

# THE HON JAALA PULFORD MP

MINISTER FOR AGRICULTURE

AGRICULTURE PORTFOLIO

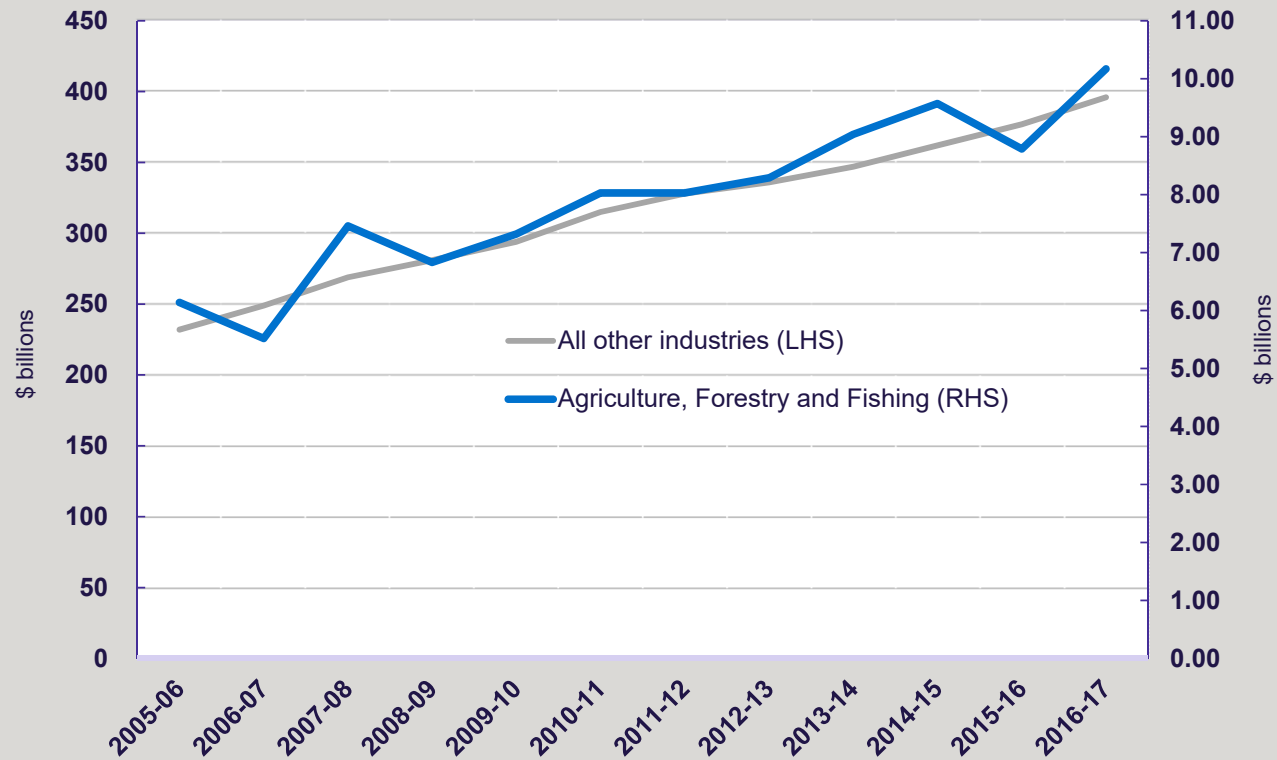
13 JUNE 2018



Economic Development,  
Jobs, Transport  
and Resources

# STATE OF THE SECTOR

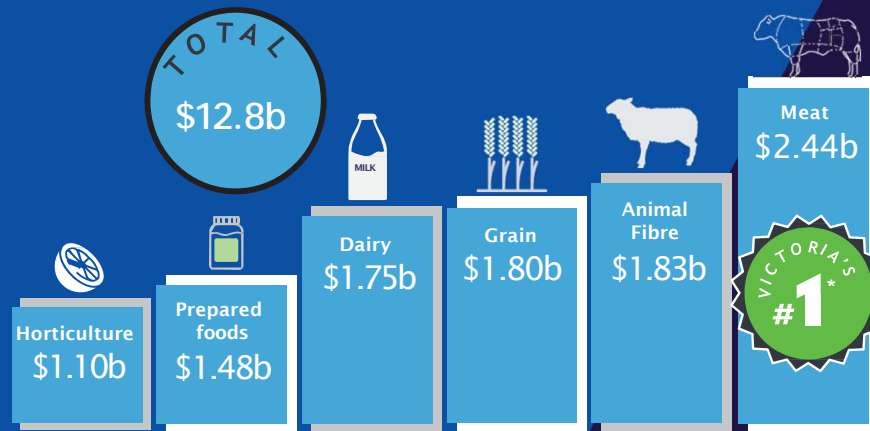
## Contribution to Gross State Product



Source: 5220 Australian National Accounts: State Accounts 2016-17

