

MEDIA RELEASE

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BUDGET INJECTION PUTS NSW PRODUCE, WATER AND TRADE ON THE WORLD-STAGE

The NSW Government will drive investment in world class industries to improve opportunities for our state's exporters to compete on the global stage, deliver on its comprehensive water management reforms and boost the productivity of the food and fiber sector.

Minister for Primary Industries, Regional Water and Trade and Industry, Niall Blair said this year's budget was about improving outcomes for industry as well promoting regional food and water security.

"NSW farming businesses and regional communities will benefit from \$1 billion of initiatives, including those announced in this year's Budget to boost the sector's productivity, while reducing the impact from devastating pests and disease," Mr Blair said.

"This sets up our primary industries sector for the future. It encourages our farmers and fishers to harness home-grown innovation in order to continue to produce the best of the best in food and fibre.

"Over the next four years we will be investing in the development of our export industry to help garner successful results with potential overseas markets."

\$39 million will also be invested in initiatives to support exporters, grow the state's international education sector, develop and commercialise quantum computing and raise the awareness of science and engineering capabilities and careers.

The 2018-19 NSW Budget also commits \$23.2 million to deliver the state's Water Reform Action Plan. This includes funding for new technology, which will support best-practice water management and monitoring.

"This is about harnessing the ingenuity of NSW businesses to provide the water sector with world-class technology that supports our commitment to create better transparency and accountability around water use," Mr Blair said.

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