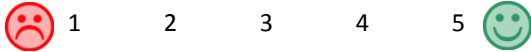




Name:
Contact details: (email or postal address)

THE LOCAL ENVIRONMENT

1. What is your overall opinion of the Central Coast Plateau as a place to conduct an agricultural business? (1 being poor, 5 being excellent)



2. What do you see as some of the main assets of the Central Coast Plateau as a place to operate an agricultural business? (Eg climate, soil, lifestyle, relative lack of pests or weeds, access to markets)

3. What is your level of satisfaction with each of the following factors as they affect your agricultural business? (Between 1 and 5 with 1 being poor, 5 being excellent)

- Availability of labour 1 2 3 4 5
Access to airport facilities 1 2 3 4 5
Access to highway/roadway 1 2 3 4 5
Access to markets 1 2 3 4 5
Access to suppliers 1 2 3 4 5
Availability of road transport services 1 2 3 4 5
Availability of rail transport 1 2 3 4 5
Availability of warehousing 1 2 3 4 5
Disposal of waste material 1 2 3 4 5
Recycling 1 2 3 4 5
Inspections (eg licensing) 1 2 3 4 5
Development approval process 1 2 3 4 5
Internet 1 2 3 4 5
Telephone 1 2 3 4 5
Availability of appropriately zoned land 1 2 3 4 5
Water supply 1 2 3 4 5
Sewerage 1 2 3 4 5
Other Specify: 1 2 3 4 5

4. In terms of the cost of conducting your agricultural business, please rate the Central Coast Plateau with respect to these factors. (Between 1 and 5 with 1 being poor, 5 being excellent)

- Labour 1 2 3 4 5
Transportation 1 2 3 4 5
Storage 1 2 3 4 5
Energy 1 2 3 4 5
Fuel 1 2 3 4 5
Development approval 1 2 3 4 5
Rates 1 2 3 4 5
Land 1 2 3 4 5
Buildings 1 2 3 4 5
Leasing space 1 2 3 4 5
Construction 1 2 3 4 5
Telecommunications 1 2 3 4 5
Fertilisers 1 2 3 4 5
Weed control 1 2 3 4 5
Pest management 1 2 3 4 5
Other Specify: 1 2 3 4 5

5. Do you have adequate access to the following agri-business services? (only those which are relevant to your business).

- Agronomical services Yes No
Livestock production advisory services Yes No
Agronomical advice Yes No
Financial management advisory services Yes No
Human resource consultants Yes No
Market development/export consultants Yes No
Food industry consultants Yes No
Veterinary services Yes No
Processing/marketing facilities Yes No
Input suppliers eg fertilisers, seeds, etc Yes No
Other Specify: Yes No

6. What main changes would you like to see made to improve this district as a place to conduct your agricultural business?

YOUR BUSINESS

7. What are the main products or services you produce or provide? Please list up to 4 in order of importance.

8. In what year did you start or take over this agricultural business?

9. Do you lease or own your land? Select one.

- Lease Own
Other (eg sharefarm) Specify:

10. How many people are employed in this business (including owners)?

Permanent full time Permanent part time
Casual

11. Please indicate the approximate turnover of your agricultural business. Select one.

- 0 - \$50,000 \$251,000 - \$500,000
\$51,000 - \$100,000 \$501,000 - \$1,000,000
\$101,000 - \$250,000 Over \$1,000,000

12. Approximately what percentage of your total household income does your agricultural business represent? Select one.

- 0-10% 10-25% 25-50% More than 50%

13. Please indicate the source of any off farm income.

Select all that apply.

- Other business in local area (including Central Coast)
Off farm employment in local area
Investments
Business or employment outside local area

14. During the past 3 years has your agricultural business's turnover and profit increased/decreased/had no significant change? Select one on each line.

- Turnover: Increased Decreased No change
Profit: Increased Decreased No change

15. During the **next 3 years**, do you expect your agricultural business to increase/decrease/have no significant change in turnover and profit? **Select one on each line.**

Turnover:  Increased  Decreased  No change  
 Profit:  Increased  Decreased  No change

16. How do you currently market your product (primary and/or processed) or service? **Select all that apply.**

- Direct to processors
- Wholesale markets eg Flemington Markets
- Direct to regulated marketing board or agency
- Farmers' market
- At the farm-gate
- Export
- Direct to major chains (eg Woolworths, Bunnings)
- To local retailers (including restaurant)
- Other **Specify:** \_\_\_\_\_

17. Where do you source raw materials and services which you use in your agricultural business?

Locally (approximate %) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Elsewhere in NSW (%) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Elsewhere in Australia (%) \_\_\_\_\_  
 Overseas (%) \_\_\_\_\_

18. Please list any major improvements you have made to your property and business **in the last 3 years**. **Select all that apply.**

- Improved own management skills
- Marketing
- Crop/livestock genetics
- Soil quality
- Pasture quality
- Organic certification
- Water storage
- Efficiency of water usage
- Reduced other input costs **Specify:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Farm infrastructure
- New equipment/technology
- Other **Specify:** \_\_\_\_\_

**FUTURE PLANS**

19. What are your plans for your agricultural business within the **next 3 years**? **Select all that apply.**

- Maintain the current size and type of production
- Expand the scale of the existing business (increase acreage and/or livestock numbers)
- Diversify (new crops/livestock/value adding) on existing acreage **Specify:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Diversify (new crops/livestock/value adding) on increased acreage **Specify:** \_\_\_\_\_
- Downsize
- Subdivide all or part of land
- Lease out all or part of land to another operator
- Share farm all or part of land
- Exit the industry by transferring the business to a new owner

20. Do you expect to sell or transfer some or all of your farm assets within... **Select one.**

- 1 to 5 years
- 6 to 10 years
- 11 to 15 years
- 15 + years
- Don't know
- Don't expect to sell/transfer

21. If you intend to retire from the business and the industry, are you interested in retaining contact with agricultural activities in some way? **Circle your answer.**

Yes                      No                      Don't know

22. What are the barriers, if any to the continued operation or expansion of your agricultural business? **Select all that apply.**

- Availability of suitable land (leased or purchase)
- Land rental rates
- Land purchase costs
- Value of land exceeds income potential
- Access to capital
- Uncertain markets
- Low commodity prices
- Access to information
- Access to processing services
- Encroachment of residential areas
- Encroachment of industrial areas
- Council regulations on sub division
- Difficulties with non farm neighbours/activities
- Securing necessary farm services
- Securing necessary farm labour
- Securing adequate water
- Water quality
- Weed management
- Pest control
- Own age/health issues
- Other **Specify:** \_\_\_\_\_

**THANK YOU FOR PARTICIPATING IN THIS SURVEY**

**PLEASE RETURN TO ANY OF THE LOCATIONS BELOW:**

6 Waratah Road, Mangrove Mountain  
 Somersby General Store  
 Kulnura General Store  
 Mangrove General Store  
 One Stop Shop  
 Complete Irrigation