# STATE OF THE SECTOR

## VICTORIAN FOOD AND FIBRE EXPORTS 2016-17



(export growth from 2012-13 to 2016-17)



## Export Markets

### Pulses

Pulses to  
**India**  
▲ 676%  
(year on year)

### Lamb

Lamb to  
**USA**  
▲ 23%  
(year on year)

### Wine

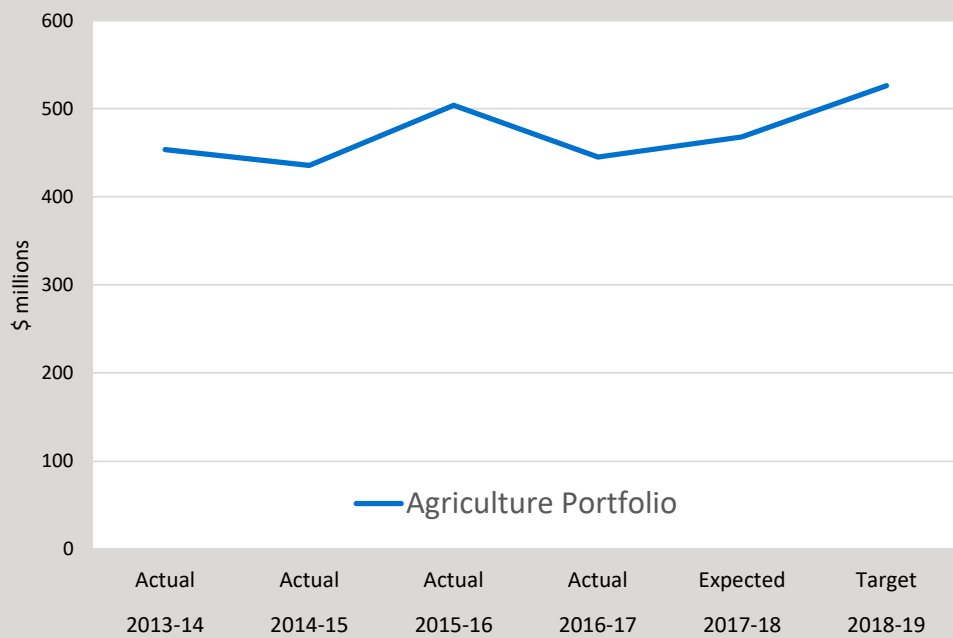
Wine to  
**China**  
▲ 40%  
(year on year)

