

6 August 2020

Dear Valued Client,

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Seasonal Workforce Update

As you are aware, many agricultural businesses across Australia depend on temporary seasonal workers, with a large proportion of this labour pool represented by working holiday visa holders. Since the start of the pandemic, the number of working holiday visa holders in Australia has reduced from approximately 140,000 in January to 80,000 today.

This raises understandable concerns for many of our clients who depend on this workforce to support their agribusiness. In response, the team at Agri Labour Australia (ALA) are pursuing a range of channels and activities to strengthen our existing candidate database and engage with a significant number of other working holiday visa holders still living in the country. ALA staff have also been proactively connecting with those Australian residents who have skills and experience that align well with agriculture roles.

At present, ALA is rolling out a detailed engagement strategy with our existing candidates to instill confidence about their future in agriculture work in Australia over the coming year. As part of this strategy, ALA has published an Upcoming Harvests page on our website that highlights employment opportunities and addresses the concerns of candidates in finding ongoing jobs in the future. This is in no way exhaustive and we are continuing to add client industries as the seasons progress.

On a strategic level, ALA is part of an industry workforce planning committee, working closely with the government to provide key insight and solutions to this challenging situation. We will continue to provide you with updates on all our activities as they progress.

Crossing Borders

From the onset, ALA have been proactive in stringently managing our candidates and going beyond the legislative requirements to ensure the safety of our clients, candidates and all those in our communities through our COVID-19 Response strategy.

We are happy to answer questions from our clients and candidates, however we also recommend <u>FarmHub</u> for the most up to date information on border restrictions and other important information relating to the agriculture industry.

For More Information

Visit the <u>Australian Coronavirus</u> website Or call the Coronavirus Helpline: 1800 020 030 (24 hours)

Regards,

Agri Labour Australia Team

How to avoid infection or spreading the virus



Cover your mouth or nose when coughing or sneezing



Wash your hands regularly with soap and water for at least 20 seconds



Stay at home when you

