

Alpine Valleys

agribusiness forum

'Australian Alpine Valleys - Where the Best Grows to Perfection'

Project Report

Drought Services Co-ordinator 2008

**Total Project Cost
\$66,640**

Australian Alpine Valleys Agribusiness Forum received funding to employ a consultant drought services co-ordinator for the six months to June 2008 .

The drought coordination project worked with Local Government Drought Committees and drought service providers in the North East of Victoria to link eligible farmers and rural enterprises with the myriad of drought support services. The project filled a gap identified in the 2007 State Government drought announcement for drought affected shires in the North East that did not qualify for their own (Department of Planning and Community Development funded) dedicated drought coordinator. The relevant municipalities are Rural City of Wangaratta, Rural City of Wodonga and Alpine, Indigo, and Towong shires. However activities were planned and delivered according to greatest need rather than providing a specific geographic coverage. Some higher elevation areas were seen to be less in need of drought support than lower areas

The aims of the project were achieved through a range of mechanisms such as newsletters and events according to need. The coordinator worked closely with other drought and community workers in local government, state government, industry and community organisations.

At the expiry of the project, an application was successfully made for further funding in order to build on the work already done.