



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture  
and Water Resources

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## MEDIA RELEASE

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### NATIONAL ADVISER SURVEY LAUNCHED

A national survey has been launched to find out the views of agricultural advisers about extension services.

The survey, available at <http://tinyurl.com/theunimelb>, is a vital research component of the Australian Government's Department of Agriculture and Water Resources-funded Stimulating private sector extension in Australian agriculture to increase returns from R&D programme.

The three-year project aims to develop and test models to build the capacity of the commercial and private sector in delivering extension services to Australian producers.

Lead project researcher Ass Prof Ruth Nettle, from the University of Melbourne said that the survey follows a similar survey for producers, which gave valuable insight into the way extension was viewed, and is aimed any individual or organisation which provides information, advice or support to producers in Australia.

"Ensuring that producers have the information, advice and support they need to be productive, profitable, sustainable and connected to the latest research is a topic of national significance identified in the Australian Competitiveness White Paper," Ass Prof Nettle said.

"It is important that the views and experiences of people and organisations that provide these services to producers are represented.

"Results of this survey will be used to shape future agricultural extension services and our organisation will benefit from understanding the views of service providers."

The project is supported by Dairy Australia, Meat and Livestock Australia, Cotton Research and Development Corporation, Australian Pork Limited, Sugar Research Australia, Horticulture Innovation Australia, RIRDC (Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation), NSW Department of Industry and Agriculture Victoria. The research component of the project is being conducted by the University of Melbourne.

### ENDS

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