

Agricultural Machinery Right to Repair

Agreed to by the VFF Policy Council Meeting 175 9 March 2022

Policy Statement

- 1. The VFF strongly supports the need for greater competition and consumer protections within the agricultural machinery market.
- 2. Purchasers of agricultural machinery should have the option to use independent third-party repairers.
- 3. In the event of a product malfunction, it is critical purchasers of agricultural machinery have sufficient consumer protections and avenues of recourse.
- 4. The Australian Consumer Guarantee should be extended to include all agricultural machinery.
- 5. The VFF strongly opposes the use of geographic restrictions on dealership sales as they reduce competition and lead to poorer consumer outcomes.
- 6. Whilst the VFF acknowledges that dealerships have invested significant funds into training, parts, tools and equipment and they deserve to have a return on that investment, this should not be a reason to limit competition.
- 7. Delays in accessing spare parts during key production cycles pose a threat to Australia's food security.
- 8. Manufacturers and dealers must ensure sufficient stocks of machinery parts are stored onshore.