



Recovering from Cyclone Gabrielle in Hawke's Bay

Cyclone Gabrielle has taken a heavy toll on the Hawke's Bay region's farmers and growers. Help is there to get you through the immediate crisis and to recover.

Government funding

\$51 million fund for recovery

Farmers, growers, and whenua Māori owners in hard-to-reach areas significantly affected by Cyclone Gabrielle can still access support to kick-start recovery efforts.

You can apply for a grant from this \$51 million fund through the Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI). The following grants are available:

- Up to \$10,000 for farmers to kick start your recovery with money for water infrastructure repairs and fencing.
- Up to \$2,000 per hectare up to a maximum of \$40,000 for growers to remove silt from trees and vines, other clean up tasks, and work to reduce future losses, such as preserving trees in orchards and vines for future production.

To ask for a grant

Fill out the form on the [MPI website](http://www.mpi.govt.nz/cyclonerecovery) www.mpi.govt.nz/cyclonerecovery. MPI staff are also going into isolated areas with hard copies of these forms and will help filling them out.

You will need to describe the damage from the cyclone and the work you need to do.

If you don't have internet access to do this, call MPI on **0800 00 83 33** and ask for help.

Applications for the urgent clean-up grants closed at 5pm on 20 March 2023. However, applications from farmers, growers and whenua Māori owners in hard-to-reach areas will be considered until 5pm on 3 April 2023.

Contact your sector groups

Sector groups are a key source of help, support and information, and are in touch with their members directly.

DairyNZ

Phone: **0800 4 DairyNZ (0800 4 324 7969)**

Email: info@dairynz.co.nz

Beef and Lamb New Zealand

Phone: **0800 BEEFLAMB (0800 233 352)**

Email: enquiries@beeflambnz.com

Federated Farmers of New Zealand

Phone: **0800 327 646**

Horticulture New Zealand – Ahumāra Kai Aotearoa

Phone: **+64 4 472 3795**

Email: info@hortnz.co.nz

Hawke's Bay Fruitgrowers' Association

Phone: **027 233 9900**

Email: manager@hbfa.co.nz

New Zealand Apples & Pears

Phone: **+64 687 37080**

Email: info@applesandpears.nz

New Zealand Kiwifruit Growers Incorporated

Phone: **0800 232 505**

Email: info@hortnz.co.nz

New Zealand Wine

Phone: **021 192 4924**

www.nzwine.com/members

Hawke's Bay Wine Growers Association

Phone: **+64 6 876 3418**

Email: info@hawkesbaywine.co.nz

Apiculture New Zealand

Phone: **+64 4 471 6254**

Email: memberships@apinz.org.nz

Ministry for Primary Industries

www.mpi.govt.nz

Phone: **0800 00 83 33**

Email: info@mpi.govt.nz

Fencing Contractors Association NZ

www.fcanz.org.nz

Phone: **0508 432 269**

Email: admin@fcanz.org.nz



Further help:

Rural Support Trust

www.rural-support.org.nz

Phone: **0800 RURAL HELP** or **0800 787 254**

Federated Farmers' Farmy Army

Federated Farmers register matches those wanting people to help with volunteers offering assistance.

Info on home page: www.fedfarm.org.nz

Those in need can request help here. Those wishing to **volunteer their skills/time can register here**

Mental Health Foundation

www.mentalhealth.org.nz/helplines

Depression.org.nz

www.depression.org.nz

Phone: **0800 111 757** Text: 4202

Farmstrong

www.farmstrong.co.nz

Email: info@farmstrong.co.nz

Civil Defence payments

Call Work and Income on 0800 400 100 for information

Civil Defence provides money for those affected by this disaster. You don't have to be on a benefit to qualify and non-residents may be eligible. These payments can help with:

- emergency food, clothing and bedding
- accommodation costs if you can't stay at home and have to stay in paid accommodation
- loss of income due to an inability to work caused by the flooding
- the cost of having evacuees staying with you in places such as a private home, marae or community centres.

Work and Income financial support

There are lots of ways Work and Income can help, and their staff can point you in the right direction based on your situation. You don't have to be on a benefit.

See: www.workandincome.govt.nz/urgent-costs

Looking after animals

Feed Coordination Service

The Ministry for Primary Industries (MPI) and Federated Farmers have restarted the national Feed Coordination Service. The service helps match people with grazing or supplementary feed for sale to those who need it.

Phone: **0800 FARMING (0800 327 646)**

Or register online:

- Grazing needed <https://arcg.is/0eTPSK0>
- Grazing available <https://arcg.is/OWneD>
- Feed needed <https://arcg.is/11z9mz0>
- Feed available <https://arcg.is/1azj0n>

Injured or sick animals

Contact your local veterinary practice for support for any injured or sick animals. The New Zealand Veterinary Association has information and guidance if your animals have been exposed to flood water, including signs to look out for: <https://nzva.org.nz/public/flood-resources-public>

Deceased farm livestock

The Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) is leading the disposal of dead livestock and is receiving and coordinating calls for collection and disposal.

If already on farm, farmers may be able to bury their own dead livestock as per normal conditions.

Bury any animals more than 50 metres from a waterway and think about your usual pest and vermin control.

If the dead animals are not on farm, or there are too many on the property for you to deal with, please phone Hawke's Bay Regional Council on 06 835 9200 or 0800 108 838. The council will coordinate collection and appropriate disposal.

You can also seek advice from your sector group.

