

ADVANCEROCKHAMPTON.COM.AU

# GROW ROCKHAMPTON

## AGRIBUSINESS OPPORTUNITIES



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**ADVANCE**   
**ROCKHAMPTON**

Economic Development,  
Tourism, Events & Marketing





# OVERVIEW

**LAND + WATER + CLIMATE + PEOPLE + INFRASTRUCTURE + SERVICES = OPPORTUNITY**

The Rockhampton Region is actively seeking new investment in agriculture and associated service and manufacturing sectors.

Rockhampton is home to two major meat processing facilities and the wider Central Queensland region is an agricultural powerhouse with extensive beef cattle production, irrigated and dryland cropping, horticulture and forestry.

The Rockhampton Region has the largest river on the eastern seaboard of Australia, the mighty Fitzroy River. The amount of water annually discharging through the Fitzroy is 5,900 gegalitres. One gegaliter is a billion litres of water. The Fitzroy also has a high level of water reliability which helps to de-risk larger scale agricultural investment that relies on large amounts of water.

Construction of Rookwood Weir will be the catalyst for the development of high value agriculture in the Rockhampton Region. When constructed, the proposed Rookwood Weir will supply up to 50,000 megalitres of high priority water annually and enable agricultural development along the lower Fitzroy River. Land that extends five kilometres each side of the river contains more than 45,000 hectares of land suitable for a range of irrigated crops. The weir will also present opportunities for intensive livestock production.

# LOCATIONAL ADVANTAGES

**QUEENSLAND HAS A LOW BUSINESS COST ENVIRONMENT AND THE STATE GOVERNMENT AIMS TO MAINTAIN A COMPETITIVE TAX ENVIRONMENT FOR BUSINESS.**

- The development of Rookwood Weir and associated agricultural industry is supported by:
- › Availability of land with suitable soils and favourable climatic conditions
  - › Proximity to Rockhampton with a large population base and potential workforce
  - › Access to higher order health, education, retail and business services in Rockhampton
  - › Access to key road and rail networks as well as the Rockhampton Airport and Gladstone Ports
  - › Access to industrial land in Gracemere and Parkhurst for processing and service industries
  - › Comparatively low cost of living and an enviable lifestyle for employees
  - › Proactive Council and State agencies supportive of agricultural development.



# THE GATEWAY TO NORTHERN AUSTRALIA

Rockhampton is centrally located in the wider Central Queensland region and provides higher order retail, health, education, and community services to a regional population of over 230,000 people. Rockhampton is also the headquarters for CQUniversity, the State's only dual sector university and TAFE, and is a regional hub for government services.

Rockhampton is strategically and centrally located on key intrastate road and rail networks and has an international standard airport catering for regular passenger services, international charter flights and both general and specialised heavy lift air freight. Rockhampton also ranks highly in terms of cost of living and housing affordability.



**86,000**

Rockhampton Population



**260,000**

Central Queensland Population



**\$5.12B**

2019 Economic Value



**\$217M**

Value of Agricultural & Food  
Product Manufacturing



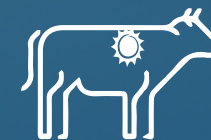
**\$370M**

Added value of Tourism,  
Hospitality & Retail



**600,000**

Passengers through  
Rockhampton Airport annually



Beef Capital of Australia & host  
to world recognised Beef Expo



Service Hub for Trade,  
Mining & Investment



1 hour flight from Brisbane &  
200 passenger flights a week

Source: Profile ID and Economy ID





# WATER RESOURCES

**THE FITZROY RIVER COVERS AN AREA OF OVER 142,665KM<sup>2</sup> MAKING IT THE LARGEST RIVER CATCHMENT FLOWING TO THE EASTERN COAST OF AUSTRALIA.**

The mean annual discharge of the Fitzroy River is approximately 5.9 million megalitres (ML) per annum and can range from below 100,000 ML to over 37 million ML in a year. Because of this variability of stream flow, storages are necessary to even out flows and allow effective use of the water resources of the Fitzroy River. Rookwood Weir will harness some of this significant resource.

