

CATTLE COUNCIL OF AUSTRALIA

MEDIA RELEASE

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Cattle Council welcomes drought relief

The Cattle Council of Australia welcomes the federal government announcement today of \$320 million in immediate drought assistance measures, underpinned by a \$280 million boost to concessional loans in the Farm Finance Package (FFP).

"The Prime Minister's support of the Australian agricultural industry and his announcement of immediate drought assistance measures are timely for Australian beef producers," President, Andrew Ogilvie said.

"The beef industry makes up a large proportion of the Australian agricultural sector, with fifty-seven percent of Australian farms reporting to produce beef.

"This drought is having very real consequences for the beef industry, with record kills and exports in 2013 as producers offload stock.

"Australian beef producers have been experiencing widespread drought conditions and the Government's decision to bring forward drought support arrangements will provide some relief," Mr Ogilvie said.

The Cattle Council commends the National Farmers' Federation for their advocacy efforts on behalf of all Australian agriculture.

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