



Enquiries: Judy Jayasekera

19 June 2017

Dear Grain/Seed/Hay receiver

**NEW CONTRIBUTION RATE FOR GRAINS, SEEDS AND HAY INDUSTRY FUNDING SCHEME TO BEGIN ON 1 JULY 2017**

The Minister for Agriculture and Food recently endorsed the Grains, Seeds and Hay Industry Funding Scheme (IFS) Management Committee's recommendation for the 2017-18 IFS contribution rate. I am writing to advise you that **the Grains, Seeds and Hay IFS contribution rate has been reduced to 25 cents per tonne of grain/seed and 12.5 cents per tonne of hay, effective from 1 July 2017** (previously, the contribution rate was 30 cents per tonne of grain/seed and 15 cents per tonne of hay).

In accordance with the IFS regulations, individuals/entities purchasing or receiving 500 tonne or more of grain/seed/hay (in combination) in a given year are required to collect and forward the IFS contributions to the Director General of the Department of Agriculture and Food Western Australia. The relevant section of the regulations is attached.

I have included the 2017-18 remittance form, which is to be included with all remittances of IFS contributions. More information can be found on the website at <https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/bam/deduction-and-remittance-contributions>

Please advise your staff of the new contribution rate, as relevant, to ensure the correct grower contributions are deducted.

Under the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*, the Grains, Seeds and Hay IFS enables industry to raise funds to self-manage serious pests and diseases that may threaten the viability and sustainability of the industry.

The funds collected from grain/seed/hay growers will go toward programs to manage skeleton weed and eradicate three-horned bedstraw — the biosecurity issues that the industry has determined as its priority to be tackled via the Scheme.

Yours sincerely

Mandy Taylor  
Director Finance

Att.

**Extract**  
***Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Industry Funding Scheme***  
***(Grains) Regulations 2010***

*Note: the 'grains' regulations apply to grains, seeds and hay*

***An extract of the relevant regulations:***

Regulation 14 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Industry Funding Scheme (Grains) Regulations 2010* is entitled 'Registration of qualifying receivers':

- (1) Every person who becomes a qualifying receiver for any financial year must, within 30 days of becoming a qualifying receiver, give the Director General notice stating that the person is a qualifying receiver, and setting out the person's name and principal place of business in the State, and such other details as the Director General may require.

Penalty: a fine of \$10,000.

- (2) The Director General is to—
  - a. maintain a register of qualifying receivers; and
  - b. enter in the register the name, principal place of business and other details of every qualifying receiver notified under subregulation (1).
- (3) If the name, principal place of business in the State or other registered details of a registered receiver changes, the registered receiver must, within 30 days, give the Director General notice of the changes.  
Penalty: a fine of \$10,000.
- (4) Upon receipt of a notice under subregulation (3) the Director General is to correct the entries in the register accordingly.
- (5) If a registered receiver satisfies the Director General that it has ceased to be a qualifying receiver, the Director General is to remove from the register the name, principal place of business in the State and other registered details of that registered receiver.
- (6) The Director General is to publish the register on, or make it accessible through, the electronic site maintained under section 159 of the Act.

Regulation 16 of the *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Industry Funding Scheme (Grains) Regulations 2010* is entitled 'Deduction and remittance of contributions' and requires registered receivers to:

- (1) When making the chargeable payment in respect of a chargeable transaction, the registered receiver is to—
  - a. deduct the amount of the contribution; and
  - b. give the grower a written statement in such a form as the Director General may require of the amount deducted.

Penalty: a fine of \$20,000.

- (2) Within 30 days of the end of each calendar month, a registered receiver is to—
  - a. pay the Director General all amounts it has deducted during that calendar month in accordance with subregulation (1); and
  - b. give to the Director General a statement in writing in such form as the Director General may require, setting out each amount it has deducted, and such details of each chargeable transaction in respect of which it has made deductions as the Director General may require.

Penalty: a fine of \$20,000.

- (3) The payment by a registered receiver to the Director General in accordance with subregulation (2) of any amount which has been deducted from a chargeable payment is, to the extent of that amount, a partial discharge of the registered receiver's obligation to make the chargeable payment to the grower and the amount is taken for the purposes of this Scheme to have been paid to the Account by the grower.
- (4) In relation to each chargeable transaction into which a registered receiver enters, the registered receiver is to keep for at least 5 years records and accounts showing—
  - a. the nature of the transaction; and
  - b. the identity of the grower with whom the registered receiver transacted; and
  - c. the nature and amount of the chargeable produce delivered or sold in the transaction; and
  - d. the amount of charge deducted under subregulation (1) in connection with the transaction; and
  - e. the amount and date of any payment made to the Director General under subregulation (2) in respect of the transaction.
- (5) The Director General may appoint an officer to inspect, examine and audit records and accounts kept by a registered receiver under subregulation (4), and for that purpose—
  - a. the appointed officer may at any time require the production of records and the provision of information; and
  - b. the registered receiver is to furnish the appointed officer with such records and information as he may require.

Note: A full copy of these regulations can be obtained from the State Law Publisher website: [www.slp.wa.gov.au](http://www.slp.wa.gov.au) (under *Biosecurity and Agriculture Management Act 2007*).