



Which of the following best describes your situation?

Farmer/producer

Are you responding on behalf of an organisation or industry body?

No

How would you like to respond?

a. Answer discussion paper questions via the online survey

What are the opportunities to reduce emissions and build carbon stores in agriculture and the land? What are the main barriers to action?

Certainty in the carbon market and the ability of farmers to easily be rewarded for their land and carbon stewardship is one of the main barriers. Not knowing how you will make a project financially viable is the main barrier to investigation. The whole sustainability question needs to start with, whos paying? and who benefits? Public money, for a public good is one thing, bit it will only take us so far. High electricity prices are also stopping us as a business from investing in the equipment to reduce emissions.

How can we progress emission reduction efforts whilst also building resilience and adapting to climate change?

Reduce the cost of energy across all markets. The environment is everything when working as a farmer and your input cost are a major driving factor in the decisions you make when investing in your business. Reduced energy costs will benefit everyone, the consumer included and allow industry to better invest in modern, more efficient machines and equipment.

How can the Australian Government bring together existing effort and new initiatives into one coordinated plan?

Stop trying to please EVERYONE. Its like the sustainable development goals. Individually, most of them are a good idea. But trying to achieve all of them whilst still feeding everyone and reducing poverty isn't possible. I don't think this government can achieve a coordinated plan.

What are the most important options to be further adopted or supported, looking in the short and the longer-term?

The CO2 emissions calculations are still not accurate so the data the government is working with is flawed. This needs to be rectified first.

What are the practical solutions to increase uptake?

Have an open (non regulated) market for carbon, if you let the market run with buyers and sellers - not just the top end of town. It will flourish on its own. Famers should be rewarded for their tree lines they plant and their creeks they fence off. It all helps.

How do you see the agriculture and land sectors contributing over the medium and longer-term? What are the opportunities to deliver emission reductions in parallel with wider goals?

First of all, calculate the amount of carbon captured by the organic material that is produced by each farmer each year and then go back to the drawing board. Millions and millions of tonnes of crops are grown each year which is all carbon removed from the atmosphere. Farmers aren't doing wide spread stubble burning any more so that is mostly stored carbon. Producing more food for a given Ha or more output per carbon unit measured would be a good measure. We are well positioned to be a global food basket, but it won't work if farmers are guilted or strong armed into reducing production for the sake of carbon. Feeding people and helping them to help contribute to society, where ever they may be, is a far greater good.

How can the Australian Government better support agriculture and land sectors to:

a) drive innovation

b) build capacity

c) ensure the system enables emissions reductions

a) Help to increase the gross margin of farming production. Farmers are notorious for ploughing all of their profits back into the operation which will drive productivity and innovation. b)Reduce red tape, and help young farmers borrow money. All of the schemes currently require a big 4 bank to be the primary lender which trips many applicants at the first hurdle, no matter how willing the government is to lend. The banks have become very difficult to deal with when it comes to expansion or growth. c) Again, emissions reduction - per unit of output. unless of course you want people to go hungry. Also keep in mind, Australian native timber is a worse carbon store than improved pastures but we are not planning on cutting most of the trees down for the greater good. We cant have everything, the reason farmers get out of bed in the morning is to feed people.

What new initiatives could the Australian Government design that would support emissions reduction and carbon storage in agriculture and land and help ensure a productive, profitable, resilient and sustainable future for the sectors?

I'm just a farmer, but I know that reduced energy costs would go a long way in allowing us to do for our farm and be able to set more of it aside for stewardship.

A consistent and trusted approach for assessing and reporting emissions is often raised as a barrier to reducing emissions. Is there a role for the Australian Government in addressing this concern, and how can producers and land managers be supported?

Get the government out of the way and allow for a unregulated carbon market.

What skills, knowledge and capabilities do you think producers and land managers need to implement change? What information and data would help them make decisions about emissions reductions and sustainable land management in the short and longer-term?

Were getting so many issues thrown at us that many farmers are starting to loose interest. Sorry.

Is your response confidential?

No

Do you agree to your response being published on our website?

Yes

Please de-identify my response

Yes

I have read and understood the privacy notice and consent to the collection, use and disclosure of my personal information as outlined in the privacy notice.

Yes

Confirm that you have read and understand this declaration.

Yes
