

# fact sheet

## Reef Rescue – Grains BMP

This fact sheet is for grain growers in the Burdekin Dry Tropics natural resource management region.

### What is Reef Rescue?

The Grains Best Management Practices (BMP) program is funded by the Australian Government Reef Rescue initiative. Reef Rescue aims to improve water quality entering the Great Barrier Reef. It forms part of a \$200 million initiative, which is a component of the Australian Government's Caring for our Country.

### Is Reef Rescue the same as regulation?

No. Reef Rescue is a voluntary program funded by the Australian Government. It is not linked to the Queensland Government's Reef Protection Package.

NQ Dry Tropics is an independent company that has been engaged by the Australian Government to deliver and implement Reef Rescue for the Burdekin Dry Tropics NRM region.

### How much money is available?

Up to **\$9,350 is available** (GST inclusive) per enterprise. You will be required to provide 50 per cent cash contribution in addition to project funding.

### What can I apply for?

Applications can be made for practice changes that will provide water quality benefits. The focus of these changes is to reduce the amount of pesticides leaving farms and entering our waterways. For more information on what is eligible please see the list of eligible activities.

### How do I apply?

The first step in applying for Grains BMP funding is to submit an **Expression of Interest** form to CHRRUP which is working with NQ Dry Tropics to deliver the program.

You will need to complete the following modules of the Grains BMP program. The Grains BMP modules have been developed jointly by Agforce Grains and the Queensland Government's Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation:

- Pesticide Application module
- Property Design and Layout module
- Making the Most of Rainfall module

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The three modules will be delivered over two days.

CHRRUP staff will keep you informed about when the Grains BMP workshops will be scheduled. The workshops will be arranged with farmers' work commitments in mind.

As part of the Grains BMP workshops you will identify potential improvements and risks and develop an action plan to address these. You will also have the opportunity to attend training by Bill Gordon on spray applications and receive one-on-one on farm spray rig set up training from Graham Betts (Ask GB) at no cost to you.

A CHRRUP field officer will organise a farm visit with you. They will then assist you to develop projects addressing practice improvements from actions identified as part of the Grains BMP Program and from the additional training received. The projects can then be submitted for consideration for incentive funding grants.

A CHRRUP field officer will provide you with the Application Form for the project funding submission.

Once the funding application has been developed by you with the assistance of the CHRRUP field officer your submission will be assessed by the Grains BMP Technical Assessment Panel.

## How will I be assessed?

There are three major scoring criteria:

- water quality benefit
- value for money
- area impacted.

## When can I start?

Once all the applications are assessed you will be notified if your application has been successful. If successful you will be sent a contract for the project. Once you have signed and returned the contract you will be able to commence the practice change project.

You will be paid 50 per cent of the contracted funding amount at this point.

## When does it finish?

Depending on the funding round contracted projects must be completed by:

Round 1 - 31 October 2011 and round 2 – 31 May 2012.

You will be paid the final 50 per cent of the contracted funding amount upon satisfactory sign off of the completion of your project.

## Where can I get more Information?

CHRRUP Field Officer, Shontae Moran on 0417 894 455 or [shontae@chrrup.org](mailto:shontae@chrrup.org) or CHRRUP Executive Officer, Megan Daniels on 07 4982 2996 or [megan@chrrup.org](mailto:megan@chrrup.org).

NQ Dry Tropics, Riaan Breedts on 07 4724 3544.

NQ Dry Tropics  
PO Box 1466  
Townsville, Qld 4810  
Ph: (07) 4724 3544  
email: [info@nqdrytropics.com.au](mailto:info@nqdrytropics.com.au)  
[www.nqdrytropics.com.au](http://www.nqdrytropics.com.au)



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