



Media Release

8 April 2019

Peaceful today but not always – farmers condemn action

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has come out in support of its farmers, noting today's animal activist activities have achieved little more than traffic and business disruption, unlike previous events across the country.

"We are fortunate that today's activist activities, while causing disruption to the public and businesses, appear to have been peaceful unlike the other events we have seen unfold across the country recently where large numbers of trespassers invaded farming businesses," said Mr David Jochinke, President, Victorian Farmers Federation.

"For those who choose to eat products from animals, they can be assured that Australian farmers care for their animals and strive to achieve world's best practice when it comes to many standards of production including animal health and welfare.

"If you choose not to consume these products, I am also proud to say that Australian agriculture provides you with many other healthy and safe protein sources.

"Our farmers deliver great produce – ethical and sustainable food for their communities and consumers. Healthy animals mean a healthy and productive farm.

"The protestors must show respect for the choices of others – people who enjoy chocolate for a treat, consume milk after exercise to assist with muscle recovery, through to those who start their day with scrambled eggs on toast and celebrate family events with a roast dinner or barbeque.

"Farmers respect their animals and invest heavily in research and development to ensure they are always adopting the latest science-based methods and to guarantee their end product meets a range of specifications to suit a wide variety of consumers from all around the world.

"While farmers and city-based consumers may at times live very different lives, we actually have many things in common. We value family and safety, we care for our animals be they pets or farm animals, and we pride ourselves in growing and consuming great food.

"We extend our thanks today to Victoria Police for their work in ensuring the safety of Victoria's farmers and our community," said Mr Jochinke.

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About the VFF

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) is dedicated to representing the interests of farmers and making a positive difference to their businesses and communities. We strive to create an environment for our members, our farmers, that enables profitable, safe, sustainable production to ensure an enduring social licence in a community that respects and values the sector.