Federated Farmers has developed a ([regional guide on stock burial and offal pits](#)).

www.fedfarm.org.nz/FFPublic/Policy2/Policy_Factsheets/Regional_rules_on_stock_burial_and_offal_pits.aspx

DairyNZ also has a ([Dead Stock Disposal Best Practice Guideline](#)).

www.dairynz.co.nz/environment/on-farm-actions/waste-management/dead-stock-disposal/



Dealing with waste

If you have waste on a lifestyle block, farm or orchard, the Hawke's Bay Regional Council (HBRC) can help you remove larger volumes.

Silt removal

Landowners are asked to remove the silt from around vines or trees and move it to a location on their own property with suitable access for trucks.

Contact HBRC on **06 835 9200** or **0800 108 838** to arrange removal.

Posts and wire

Tanalised posts and wire cannot be disposed of through burning as it will release toxic chemicals into the wider environment.

Where landowners have large quantities of posts & wires from fences, viticulture and horticulture operations, these can be collected by HBRC and held in a secure site for further work. HBRC will arrange collection and suitable remedial work to separate wire for wire recycling and returning of usable posts to farmers.

Contact HBRC on 06 835 9200 or 0800 108 838 for removal of posts & wire fences.

Wood waste

HBRC strongly recommends against burning wood waste as it can spread contamination.

If you have wood waste on a lifestyle block, farm or orchard, HBRC can help remove larger volumes. Landowners are asked to move the wood waste to a location on their property with suitable access for trucks.

Contact HBRC on 06 835 9200 or 0800 108 838 for removal.

Looking after yourself, your whānau and your staff

Hawke's Bay Civil Defence Emergency Management Welfare Helpline – **0800 117 672**

If you need help with your health and wellbeing, accommodation, food supply, household goods, animal welfare and rural support – this free helpline is open from 8am – 8pm on weekdays and 8am to 4.15pm at weekends.

If you're already having your needs met by your local marae, welfare centre, or other service, stay with them. This 0800 helpline is an additional service, not a replacement of existing ones. The helpline is not for accessing financial support – in those cases, contact MPI or the Ministry for Social Development.

Rural Support Trust – **0800 7877 254**
or www.rural-support.org.nz

Talking to others can help. A good place to start is your local Rural Support Trust who provide free and confidential support and advice. This nationwide network is run by local people to help farming families and rural communities

Phone: **0800 787 254** or www.rural-support.org.nz



Other useful information

Rural Support Trust

Each of the country's 14 Rural Support Trusts have local, rural people who know from experience that pressures can mount up. Your local trust can provide support and advice. Talking to them is confidential, and free of charge. They can connect you with the services you need, whether it's financial and business advice or health services.

Farmers can contact the Rural Support Trust on **0800 RURAL HELP** or **0800 787 254**. Please see the Rural Support Trust website for more information.

National Emergency Management Agency (NEMA)

NEMA has a helpful factsheet on the support available following Cyclone Gabrielle.

Please visit the NEMA website for more information, including who to contact.

Ministry for Business, Innovation and Employment (MBIE)

MBIE has information and advice for businesses affected by Cyclone Gabrielle, such as:

- looking after your employees
- operating safely
- insurance claims
- finance and banking
- buildings and landlord responsibilities.

You can find more information on the MBIE website

Paying your tax

IRD is aware many customers will have been affected by flood and other weather-related damage and may need help to keep up with their tax obligations, including filing and paying on time. Visit the IRD website for more information: <https://www.ird.govt.nz/updates/news-folder/flooding-in-the-north-island>

Wairoa Mayoral Relief Fund

Applications for the Wairoa Mayoral Relief Fund is considered based on immediate recognised needs in the community and where applicants have suffered financial loss or are experiencing financial hardship because of the weather events.

Applications can be made at www.wairoadc.govt.nz/our-council/cyclone-gabrielle/wairoa-mayoral-relief-fund?stage=Stage, or call into the Wairoa District Council offices to collect an application form. Hard copies are also available from the i-Site on Paul Street, 8.30-4.30pm weekdays and Saturdays.

Farm Business Advice Fund

Qualifying farmers can receive up to \$6000 to seek independent financial or business advice. The Farm Business Advice Fund is managed by Rural Support Trusts. Banks are jointly funding the initiative. Apply through your local Rural Support Trust: www.rural-support.org.nz/Help-Support/Financial-Pressure

Farm Debt Mediation Scheme

If you're under financial stress, the Farm Debt Mediation Scheme helps level the playing field in debt discussions with your creditor. Almost 40 neutral and independent mediators have been authorised to offer services, and farmers can request mediation at any time. MPI can also assist with the costs of mediation and preparing for mediation through a hardship fund. For more information see: www.mpi.govt.nz/the-farm-debt-mediation-scheme-2

Rural Women New Zealand – Adverse Events Grants

There is financial assistance available where there is an identified urgent need following a declared adverse event such as a flood, drought, fire or earthquake. It is available to individuals, communities and groups, with a particular emphasis on rural women and children: (**Charitable Grants and Support: Rural Women NZ**) www.ruralwomennz.nz/charitable-grants-and-support-draft/

Food Safety information following the floods

New Zealand Food Safety (MPI) has developed guidance based on international guidance, scientific evidence, and best practice for commercial produce growers following flooding events.

More information is available at: www.mpi.govt.nz/funding-rural-support/adverse-events/food-safety-in-natural-disasters-and-emergencies/guidance-for-harvesting-flood-affected-produce-for-human-consumption/