

## Enhancements to the Farm Management Deposits (FMD) Scheme

The non-primary production income threshold under the FMD Scheme will be increased from \$65,000 to \$100,000 and existing eligible FMD accounts will be able to be consolidated.

FMDs are an important risk management tool for farmers to manage fluctuations in income. Increasing the non-primary production income threshold will allow more primary producers to access the FMD scheme to prepare for and manage future risk. It will also provide primary producers with greater flexibility in managing their finances, while still retaining access to this risk management tool.

The government will introduce legislation to give effect to these changes. It is anticipated that the changes will take effect from 1 July 2014.

All of the above measures will be subject to the passing of legislation which needs to pass through parliament. The timing of which is unknown at this stage.

For more information, visit the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry website.