Managing Climate Risk in Agriculture

Stanthorpe Conference

3 April 2019

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Agriculture Sector Adaptation Plan

- Queensland Farmers' Federation
- AgForce
- Growcom
- Stocktake
- Stakeholder engagement

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The six key Focus Points

1.
Optimise access to climate hazard information and projections at scales that can inform industry and farm-level risk assessments

2.
Continue to develop and refine tools and resources that support farm, regional, supply chain and industry-level management decision-making

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The six key Focus Points

3.

Support the delivery of facilitation and engagement programs

4.

Improve access to necessary finance and agriculture insurance

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The six key Focus Points

5.
Explore mechanisms to enable climate risk management and climate adaption to be addressed across agricultural supply chains

6.
Enhance investment in programs and initiatives that support and catalyse innovation and resilience, with a particular focus on the “next generation” in the agriculture sector.

Action Plan

- East Coast North sub-cluster
- SEQ, Burnett Mary, Fitzroy NRM regions
- Action recommendations for industry (Industry groups, agronomists etc.) and farmers
- Leverage of existing projects and resources
- Recommendations for additional funding/focus on adaptation in future government/RDC funding.

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5 Key action points

1. Understanding climate change

- Use and continue to develop existing tools
  - Longpaddock
  - Queensland Future Climate Dashboard
  - Climate Change in Australia
  - BoM
- Climate analogues
- Weather and crop records

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5 Key action points

2. Tools and resources to support decision making

- BMPs
- Climate Risk Matrix
- Templates
- Case studies

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5 Key action points

3. Extension

- Leverage of existing projects and networks run by industry and NRM groups
- Ensure extension officers are up to date on climate change
- Farmers to get engaged

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5 Key action points

4. Access to finance and capital

- Ensure investment in on-farm adaptation is affordable
- De-risk the farm businesses for financial service providers
- Increase uptake of insurance to offset risk

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5 Key action points

5. Investment in innovation and resilience

- Programs and initiatives to support and catalyse more innovative thinking
- Build a network of “next generation” farmers as a think-tank for innovative ideas
- Build relationships with universities and government R&D groups to support innovation activities
- Work with farmers to develop new ideas and do “outside the box” thinking and trials

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Climate adaptation action

- Support farmers
- Leverage of existing programs
  - to optimise resources
  - To ensure climate change is implemented in all aspects of the industry – not a stand alone pillar

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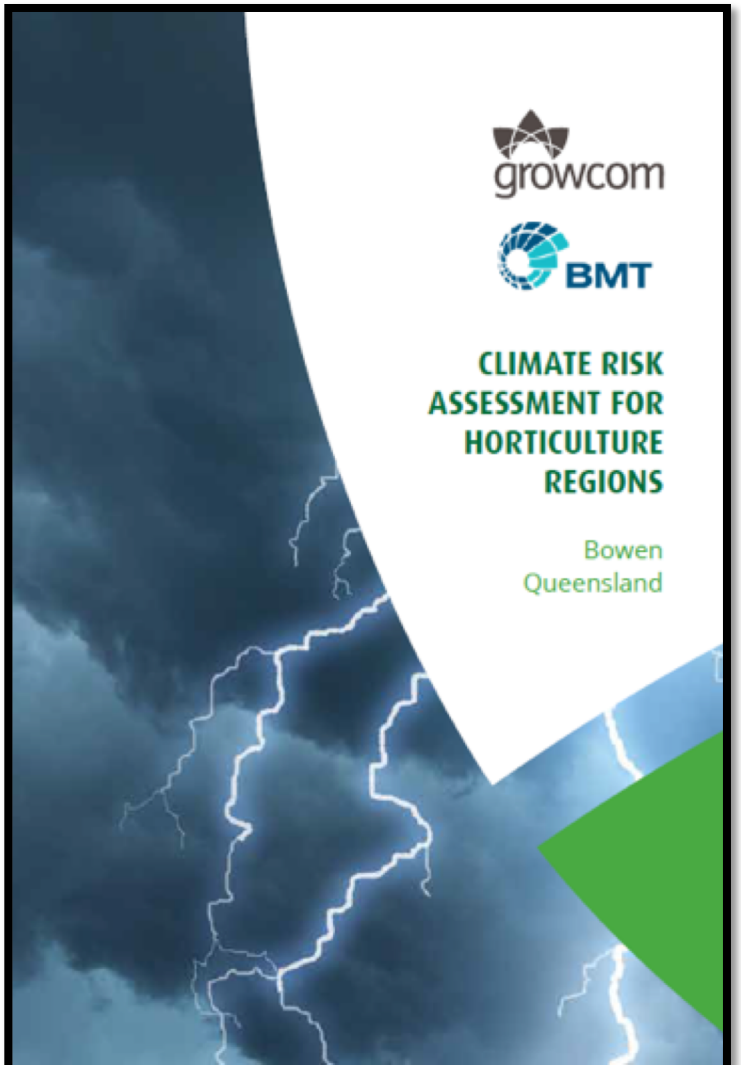
Climate risk assessment

Resilience building funding used for climate risk assessment on regional and business scale



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Climate Projections

Cyclones may be less frequent but more intense

Temperature reached on hottest days may increase

Also an increase in the frequency of hot days and the duration of warm spells

Bushfires will be

Potential Impacts

Increased salinity of estuaries & groundwater

Change in seasons (earlier summers, later & warmer winters)

Storm surges
Storms/cyclone damage

Increased rainfall

Mitigation Options

Farming operations: Crop selection & flexible planting schedule

Infrastructure: Cyclone resistant sheds, disaster plan procedures

Supply chains/markets: Collective strategy, transport contingency plans

Human health: Heat management plans, PPE

Thank you!

Questions?

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