
SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DROUGHT RESILIENCE ADOPTION AND INNOVATION HUB

This program received funding from the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund

PARTICIPANT INFORMATION SHEET (SURVEYS)

Title: Identifying barriers and enablers to farmer engagement with climate resilience practices and technologies

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Description of the study

Flinders University and the SA Drought Hub are investigating how to increase South Australian farmers' interest and engagement with adaptive farming practices and technologies to safeguard against climate change impacts. To do so, researchers will explore the challenges to farmer participation and the opportunities and strategies to overcome these barriers. Researchers would like to hear the views, experiences and suggestions of South Australian farmers about how best to achieve this. This project is supported by Flinders University, College of Business, Government and Law and SA Drought Hub.

Purpose of the study

The project aims to discover what the barriers are to farmers introducing adaptive practices on their farms and the best strategies to help overcome these challenges. This knowledge will go toward assisting farmers across South Australia to better prepare for climate change impacts (e.g., increased temperatures, reduced rainfall, more frequent extreme weather events), in order to sustain farming productivity and livelihoods.

Benefits of the study

The sharing of your experiences will help researchers to understand what barriers stand in the way of farmers adopting drought resilience farming practices, and what helps farmers to act. By doing so, researchers will develop a framework of the key factors identified to inform future project design, programs or interventions that may be utilised by relevant governmental departments and the agriculture sector.

Participant involvement and potential risks

If you agree to participate in the research study, you will be asked to:

- undertake an online survey
- respond to questions about your farming background and farm characteristics; past experience and future intentions regarding climate change adaptation; barriers and enablers around implementing adaptive farming practices; information/support needs; preferred ways of receiving information/support; and suggestions for improving farmer uptake of new adaptive farming practices.

The survey will take about 10 minutes and participation is entirely voluntary.

The researchers do not expect the questions to cause any harm or discomfort to you. However, if you experience feelings of distress as a result of participation in this study, please let the research team know immediately. You can also contact the following services for support:

- Lifeline – 13 11 14, www.lifeline.org.au
- Beyond Blue – 1300 22 4636, www.beyondblue.org.au

Withdrawal Rights

You may, without any penalty, decline to take part in this research study. If you decide to take part and later change your mind, you may, without any penalty, withdraw at any time without providing an explanation. To withdraw, please contact the Chief Investigator or you may just close the internet browser and leave the online survey at any time. Any data collected up to the point of your withdrawal will be securely destroyed.

Confidentiality and Privacy

Only researchers listed on this form have access to the individual information provided by you. Privacy and confidentiality will be assured at all times. While you have the option to enter your name and contact details for the purposes of being contacted for an interview or being entered into a prize draw for a \$50 shopping voucher, these details will not be kept with the main body of information you provide.

The research outcomes may be presented at conferences, written up for publication or used for other research purposes as described in this information form. However, the privacy and confidentiality of individuals will be protected at all times. You will not be named, and your individual information will not be identifiable in any research products without your explicit consent.

Data Storage

The information collected will be stored securely on a password protected computer and/or Flinders University server throughout the study. All non-identified data will be securely transferred to and stored at Flinders University for seven years after publication of the results. Following the required data storage period, all data will be securely destroyed according to university protocols.

Recognition of Contribution / Time / Travel costs

As thanks for your participation in this survey, in recognition of your contribution and participation time, you will have the option to enter a prize draw for one of fifty (50) X \$50 Shop Local Gift Cards, understanding that:

- All participants have equal chance of winning a voucher.
- Names will be drawn randomly by a researcher on closure of the survey.
- Winners will be sent a Shop Local Gift Card in the mail, using the contact details you provide.
- The names of all prize winners will be shared on the SA Drought Hub website.

How will I receive feedback?

Research findings will be analysed and presented in a Final Report to the SA Drought Hub. Participants who are interested in the findings may contact the SA Drought Hub directly for feedback.

Ethics Committee Approval

The project has been approved by Flinders University's Human Research Ethics Committee (HREC 6446).

Queries and Concerns

Queries or concerns regarding the research can be directed to the research team. If you have any complaints or reservations about the ethical conduct of this study, you may contact the Flinders University's Research Ethics and Compliance Office team either via telephone (08) 8201 2543 or by emailing the Office via human.researchethics@flinders.edu.au.

Thank you for taking the time to read this information sheet which is yours to keep.