

TasAgFuture – Aspirations for Food and Agriculture

Where is Tasmania's agrifood sector heading and how will we get there?

Survey Information Sheet

1. Invitation

This is an invitation to participate in a survey as part of the TasAgFuture – Aspirations for Food and Agriculture research project. This project seeks to understand the aspirations, actions and expectations of those involved in the agriculture and food (agrifood) sector in Tasmania. Understanding this will allow us to develop new ways to improve profitability and environmental and social sustainability. The study is being undertaken by a research team at the Tasmanian Institute of Agriculture (TIA).

2. What is the purpose of this study?

TIA will use the results from this study to inform what we do going forward. Results will be important for ongoing discussions with government and industry about priorities and policy and to identify leverage points and where we can get the best value from investment in the agriculture and food sector.

You will briefly be asked about:

- your long-term goals and motivations to help us clarify how best to support a profitable and sustainable agriculture and food sector into the future
- the work you have done to achieve your goals in order to get a clearer picture of how people are innovating within the sector
- what constrains and enables you in achieving your goals to identify the key blockages and opportunities where our research, development and extension can be most effective, and to inform discussions with our partners and stakeholders in government, industry, university and the wider agrifood sector
- what you see as the key challenges and opportunities into the future will help us make sure that research and policy keeps a keen eye on what is coming over the horizon

3. Why have I been invited to participate?

You have been asked to participate in the survey because you are someone working in farming or food production and processing. Your participation in the research is voluntary and you are obviously free to choose not to participate.

4. What do I need to do?

You are invited to complete an anonymous survey about your primary involvement in an agrifood business. The survey provides answers which you will need to select from a list, or rate according to a scale. The survey will take 10-15 minutes to complete and it will be available online from 27 June until 31 August 2018. In some instances, participants will be posted a paper survey and reply-paid envelope to which the deadline of 31 August also applies. While the survey is anonymous, you can choose to provide your email or postal address, which is required to go in the draw to win one of three iPads. You can choose to receive a digital snapshot of results that compares your goals with others in the agrifood sector and/or receive future email news from TIA.

5. Are there any possible benefits from participating in this study?

This project is an opportunity to help shape the future of Tasmania's agrifood sector. Through the project, TIA aims to understand the challenges and opportunities of food producers and processors, which will inform how we prioritise research, development and extension. Your views may also inform government policy and industry priorities. Being involved also provides an opportunity to receive news on the latest R&D from TIA, and future research projects. Results published in the media will build a wider public dialogue on the realities faced by farmers, growers, and food and beverage manufacturers in Tasmania.

6. Are there any possible risks from participating in the survey?

There are no anticipated risks associated with participating in the survey. All survey data will be kept confidential and stored securely. Any contact details provided will be coded and separated from your data responses to preserve your anonymity. Your survey responses will be linked to your contact details only if you choose to consent to participate in future TIA research. All presentations or publications of results and analysis will ensure you cannot be identified.

7. What if I change my mind during or after the survey?

If you decide to discontinue participation while undertaking the survey, you may stop by closing or discarding the survey without consequence.

8. What will happen to the information when this project is over?

All data will be stored on a password-protected file at the University of Tasmania, without any of your details associated with it. Your de-identified data will be available to use in related research projects in the future.

9. How will the results of the study be published?

The results of the study will be published in a number of formats, including academic publications, reports to stakeholders, and mass media communications. All information will be treated in a confidential manner, and you will not be identifiable in any publication arising from this research, unless you specifically give your permission to be identified.

10. What if I have questions about this study?

If you have any enquiries about the project, please call the Project Leader, Dr Peat Leith on (03) 6226 6391 or email Peat.Leith@utas.edu.au. This study has been approved by the Tasmanian Social Sciences Human Research Ethics Committee. If you have concerns or complaints about the conduct of this study, please contact the Executive Officer of the HREC (Tasmania) Network on (03) 6226 7479 or email human.ethics@utas.edu.au. The Executive Officer is the person nominated to receive complaints from research participants. Please quote ethics reference number H0016717.