Rural Aid provides assistance to farmers in times of drought, flood and fire. We know farmers are a proud bunch, many of whom won’t ask for help! We know that many suffer in silence, however we want to change that through our Assistance Program.

If you’re a farming family in need of help, please register at: https://www.buyabale.com.au/can-we-help-you/

Farmers must be registered with Rural Aid to receive this assistance.

What information will you need to register with Rural Aid?

- **To apply online**, please make sure that you use the same name to register as a farmer and for your financial assistance application.

- **Primary Producer Declaration.** If you are a primary producer and your accountant is writing a primary producer declaration for you, please ensure it has the letter head and contact details. Or if your accountant is using a Declaration of Eligibility for a Registration Concession form or any other form, please make sure that it has your and your accountant’s signature on it with current date.

- **Please note:** Upon completion of the registration form, you should receive an automated email from us. If you do not receive the email, check your spam folder, if the email is not there, please contact the Rural Aid team on 1300 327 624 during business hours.

- **Don’t have internet?** Contact the Rural Aid team on 1300 327 624 during business hours and we can mail you the required forms.

We’re in this together!

ruralaid.org.au  
1300 327 624
Rural Aid’s assistance includes:

- **Fodder**
  
The charity sources and delivers fodder to farmers for livestock.
  
  In 2018/19, Rural Aid delivered over 65,000 large bales of hay to over 4000 farmers.

- **Gift Cards**
  
  Upon registration, you can also request a pre-paid Visa ‘Country Card’ to use as you choose.
  
  In 2018/19, a combined total of over $6M was given to over 4500 farmers in the form of financial assistance and gift cards.

- **Financial Assistance**
  
The charity provides a one-off $1500 payment towards bills paid directly to the biller.
  
  Once we have received your application at Rural Aid and we have verified you are registered correctly in our system, then our team will review and process all approved applications within 14 working days.
  
  • A maximum of three invoices up to $1500 bill/s. (Note: if you provide us with a bill of $1600, we will pay $1500 only)
  
  • All documents are able to be clearly read.
  
  • Biller’s bank account details provided. All invoices must have the biller bank account details: BPay reference & biller code or BSB & account number, as we pay the biller directly.

  If you do not have any bill/s for us to pay, we can put credit up to $1500 towards your paid electricity, rates and water bill (to the biller directly). If this is the case, you must let us know by providing information in the application’s note section.

  Please note: You must be in a disaster affected area, be deemed to be a primary producer and have a current Australian Business Number (ABN). Your payment will not be paid if you don’t meet the criteria. This one-off payment is capped at $1500 and an application for less than $1500 will see the balance value forfeited.

- **Water**
  
The charity co-ordinates and delivers domestic water into a tank to farmers who have run out of drinking water because of a natural disaster.
  
  Registered farmers can apply for water delivery.

- **Counselling**
  
  Rural Aid’s counselling program is unique because our counsellors meet face-to-face with farmers and their families on-farm or conduct phone counselling sessions. We know, through experience, that on-farm sessions produce the best results because they create a comfortable, non-intimidatory environment that farmers respond to.

  In the 2018/19 financial year, Rural Aid Counsellors conducted over 2300 face-to-face and phone counselling sessions. Importantly, our counsellors made 5000 outbound calls last financial year to farmers registered on our database.

- **Farm Army Volunteers**
  
The Farm Army initiative is Rural Aid’s army of volunteers who provide 1000s of hours of work assisting farmers in times of real hardship and provide more than just help with physical work - they connect with the farmers in so many other ways, bringing hope and friendship.

  If you’re looking for volunteers to help you on your farm, go to https://www.farmarmy.com.au/submit-a-job to list a job, or call 1300 327 624 for assistance.

  Complete the form with as much information as you can* about the type of person or persons you’d like help from. Also, please consider what you can offer them in return - free accommodation, etc.

  The job description field MUST be detailed. One-word submissions will not be accepted. If you want good candidates who match your requirements, please give as much information as possible.

  Please note: jobs listed won’t be displayed until approved by Rural Aid.