

## Ararat Regional Outlook conference

**Registration complimentary for all delegates.  
Pre-event registration is essential.**

Please complete one form per delegate or register online at [agriculture.gov.au/abares/regional](http://agriculture.gov.au/abares/regional)

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Organisation \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email \_\_\_\_\_

Please advise of any special requirements eg. dietary, mobility  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

### Age group

<25     25-35     36-45     46-55     55+

Please tick here if you agree for your name, organisation and email to be included in the delegate directory.

### How did you find out about the conference?

mail     ABARES website     email     Facebook/ Twitter  
 industry or other organisation     word of mouth  
 advertisements     invited speaker/chair

other \_\_\_\_\_

### Return to:

ABARES Events  
GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601  
Email [conferences@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:conferences@agriculture.gov.au)

The collection of personal information by the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources in relation to this registration form is authorised under the *Privacy Act 1988* for the purposes of facilitating your conference registration and related purposes. If the relevant personal information requested in this registration form is not provided by you, the department will be unable to confirm your registration. The department's Privacy Policy is available at: [agriculture.gov.au/about/privacy](http://agriculture.gov.au/about/privacy).

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Phone: Switchboard +61 2 6272 3933 | Email: [privacy@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:privacy@agriculture.gov.au)

Mail: Privacy Contact Officer, Department of Agriculture and Water Resources, GPO Box 858, Canberra ACT 2601.

### About ABARES and the Regional Outlook conferences

The Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES) is the research arm of the Australian Government Department of Agriculture and Water Resources. ABARES provides professionally independent research, analysis, forecasts and statistics.

ABARES Regional Outlook conferences are an essential part of our delivery of commodity forecasts and research results directly to rural and regional communities, with each conference program tailored to the region.

### ABARES thanks our conference partners



**Australian Government**  
**Bureau of Meteorology**



Australian Bureau of  
Agricultural and Resource  
Economics and Sciences

#### Postal address

GPO Box 858  
Canberra ACT 2601 Australia

Phone 1800 900 090



[agriculture.gov.au/abares](http://agriculture.gov.au/abares)

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**Australian Government**  
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and Water Resources**  
ABARES



**Ararat**  
**26 July 2017**

ABARES Regional Outlook conference

Alexandra Oval Community Centre  
Ararat, Victoria





## Registration is complimentary

### Registration includes:

- conference entry
- morning, lunch and afternoon tea
- copy of the delegate directory for easier networking
- copy of ABARES 'About my region' agricultural industries profile
- access to ABARES recent publications

## Inquiries

### ABARES Events team

Phone: 02 6272 2303 or 02 6272 2260

Email: [conferences@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:conferences@agriculture.gov.au)

View program updates at [agriculture.gov.au/abares/regional](http://agriculture.gov.au/abares/regional) and note that this program may change in the event of unforeseen circumstances.

Please share this brochure with anyone who may be interested in attending.

# Ararat 26 July 2017

8.30 AM Registration

## Innovation in agriculture – capturing the opportunities

CHAIR **Nikolai Beilharz**  
ABC Rural

9.00 AM Welcome to Country

*Opening address*

**Senator Bridget McKenzie**  
Senator for Victoria

9.30 AM **Peter Gooday**

ABARES

*Big picture issues affecting agriculture in Victoria*

9.50 AM **Michael Dean**

Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade

*Free Trade Agreements: agriculture, trade and foreign investment – the Australian situation*

10.10 AM Questions and discussion

10.30 AM Morning tea

## Innovation in broadacre agriculture

CHAIR **Angela Clough**  
Department of Economic Development, Jobs, Transport and Resources

11.00 AM **Rohan Nelson**

ABARES

*Commodity outlook and issues*

11.20 AM **Michael Craig**

Tuloona Pastoral/Nuffield Scholar

*Australian sheep meat: a commodity or premium product*

11.40 AM **Ben Fleay**

Precision Agriculture

*Data, insight, action: increasing productivity in agriculture with digital technology*

12.00 PM **Charles De Fegely**

Quamby

*Raising sheep enterprise profits with sustainable innovation*

12.20 PM Questions and discussion

1.00 PM Lunch

## Adapting agriculture to a drier climate

CHAIR **Justine Linley**  
Regional Development Australia Grampians

2.00 PM **Ted Williams**

Bureau of Meteorology

*Better information – better opportunities*

2.20 PM **David Drage**

Wakerley Farm/Nuffield Scholar

*The challenges of climate change and farming in a dry climate*

2.40 PM **Chris Sounness**

Birchip Cropping Group

*Improving moisture management in dryland farming*

3.00 PM **Mark Williams and Simon Coutts**

GWMWater

*Securing a reliable water supply for stock and other agricultural uses*

3.20 PM Questions and discussion

4.00 PM Close and afternoon tea