

Enquiries to: Rowena Richardson Telephone: 0418 390 568 Our ref: C-ECTF-20/12197

**Queensland Health** 

Dr Beth Woods Director-General Department of Agriculture and Fisheries

Email: Beth.Woods@daf.qld.gov.au

Dear Dr Woods

## Approval for farmers and agribusiness workers to move across the border for farming and agribusiness - *Border restrictions Direction (No. 12)*

- I, Dr Jeannette Young, Chief Health Officer, have provided an exemption for farmers and agribusiness workers as an exempt class of persons under *Border restrictions Directions (No. 12)*, for people:
  - a. who are Queensland residents who need to re-enter Queensland after travelling to New South Wales to perform essential agribusiness services for the agriculture supply chain or farming activities; or
  - who are Queensland residents who need to re-enter Queensland after entering New South Wales to access or provide timely veterinary services, or to provide care for livestock; or
  - who are New South Wales residents who need to enter Queensland to perform essential agribusiness services for the agriculture supply chain or farming activities; or
  - d. who are New South Wales residents who need to access Queensland to access or provide timely veterinary services, or to provide care for livestock.

This approval does <u>not</u> apply to seasonal workers and does not permit farmers and agribusiness workers to enter Queensland for any other purpose as per the *Border restrictions Direction (No.12)*. Farmers and agribusiness workers must travel directly to and from the relevant farm or premises without stopping.

Please be aware, farmers and agribusiness workers will not be permitted to enter Queensland if they have COVID-19 or, in the 14 days prior they have:

- been overseas; or
- had COVID-19; or
- had close contact with a confirmed case of COVID-19.

Approval as farmers and agribusiness workers is valid for entry into Queensland for one month from the date of this letter.

When travelling to Queensland, farmers and agribusiness workers must complete the Queensland Border Declaration Pass. Farmers and agribusiness workers should select that they have exemption from the Chief Health Officer permitting them to enter Queensland. They should be able to present their Border Declaration Pass at the border and must carry the following documents, and present them if requested by an Emergency Officer (public health):

- evidence of their identity confirming their place of residence, for example, a driver's licence;
- evidence of their employment, contract, property ownership, lease or agistment arrangements.

As an approved class of persons, farmers and agribusiness workers

- a. who are Queensland residents must remain isolated, to the extent reasonably practicable, from the general public at the agribusiness or farm until the person returns to Queensland; or
- b. who are New South Wales residents must remain isolated, to the extent reasonably practicable, from the general public at the agribusiness or farm until the person departs Queensland or for 14 days, whichever period is shorter; and only remain in Queensland for the time necessary to perform the essential agribusiness or farming activities.

This decision has been made based on the Public Health Directions and COVID-19 hotspot declarations in place at the time of this decision. It is each health worker's responsibility to review the Public Health Directions and hotspot declarations at the time of entry to Queensland to determine if they are subject to any amended requirements or obligations.

Yours sincerely

Dr Jeannette Young PSM

Queensland Chief Health Officer

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**Deputy Director-General** 

22 / 08 /2020