## ROOKWOOD WEIR

The site of Rookwood Weir is located on the Fitzroy River, approximately 66 kilometres south-west of Rockhampton.

Water will be able to be accessed from the Fitzroy River from the new Rookwood Weir pool downstream to the Fitzroy River Barrage at Rockhampton.

The weir and associated infrastructure is estimated to cost \$352 million and take three years to construct.

Associated infrastructure will include construction of a new river crossing at Riverslea and upgrades of Thirsty Creek Road, Hanrahan crossing and the Capricorn Highway intersection at Gogango.

Construction of the Rookwood Weir project has commenced with Sunwater undergoing two water sales processes, the first in 2020 providing the opportunity to purchase upwards of 30,000ML of medium priority water for agricultural and non-urban use. A second water process will take place in 2022 with upwards of 7,500ML of medium priority water to be sold.

Rookwood Weir and all ancillary infrastructure is tabled to be completed and commissioned by 2023.

For more information about this project visit [www.sunwater.com.au](http://www.sunwater.com.au)

## FITZROY WATER INFRASTRUCTURE

### Fitzroy River Barrage (Weir)

The Fitzroy Barrage is owned and operated by Rockhampton Regional Council which has a high security water allocation of 50,483 ML per annum. Total allocations of 62,093 ML per annum include 11,610 ML of medium priority water used for irrigation, stock and domestic purposes held across individual allocations. Council currently uses approximately half of its annual allocation and has been an active supporter of Rookwood Weir to underpin additional agricultural industry and economic development in the region.

Rockhampton Regional Council is currently investigating the option to increase the volume of water held by the Fitzroy Barrage to further increase the city's water security.

## ROOKWOOD WEIR FAST FACTS

- › Full supply level: 45.5m Australian Height Datum (AHD); Minimum operating level: 37.0m AHD
- › Full supply volume (FSL): 65,402 ML for blended use – medium (MP) and high priority (HP) – subject to final design.
- › Yield at FSL: 76,000 ML of MP – subject to final design.
- › Weir length: 370m; Impoundment length: 55km

*Source: [www.sunwater.com.au](http://www.sunwater.com.au)*

## Eden Bann Weir

The Eden Bann Weir is owned and operated by SunWater with a total holding capacity in excess of 26,000 ML. Stanwell Corporation has a high security water allocation of 24,000 ML supplied by pipeline to meet the water requirements of the Stanwell Power Station which is located approximately 25 kilometres south-west of Rockhampton.

## Unsupplemented Water

In addition to water allocations supplied from weirs on the Fitzroy River (supplemented) there are a large number of smaller, private water entitlements and schemes using unsupplemented stream flows. These schemes divert water under natural and high flow conditions (water harvesting) and do not receive the benefit of assured water supplied by releases or pumping direct from the Fitzroy River barrage or the Eden Bann Weir. The total nominal volume for unsupplemented water allocation in

the Fitzroy Water Management Area has significant reserves with relative low levels of usage.

Agricultural producers may explore the opportunity to acquire and combine supplemented (high and medium priority) and unsupplemented (water harvesting) allocations in conjunction with appropriate on-farm infrastructure and storage to actively manage risk and optimise the average cost of water per unit of production.

## CLIMATE AND RAINFALL

Rockhampton is located on the Tropic of Capricorn and experiences a humid subtropical climate. Typical temperature ranges are 22 to 32 °C (72 to 90 °F) in summer with highest temperatures exceeding 40 °C. Winter temperatures generally range between 9 and 23 °C (48 to 73 °F) with lowest minimums just below 0 °C.

Rockhampton's minimum temperature is generally above zero degrees with a mean minimum temperature of

9.7 degrees in July. While broadly determined by minimum temperatures, frost is a localised phenomenon and its severity can vary significantly over a very small area. It's occurrence, extent and severity can be affected by local topography (frost hollows), cloud cover, humidity and surface winds.