### Table grapes

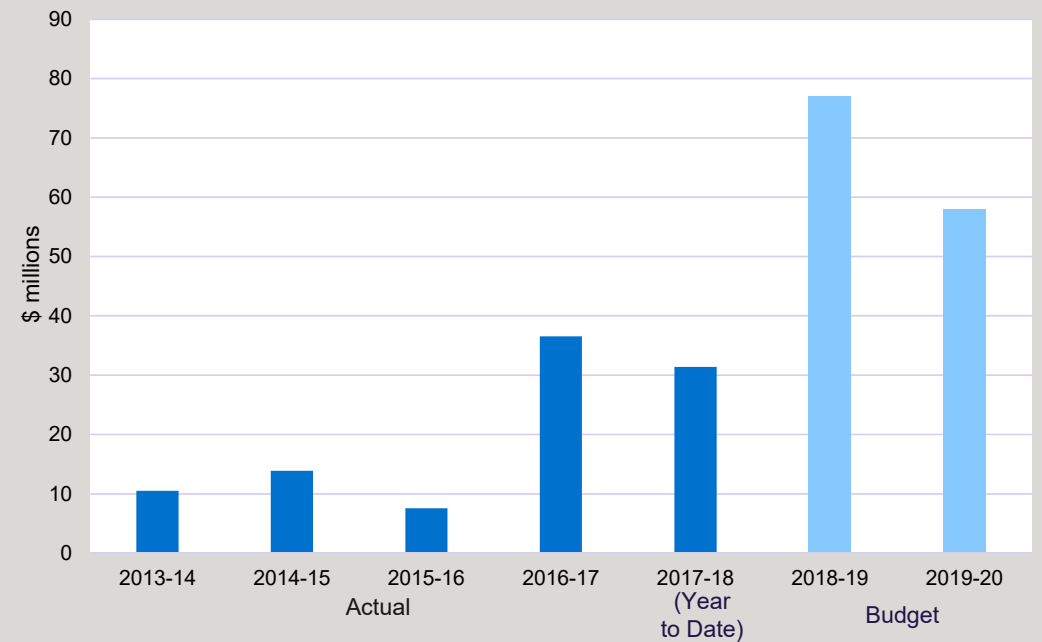
Table grapes to  
**China**  
▲ 45%  
(year on year)

# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS

## State Budget Appropriations



## Grant Programs: Agriculture, Fisheries, Game and Forestry



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS – SHEEP AND GOAT EID

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## Sheep and Goat Electronic Identification

- \$17 million transition package
- Infrastructure planning and installation; and training and education across the supply chain
- Producers have purchased more than 13.2 million electronic ear tags
- All Victorian sheep processors scanning and uploading information to the NLIS database from 31 December 2017
- Saleyards scanning and uploading information to the NLIS database for over 187,000 sheep since 31 March 2018.



## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS - MEDICINAL CANNABIS

### Medicinal Cannabis

- Medicinal cannabis cultivated for local product since August 2016
- First commercial licenced operation in Australia
- Industry Development Plan to enable expanded access to medicinal cannabis for patients
- “Canopy Growth” establishing Asia-Pacific R&D headquarters in Victoria.



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS – RURAL WOMEN'S NETWORK

## Rural Women's Network

- \$1.7 million over four years in the 2017-18 budget
- Re-launched on 1 July 2017
- Over 900 subscribers
- New RWN e-newsletter
- Victorian Rural Women's Award.



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS – ANIMAL WELFARE

## Pets and Animal Welfare

- Animal Welfare Action Plan
- Established Animal Welfare Victoria
- *Domestic Animals Amendment (Puppy Farms and Pet Shops) Act 2017 (PFPS Act)*
- Allowed for the registration of restricted breed dogs to increase community safety
- Released the final Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds
- Released round six of the Animal Welfare Fund grants program.





# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS – RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

## Research and Development

- **Dairy:** A new \$54 Million innovation initiative called Dairy Feedbase was co-developed with Dairy Australia and Gardiner Foundation to support high impact innovations in feedbase and animal nutrition.
- **Grains:** A new \$52 Million initiative was co-developed with the Grains Research and Development Corporation (GRDC) to deliver targeted high impact research for productivity outcomes in the grains industry.
- **Horticulture:** Agriculture Victoria is undertaking transformational research in future orchard design, precise and efficient orchard management and integrated pest and disease management.
- **Red Meat:** Scientists at Hamilton and AgriBio – our red meat innovation cluster – are delivering world-leading science for Victoria's sheep meat industry.



## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS – DIGITAL AGRICULTURE

### AgTech

- Connecting Regional Communities Program
- \$12 million to support adoption of internet-enabled technologies with an on-farm Internet of Things (IoT) trial
  - Dairy
  - Orchard
  - Sheep
  - Broadacre cropping
- \$15 million for additional digital agriculture initiatives
- SproutX: AgTech accelerator program.



