



MEDIA RELEASE
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**HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES STANDING COMMITTEE ON
AGRICULTURE AND INDUSTRY**
Inquiry into agricultural innovation

*Chair: Mr Rowan Ramsey MP
Deputy Chair: Ms Clare O'Neil MP*

Agricultural innovation inquiry report released

The House of Representatives Agriculture and Industry Committee today released its report for the inquiry into agricultural innovation. The report, entitled 'Smart Farming', makes 17 recommendations to government.

Committee Chair, Rowan Ramsey MP, stated that "It has been heartening for the Committee to witness the incredible innovation underway in the agricultural sector. There is exciting potential for farm businesses to draw on emerging technologies across a broad variety of disciplines in order to increase productivity and tackle challenges such as resource scarcity."

"However, the inquiry also heard evidence of some important barriers to farm businesses seeking to adopt such new technologies. The Committee is confident that its recommendations in areas such as research collaboration, extension, and skills training will assist the sector to make the most of the current innovation boom", Mr Ramsey said.

Mr Ramsey added that "It is a promising time for stakeholders across the agricultural sector, and we look forward to seeing innovations in technology and business practices continue".

The report (plus all inquiry information, including submissions received and the terms of reference) can be obtained from the Committee's website at: www.aph.gov.au/agind.

For media comment please contact the Committee Chair, Mr Rowan Ramsey, on (02) 6277 4967 (Parliament House) and (08) 8645 4255.

For further information please contact the secretariat on (02) 6277 4500, email agind.reps@aph.gov.au or visit the Committee's webpage at www.aph.gov.au/agind