



Cyclone Gabrielle recovery

This fact sheet provides information for farmers, growers, rural businesses, and Māori landowners to help you deal with the impact of Cyclone Gabrielle.

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) is meeting regularly with the sector to focus on the support required for farmers and growers.

Help is available now

Help is available from many sources. MPI, sector groups, Rural Support Trusts, Civil Defence, other agencies, local councils, and community groups are there to support you.

Rural recovery funding

The Government is providing an initial \$4 million to help farmers, growers, whenua Māori owners and rural communities mobilise and co-ordinate recovery efforts.

MPI is working closely with sector groups, including DairyNZ, Beef + Lamb New Zealand, Horticulture New Zealand, Federated Farmers and Rural Support Trusts, to identify areas of greatest need.

We expect the money may be used to:

- help get generators to isolated rural areas without electricity
- help re-establish vital lines of communication
- support the immediate response and get in behind local initiatives
- to conduct aerial assessments (this imagery was critical in recovery planning after the Canterbury floods in 2021).

We're working with sector and regional groups to identify areas of greatest need. At this point, farmers are not able to directly apply for this funding.

Civil Defence payments

Civil Defence payments are available if you have been affected by the cyclone.

You can visit the [Work and Income website](#) or call **0800 400 100** or for more information.

Feed Working Group

MPI has restarted its national Feed Working Group, a partnership between MPI, sector groups and specialist providers.

The group monitors access to feed availability.

Contact your sector groups

Sector groups are a key source of help, support and information, and are in touch with their members directly.

DairyNZ

www.dairynz.co.nz

Phone: **0800 4 DairyNZ (0800 4 324 7969)**

Email: info@dairynz.co.nz

Beef and Lamb New Zealand

<https://beeflambnz.com>

Phone: **0800 BEEFLAMB (0800 233 352)**

Email: enquiries@beeflambnz.com

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

www.fedfarm.org.nz

Phone: **0800 327 646**

Horticulture New Zealand – Ahumāra Kai Aotearoa

www.hortnz.co.nz

Phone: **+64 4 472 3795**

Email: info@hortnz.co.nz

Ministry for Primary Industries

www.mpi.govt.nz

Phone: **0800 00 83 33**

Email: info@mpi.govt.nz

These organisations can also provide help and support:

Mental Health Foundation

<https://mentalhealth.org.nz/helplines>

Depression.org.nz

www.depression.org.nz

Phone: **0800 111 757** Text: 4202

Farmstrong

<https://farmstrong.co.nz>

Email: info@farmstrong.co.nz



Injured or sick animals

Contact your local veterinary practice for support for any injured or sick animals.

The New Zealand Veterinary Association has information and guidance if your animals have been exposed to flood water, including signs to look out for: <https://nzva.org.nz/public/flood-resources-public>

Rural Support Trusts

Each of the country's 14 Rural Support Trusts have local, rural people who know from experience that pressures can mount up. Your local trust can provide support and advice. Talking to them is confidential, and free of charge. They can connect you with the services you need, whether it's financial and business advice or health services.

Farmers can contact the Rural Support Trust on **0800 RURAL HELP** or **0800 787 254**. Please see the [Rural Support Trust website](#) for more information.

Other support

National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

NEMA has a helpful factsheet on the support available following Cyclone Gabrielle.

Please visit the [NEMA website](#) for more information, including who to contact.

Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)

MBIE has information and advice for businesses affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, such as:

- looking after your employees
- operating safely

- insurance claims
- finance and banking
- buildings and landlord responsibilities.

You can find more information on the [MBIE website](#).

Useful guidance

Below is guidance growers and farmers may find helpful.

Guidance for harvesting produce affected by flood waters

New Zealand Food Safety has released guidance for growers who are harvesting produce affected by flood waters.

The guidance is available on the [New Zealand Food Safety website](#).

Disposal of dead stock

During Cyclone Gabrielle, many farmers have reported stock losses. Carcasses can carry diseases which affect human and animal health.

They must be disposed of quickly to avoid the contamination of waterways or contact with remaining stock on your property.

Farmers should seek advice from their local council and sector groups about the disposal of dead stock.

Federated Farmers has developed regional guide on stock burial and offal pits, which can be found on the [Federated Farmers website](#).

DairyNZ also has a [Dead Stock Disposal Best Practice Guideline](#).