Media Release



21 June 2021

Industry win in manure debate

The Victorian Farmers Federation (VFF) has today welcomed the EPA's livestock manure determination that will mean no additional paperwork for farmers receiving animal manure on farm.

VFF President Emma Germano said the determination came after constructive negotiations between the VFF, other industry bodies and the EPA.

"Animal manure is an important part of many of our farming systems and farmers are experienced at managing its use and application."

"The determination means that if you are doing the right thing on farm when receiving and utilising animal manure, you do not have to change your practices and you do not have to complete any additional paperwork."

The determination applies to the use of animal manure as a 'soil amendment' and 'for irrigation' when the manure is transferred between properties.

While the determination ensures that farmers are not hit with any new regulatory obligations the fight over the classification of animal manure as industrial waste continues.

"The VFF has made clear to the Victorian Government that the classification of manure as industrial waste is inappropriate and does not respect the role of manure in modern farming systems and carbon cycling,' Ms Germano said.

"Amendment of the EPA Act to create a new classification for animal manure that respects its role as a beneficial waste remains a key priority for the VFF."

The determination was gazetted on 18 June and will come into force at the commencement of the new EPA Act on 1 July.

ENDS

Media Contacts:

Ryan Moloney, VFF, 0400 874 589