



Media release

Minister for Agricultural Industry Development and Fisheries and
Minister for Rural Communities
The Honourable Mark Furner MP

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\$1 million investment and partnership fuels sesame industry growth

- \$1 million to drive development in the sesame seed industry
- Sesame emerges as the most promising crop for growth and diversification in North-West Queensland
- The Queensland Government has entered into a partnership to drive commercial-scale sesame production

The Queensland Government has reaffirmed its commitment to a thriving sesame industry in the state's north-west with \$1 million earmarked to drive industry development.

Sesame emerged as the most promising crop for growth and diversification in the region from a comprehensive consultancy commissioned in 2018 under the North-West Queensland Economic Development Strategy.

Subsequent market analysis in 2022 emphasised the global demand for sesame, positioning Australian-grown sesame favourably in both domestic and international markets.

The absence of commercial-scale sesame cultivation in Australia posed a challenge, despite significant research funding from federal and state-based agencies.

To address this gap, the Queensland Government has entered into a strategic partnership with the Australian Sesame Industry Development Association (ASIDA) to drive commercial-scale sesame production.

The North-West Queensland Economic Diversification Strategy Implementation Plan to 2025 encompasses importing suitable genetics, supply chain enhancement, and market development.

Realising these key components necessitates the establishment of commercial-scale sesame production and boosting grower confidence in both the crop and supply-chain logistics.

Quotes attributable to Executive Director, Agribusiness and Policy, Elton Miller:

“The humble sesame seed is poised to transform agriculture in North-West Queensland, and with this latest round of funding, we look forward to seeing the industry grow and diversify.

Market analysis highlights a growing global demand for sesame, positioning Australian-grown sesame favorably for both domestic and international markets.

“Under the North-West Queensland Economic Development Strategy, sesame has emerged as a key crop for regional growth and diversification.”

Quotes attributable to the Australian Sesame Industry Development Association (ASIDA) Chair Daniel Weinstock:

“The Australian Sesame Industry Development Association (ASIDA) is thrilled that the Queensland Government has partnered with us to drive large-scale production.

“We are uniquely positioned to foster industry development in this key growth sector and the strategic partnership between the Queensland Government and ASIDA aims to establish commercial-scale sesame production and enhance grower confidence.”

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