



**Gavin Pearce MP**  
Federal Member for Braddon

### **Media Release**

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#### **Agriculture under siege**

Farmer confidence is at an all-time low after the National Farmers' Federation surveyed more than 1600 farmers and found the majority of farmers (54.3 per cent) thought the Albanese Labor government was harming the industry.

Mr Gavin Pearce MP, Federal member for Braddon, said the agriculture industry provides food for 80 million people worldwide. It's an essential industry, that's why it's crucial we understand the difficulties farmers are facing under this Albanese Labor government.

Albanese Labor government's attacks that are harming the agricultural industry include:

**Fresh food tax** – Labor is taxing farmers more, by forcing them to pay for the biosecurity risks of international importers.

**Scrapping the Ag visa** – Australia's top peak food industry bodies warned that agriculture required an additional 172,000 workers, yet only around 16,000 Pacific Australia Labour Mobility (PALM) workers have come in since Labor got into office.

**Unworkable PALM scheme** – Changes to the PALM scheme are making it even more difficult and costly for farmers to get their product from paddock to plate. Farmers can't get the workers they need and will be forced to offer a minimum of 30 hours per week, despite agriculture work being seasonal and weather dependent.

**Banning live sheep exports** – Labor is destroying the livelihoods of more than 3000 people and an industry worth \$85 million, by banning live sheep exports.

**Reckless race to renewables** – Labor's reckless race to 82 per cent renewables by 2030 means 28,000 kilometres of transmission lines will rip up native vegetation and prime agricultural land.

**Water buybacks** – Labor is forging ahead with water buybacks, which ignore the economic and social safeguards for an additional 450 gigalitres.

At a time when this nation is facing the worst cost-of-living crisis in a generation, the Albanese Labor government's attack on agriculture is only exacerbating the situation, and every single Australian is paying when they visit the supermarket.

**ENDS**