At a glance

**Who we are**

The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry is an Australian Government department of state. We operate under the Financial Management and Accountability Act 1997 and the Public Service Act 1999.

**Our mission**

We work to sustain the way of life and prosperity of all Australians.

We advise the government and our stakeholders how to improve the productivity, competitiveness and sustainability of our portfolio industries.

We help people and goods move in and out of Australia while managing the risks to the environment and animal, plant and human health.

**Our vision**

*For the Australian people*—safe and secure food choices

*For our portfolio industries*—globally competitive and sustainable industries

*For our department*—a smart place, with smart people

**Our goals**

*Resources*—ensuring the sustainable use of natural resources

*Productivity*—improving the competitiveness of portfolio industries

*Markets*—enabling trade in goods

**Our people**

We have 4515 full time equivalent staff, including policy officers, program administrators, scientists, economists, accountants, information and communication technology staff, meat inspectors, veterinary officers, quarantine inspectors and survey staff. Our staff work in places as varied as offices, airports, mail centres, shipping ports, laboratories and abattoirs. They are located in regional centres, rural communities and capital cities. We also have officers in the United States, Europe, the Middle East and Asia, to represent Australia’s interests abroad.
Our culture
We, individually and as a department, promote and uphold the Australian Public Service Values and Code of Conduct. To achieve our goals, we aspire to be:

- **Leaders**—we willingly tackle important issues
- **Creative**—we are open to doing things differently to achieve success
- **Future thinkers**—we anticipate and adapt to new situations
- **Compassionate**—we are mindful of the impact we have on others
- **Responsive**—we make things happen
- **Collaborative**—we build on our partnerships to succeed.

Our minister and parliamentary secretary
Senator the Hon. Joe Ludwig, the Minister for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, is responsible for the portfolio. He is assisted by the Hon. Sid Sidebottom MP, Parliamentary Secretary for Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry.

Our stakeholders
We work cooperatively with our stakeholders to build constructive relationships. Our stakeholders include:

- Australian, state and territory governments and agencies
- importers and exporters
- industry and other interest groups
- natural resource managers
- producers, processors and consumers of agricultural, fisheries, forestry and food products
- research and development organisations
- rural communities
- travellers.

Our finances
In 2011–12, we received a departmental appropriation of $327.5 million, collected $380 million in levies to fund research, development and marketing, collected cost recovery revenue of $336.8 million and administered $883.3 million for the range of programs supporting our outcomes.