

SA DROUGHT HUB

SOUTH AUSTRALIAN DROUGHT RESILIENCE ADOPTION AND INNOVATION HUB

The South Australian Drought Resilience Adoption and Innovation Hub is one of eight Hubs established across the nation through the Australian Government's Future Drought Fund.

The SA Drought Hub brings together a dynamic network of primary producers, industry groups, researchers, government agencies, universities, agribusinesses, farming systems groups, traditional owners, and others to strengthen the drought resilience and preparedness of farms and regional communities in SA.

Led by the University of Adelaide in partnership with the Department of Primary Industries and Regions, South Australia (PIRSA), the Hub is responsible for driving extension of existing knowledge and practices to build drought resilience in primary production systems.

By fostering collaboration and knowledge-sharing among diverse but aligned organisations and individuals, the Hub is building the capacity of the SA agriculture sector to adapt to and fortify itself against the challenges of drought and other climate extremes.

LOCATIONS

The SA Drought Hub comprises the core Hub at Roseworthy in the Mid North and five regional Nodes ensuring statewide coverage of all pastoral, low, medium and high rainfall agricultural production zones.

Node Coordinators work directly with Hub partners and primary producers to deliver on-ground project activities.

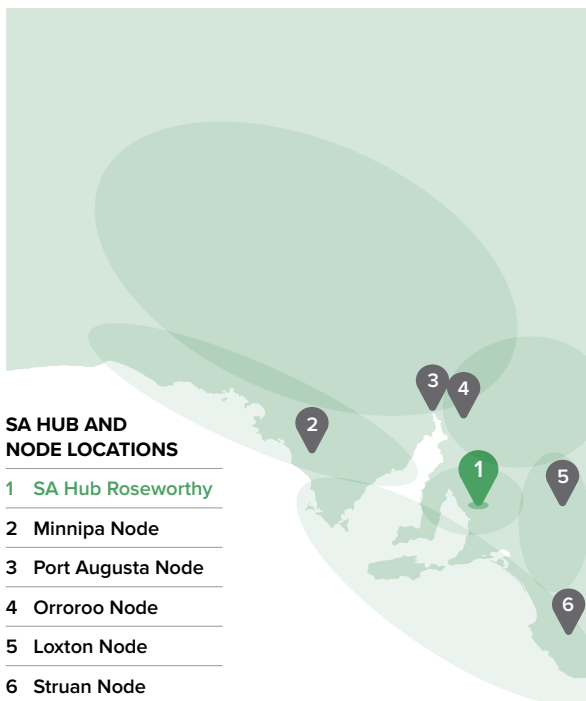
A Stakeholder Advisory Group comprising regional partner organisations, industry leaders, and local primary producers and community members is attached to each Node to guide activities and ensure the focus is relevant for each region.

STEPS TO INCREASED RESILIENCE

Collaboration - with input from our partners, producers and other local community members, the Hub has identified regional drought resilience priorities.

Regional action - activities are co-designed at a regional level and driven from the ground up.

Creating change - The Hub is implementing bespoke extension programs to facilitate adoption of drought resilience practices and strategies in our agricultural production systems and regional communities.



SA HUB AND NODE LOCATIONS

- 1 SA Hub Roseworthy
- 2 Minnipa Node
- 3 Port Augusta Node
- 4 Orroroo Node
- 5 Loxton Node
- 6 Struan Node

FURTHER INFORMATION ABOUT THE AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT'S FUTURE DROUGHT FUND

www.agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/drought/future-drought-fund



PROJECTS

As of early 2023, The Hub is supporting a wide range of projects, field demonstration sites, internships and regional learning events in collaboration with 50 partner organisations.

Hub projects align with regional priorities for increased drought resilience, identified through regional consultation workshops held in 2021 across SA.

The Hub also supports Agricultural Innovation projects, which aim to catalyse agricultural innovation, drive commercialisation and create jobs across the state.

Current projects are:

- **Minnipa Node:**
 - Retaining soil water in farming systems using strip/ disc machinery
 - Best practice for early sowing opportunities
 - Drought resilience practices in mixed farming systems (multi-Hub project operating across five SA nodes)
- **Port Augusta Node:**
 - Remote water management in the arid lands
 - Building pastoral sustainability – property management planning
 - Managing rangelands for drought resilience (multi-Hub project)
- **Orroroo Node:**
 - Utilising satellite imagery in the growing season to inform adaptive management
 - Ground truthing satellite imagery for use in pasture management and assessing its role in adaptive management of grazing systems in the Upper North of SA
 - Intercropping in break crops in the Upper North – in crop decision making and the impacts on profitability and soil function
 - Drought resilience practices in mixed farming systems
- **Roseworthy Node:**
 - Improving on-farm water security using innovative remote sensing systems
 - Mixed species pastures demonstration sites
 - Understanding weather forecasts (short & long term) and climate change predictions
 - Drought resilience practices in mixed farming systems
- **Loxton Node:**
 - Demonstrating soil zone mapping for variable rate nutrition management
 - Improving canola establishment in dry conditions
 - Image-based sensing for improved irrigation scheduling of horticultural crops (multi-Hub project led by SA)
- **Struan Node:**
 - Tools for pasture forecasting
 - Drought resilience practices in mixed farming systems
- **All nodes:**
 - Identifying barriers and enablers to farmer engagement with climate resilience practices and technologies

Further projects are in development.



Project details can be found on the Hub website.



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry

THE HUB TEAM

Contact one of the Hub's dedicated team members if you'd like to know how you can be involved.



Director – Stephen Lee
M 0421 570 630 • E stephen.lee@adelaide.edu.au



Deputy Director – Rhiannon Schilling
M 0407 815 199 • E rhiannon.schilling@sa.gov.au



Knowledge Broker – Tony Randall
M 0402 245 747 • E tony@agex.org.au



Soils Coordinator – Lucy Porter
M 0488 551 731 • E lucy.porter@adelaide.edu.au



Livestock Technical Specialist Adoption Officer – Penny Schulz
M 0417 853 094 • E penny.schulz@adelaide.edu.au



Livestock Technical Specialist Adoption Officer – Hannah Griffiths
M 0458 403 390 • E hannah.griffiths@adelaide.edu.au



Farming Systems Specialist - Adoption Officer Rachel May
M 0457 929 998 • E rachel@agex.org.au



Loxton Node Coordinator & Node Team Leader
Kym Walton • M 0488 020 715 • E kym.walton@sa.gov.au



Minnipa Node Coordinator – Fiona Tomney
M 0459 857 691 • E fiona.tomney@sa.gov.au



Port Augusta Node Coordinator – Melissa Horgan
M 0447 046 786 • E melissa.horgan2@sa.gov.au



Orroroo Node Coordinator – Joanne Ridsdale
M 0447 132 268 • E joanne.ridsdale@sa.gov.au



Struan Node Coordinator – Tamara Zerk
M 0400 765 043 • E tamara.zerk@sa.gov.au



Innovation Broker (AgriFutures) – Simon Gierke
M 0477 705 812 • E simon.gierke@adelaide.edu.au

CONTACT THE HUB

E sadroughthub@adelaide.edu.au
W www.sadroughthub.com.au

