

Australia grants \$30M on Farm Connectivity Program aiding farmers with Agtech & connectivity tools

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Australia grants \$30 million for the on Farm Connectivity Program (OFCP), delivering significant productivity benefits for Australia's primary producers. More than \$6.2 million in rebates are already committed to assist farmers in implementing Agtech and connectivity solutions.

The program is extending data coverage further onto properties and allowing for greater connection and reliability of machinery and sensor technology by offering discounted technologies through approved suppliers. These technologies are assisting farmers to optimise soil quality and nutrient levels, monitor livestock, improve efficiency of water use and streamline farm logistics.

Since the program launch in late October, the Business Grants Hub has received more than 700 applications from equipment suppliers towards the \$15 million in funding available under Round 1.

The rebate is available for a wide range of technologies such as external antennas, repeaters, boosters, sensors, automated tank systems and pump controllers, animal movement tags together with relevant installation and training costs.

To help primary producers explore eligible connectivity options and make informed investment decisions, the Government has engaged the Regional Tech Hub to provide free and independent advice.

Though OFCP Australian Government is committed to \$1.1 billion Better Connectivity Plan like improving mobile and broadband connectivity and resilience in communities across the country.Â

Minister for Communications, the Hon Michelle Rowland MP said, â??The Albanese Government is backing our farmers and primary producers On Farm Connectivity Program delivering the cutting edge tech the sector needs to stay competitive, boost sustainability and enhance farm safety.â?•

Murray Watt, Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry said, â??By helping farmers invest in new technologies, weâ??re powering productivity and embracing smarter, more sustainable farming practices. Iâ??d encourage anyone wanting to see how agtech might benefit their work to give the Regional Tech Hub a call.â?•