 1292.0 (Revision 2.0) Codes 01 (Agriculture), 02 (Aquaculture), 03 (Forestry and Logging), 04 (Fishing, Hunting and Trapping) and 05 (Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing Support Services).

4. Exclusions

- Intensive industries such as piggeries, poultry units or feedlots where stock are purchased, fattened and sold; and backgrounding where stock are fattened prior to move into a feedlot are not eligible for assistance.
- No subsidy will be paid on the transport of fodder weighing less than one (1) tonne

- A maximum distance of 1500 km applies. The subsidy does not apply to any distance beyond 1,500 km.
- A primary producer cannot claim for labour, fixed costs or profit if they use their own transport to move stock to agistment.

5. Eligible Costs

- Transporting of fodder for stock to properties
- Transporting of stock to agistment
- Returning stock from agistment.
- Transport of stock to sale or slaughter.
- Transport of stock drinking water.

6. Claiming and Payment Provisions

- Subsidy will be paid for road transport at a rate of 50% of the total amount paid to the carrier or costs for an owner driver.
- In the case of an owner/driver, payment will be provided in line with the km rate table below. A copy of the registration certificate for the vehicle used for transport, must be provided.
- Owner driver claims of under 100 kms do not require a log book.

Gross vehicle mass (T) and/ or Gross combined vehicle mass (T)	Amount per kilometre
< 2.5	\$1.00
< 4.5	\$1.40
< 6.5	\$1.80
< 8.5	\$2.00
< 10.5	\$2.20
< 12.5	\$2.35
< 14.5	\$2.55
< 15.5	\$2.65
< 22.5	\$3.00
< 27.5	\$3.40
< 42.5	\$4.00
> 42.5	\$5.00

- d) The first movement of stock, fodder or water must be no later than three months from the date on which the disaster is declared, and the last movement of stock, fodder or water must be completed and all claims for transport subsidies must be submitted no later than nine months after the date on which the disaster is declared.
- e) Costs of transportation must be paid prior to lodging a claim for the subsidy.
- f) Claim forms should be accompanied by invoices, confirmation of agistment and stock to sale or slaughter, a copy of LLS rate notice and latest local council rate notice.
- g) The amount to be paid is the GST exclusive amount.
- h) If an ABN is not supplied, the subsidy will be reduced by an amount equivalent to the highest tax rate, which is subsequently forwarded to the Australian Taxation Office.

7. Transport Provisions

- a) For transport of emergency fodder, the subsidy is available from the point of purchase to the affected property and applies only to the loaded portion of the journey.
- b) Owner carriers will be assessed on a case by case basis. Distance rates for owner carriers are indicative rates based on commercial transport costs, but are calculated not to include the cost of the applicant's time, labour or margin for profit.
- c) Movement of stock that can be claimed, can occur between the natural disaster event and no later than twelve (12) months after the declaration of the event.

A maximum distance of 1,500 kms applies.

8. Stock to and from Agistment, or to Sale or Slaughter

- a) Subsidy is available for the forward and return journeys (for loaded portions of travel)
- b) Stock can be transported to agistment up to three months after the declared disaster.
- c) If the owner is forced to move stock off the agistment property, additional claims will be considered on a case by case basis.

- d) The stockowner must have no prior arrangement/ agreement or contract to sell or otherwise dispose of the stock to the owner of an agistment property.
- e) Stock consigned to a custom or commercial feedlot on maintenance rations may be eligible for transport subsidies to and from the feedlot.
- f) The minimum load must be equivalent to 70 dry sheep equivalents (DSE). Loads of less than 70 DSE will be assessed on a case by case basis (eg. transporting bulls).
- g) Subsidy is not to be used for the movement of stock that are not fit to travel. Stock owners must always comply with the provisions of the *Prevention of Cruelty to Animals Act 1979*.