# OUR ACHIEVEMENTS – AGRICULTURE ENERGY PROGRAM

## Agriculture Energy

- Agriculture Energy Investment Plan (\$30m)
- On-farm energy assessments
- Grants to invest in energy efficient or own-generation technology
- Demonstrations showing energy efficient or own-generation technology on-farm
- Skills and education linking farmers and businesses to information and education resources
- Facilitating partnerships to commercialise research for the farming sector.

### What are the main energy-related concerns for farmers?

#### Cost

of energy was the number one concern



for 75% of gas users,  
66% of diesel users,  
and 59% of electricity users

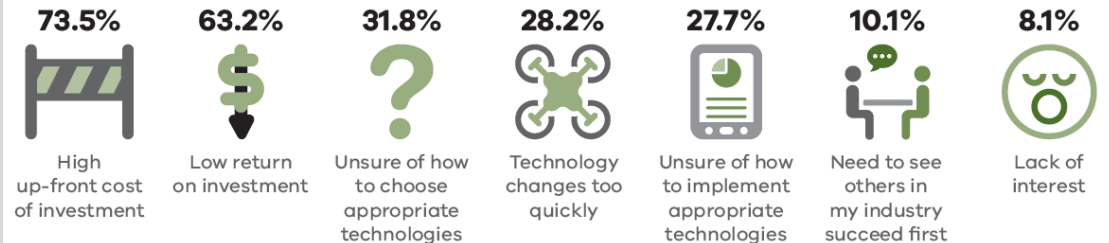
#### Reliability

was also a concern

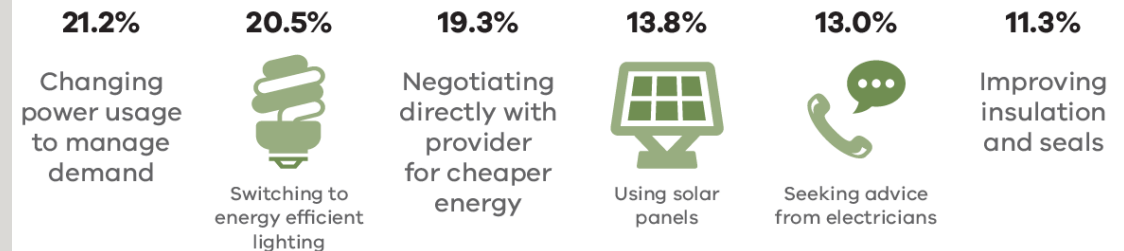


for 35% of electricity users  
and 21% of diesel users

### What are the biggest barriers to decreasing on-farm energy costs?



### What actions have farmers taken in the past two years to keep energy costs down?



## OUR ACHIEVEMENTS – COMMERCIAL FISHERIES

### Commercial Fisheries

- Implemented a 3-year tagging trial program where all recreationally caught rock lobster are required to be tagged and reported via an online app.
- Management plans declared for the eel and rock lobster fisheries. A draft plan for the pipi fishery is out for consultation.
- Overseen stock assessments and fishery performance to support commercial quota setting for abalone, urchins, scallops and lobster.
- Harvest strategies developed for abalone and lobster
- Removing red tape for live rock lobster and abalone by removing requirements for licences when harvesting live product.
- Working with DEDJTR to develop e-catch reporting for commercial fisheries to reduce regulatory burden on fishers.



## THIS BUDGET – KEY INITIATIVES

### **Improving international market access**

\$10 million to improve market access and development of key international markets.

### **Boosting Victoria's wine industry**

\$4.08 million to implement the Victorian Wine Industry Development Strategy to grow Victoria's wine industry and capture new opportunities. This includes funding to extend phylloxera exclusion zones, a significant pest of grapevines that impedes trade and movement of grapes and equipment.

### **Creating opportunities for Artisanal producers**

\$2 million to establish an Artisanal and Premium Food Program to increase market opportunities for high-quality, high-value produce.

### **Protecting the welfare of animals in Victoria**

\$4.3 million for animal welfare priorities, including establishing the Pet Exchange Register, grants for non-profit community organisations and funding to support the RSPCA.