

Submission on Agricultural Land and Sectoral Plan

Comments follow about the following text:-

“Australia’s agriculture and land sectors are already feeling the effects of climate change. Extreme weather events and changing seasonal conditions are becoming more frequent. These are putting pressure on productivity, farm performance and landscape health.”

There is no proof that extreme weather events are becoming more frequent. From cyclones to floods, droughts, storms, bushfires and indeed temperature rises over recorded history, things are very much as they always were.

With much higher populations, often near coastlines or in bushland, many more people experience natural climate disasters than in earlier times. Add to that modern media including social media and the impression is that the world has more climate disasters.

As far as “putting pressure on productivity, farm performance and landscape health” the pressure caused by weather events is, as a consequence of unchanged occurrence of these events, no worse than it ever was.

However government-caused pressure is experienced by farmers. For example, they should use less fertilizer, or add expensive burp reduction food supplements to cow’s diets. These measures are yet to be justified against an unproven speculation that man-made CO₂ is altering our climate in a net-negative way.

If our government continues to pressure farmers without scientifically sound reason, the long term result will be gradual decline of our primary industry and our economy. In parallel, hard working, skilled farmers will leave the industry, some through stress and ill health, and our country including highly paid public servants, will suffer.