9. Fodder

- a) The movement of fodder must be to a landholder's property, a travelling stock reserve, leased or agisted property.
- b) Fodder must only be obtained for the feeding of disaster affected stock. The amount purchased per order must only be for a maximum three (3) month feed period for the stock on hand, and not for long term storage purposes.
- c) Subsidy is payable for genuine smaller vehicle movements within a property, where the initial vehicle transporting the fodder to the property is too large to transport the fodder to the appropriate storage location on the property. In these situations the owner must sign a statutory declaration to this effect.

10. Drinking Water (for stock)

- a) Subsidy for the transport of water is only available if water is carted from the nearest practicable source.
- b) Minimum movement: (all stock) must be greater than 1,000 litres per transportation only one movement will be subsidised per day.
- c) Water cartage to stock on a travelling stock reserve or agistment property is eligible for subsidy.
- d) Transport subsidies will not be paid for the transport of water for irrigation.

11. Bees

- a) Claimants must sign a statutory declaration that the movement of beehives is abnormal to their usual management practices and is entirely as a result of the declared natural disaster event.
- b) If the movement is undertaken by the owner for purpose of buying bee food, receipts for the purchase of the bee food are to be provided with the claim.
- c) For Crown Land a copy of the apiary site arrangement or nectar licence for the site that has been disaster affected must accompany each claim.
- d) Where the site is on private land a statement from the property owner that the land is disaster affected must accompany each claim.
- e) The movement of beehives to another site is a one way journey only. A subsidy for movement of the hives to a third site will be provided if it can be demonstrated that this movement was not part of the beekeepers usual practices and is as a result of there being a shortage of feed at the second site.
- f) Honey producers must obtain bee foods from the nearest practicable source to the bees.
- g) For bee food the movement may be from the location where purchased to the new site where the bees are located.
- h) Subsidy will not be provided to move the hives back to the original site.

12. Fraudulent claims

- a) By signing the claim form, you are declaring that the information provided in the claim form and supporting documentation is true and accurate.
- b) Providing inaccurate, untrue or misleading information may be a breach of criminal law for which serious penalties may apply.
- c) If any information provided in an claim or supporting documentation is found to be inaccurate, untrue or misleading, legal action may be taken against you, including action to recover the funds.

13. Important Information

- a) Guidelines are correct at the time of publishing.

- b) RAA reserves the right to amend, alter or change these guidelines at any time, and it is the responsibility of the applicant to ensure that they check the relevant website prior to claim.
- c) The guidelines that apply to your claim will be the guidelines that are current at the time your claim is received by RAA.

14. Assessment

- a) Applications and claims will be assessed against the eligibility criteria.
- b) RAA reserves the right to request further information from you or from any business or individual you have engaged, to assist in assessing your claim and to verify any information provided in your claim.
- c) Failure to provide such information may result in RAA refusing your claim.
- d) RAA reserves the right to refuse an application where eligibility criteria are not met, or where the applicant does not or can not provide sufficient information for the RAA to determine if eligibility criteria have been met.

Applications and claims submitted may be subject to audit by RAA or its agents in order to determine compliance with scheme guidelines.

15. Claims

- a) Claims for assistance under the program must be made on RAA's claim form and be accompanied by the documentation requested in the claim form.
- b) Complete claims will be assessed in order of receipt. Incomplete claims will not enter the assessment queue until all required information is provided.
- c) Claimants should note that past financial assistance under this program or any other program is not a reliable indicator of eligibility for future financial assistance under this program.



Please apply online at:

<https://www.raa.nsw.gov.au/grants/natural-disaster-transport-subsidy>

If you need assistance with submitting your application, please contact us by:

Phone: 1800 678 593

Email: rural.assist@raa.nsw.gov.au

If you have difficulty understanding these guidelines or completing the application form you should seek the assistance of your rural/financial counsellor, business advisor, accountant or a trusted family member/friend.

If you need assistance with interpreting or translating, please contact Multicultural NSW on 1300 651 500 or email languageservices@multicultural.nsw.gov.au.

Applications received after the advertised application closing date can not be accepted.