Rockhampton has a mean annual rainfall of 815 mm (1939-2020). Rainfall averages show a distinct wet and dry season, with the wet generally December to March and the dry June to September. Annual pan evaporation at Rockhampton is approximately 2,100 mm.

Further information can be sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology.





# LAND RESOURCES

LAND RESOURCE INFORMATION IS AVAILABLE TO SUPPORT ASSESSMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL POTENTIAL OF BOTH THE WIDER LOWER FITZROY AREA AND SPECIFIC SITES.

## FITZROY RIVER SOILS SURVEY AND LAND SUITABILITY (2000)

The mosaic of soil types and land suitability along the Fitzroy River provides sufficiently large sites for a range of larger scale uses while providing opportunities to have a degree of separation between uses.

This study completed by the State Government surveyed a strip five kilometres either side of the Fitzroy River approximately 250 kilometres from the junction of the Dawson and Mackenzie River east of Duaringa, downstream to the Rockhampton City boundary focusing on soils and land suitability for irrigation.

Approximately 180 000 hectares was surveyed. Access to this information is available at [www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/soils-lower-fitzroy-river-lfz](http://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/soils-lower-fitzroy-river-lfz)

## VEGETATION MANAGEMENT AREAS (2016)

Vegetation Management information is available at [www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/management/vegetation](http://www.qld.gov.au/environment/land/management/vegetation)

### MATTERS OF STATE ENVIRONMENTAL SIGNIFICANCE - MSES (2016)

Matters of state environmental significance (MSES) are a component of the biodiversity state interest that is defined under the State Planning Policy and defined under the Environmental Offsets Regulation 2014. MSES includes certain environmental values that are protected under Queensland legislation.

Access to this information including mapping is available at [www.environment.des.qld.gov.au/](http://www.environment.des.qld.gov.au/)

[management/planning-guidelines/method-mapping-mses](http://www.environment.des.qld.gov.au/management/planning-guidelines/method-mapping-mses)

### AGRICULTURAL LAND AUDIT - CENTRAL QLD (2013)

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) 2013 Queensland Agricultural Land Audit has identified areas within Queensland which have biophysical potential for perennial horticulture. This includes land for annual horticulture, broadhectare cropping, intensive animal industries, biomass production, sugarcane, hardwood forestry, softwood forestry and native forestry. It also identifies land of agricultural land class A and class B along with slope and mean annual rainfall criteria.

The audit can be found at [www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/queensland-agricultural-land-audit](http://www.publications.qld.gov.au/dataset/queensland-agricultural-land-audit)

## ATLAS OF AUSTRALIAN SOILS (1991)

The Atlas of Australian Soils (Northcote et al, 1960-68) was compiled by CSIRO in the 1960's to provide a consistent national description of Australia's soils. It comprises a series of 10 maps and associated explanatory notes.

Access to this information is available at <https://www.asris.csiro.au/themes/Atlas.html>

### FLOOD RISK

The Fitzroy River catchment, due to its immense size (143,000km<sup>2</sup>), is capable of producing flooding following heavy rain events.

A number of extensive riverine studies have been undertaken for the Fitzroy River looking at the impacts of flooding and possible mitigation measures for the Rockhampton Region.

Access to riverine flood studies and maps is available at [www.rockhamptonregion.qld.gov.au/CouncilServices/Floodplain-Management/Riverine-Flood-Studies-and-Maps](http://www.rockhamptonregion.qld.gov.au/CouncilServices/Floodplain-Management/Riverine-Flood-Studies-and-Maps)

### INVESTMENT SUPPORT TOOL

The Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) has developed an investment decision support tool that allows investors to identify the agricultural potential for various crops and horticultural industries along the Lower Fitzroy corridor. Together with the water availability this corridor presents an excellent investment opportunity.

Access to this investment decision support tool is available at [www.cropsuitabilitytool.daf.qld.gov.au/RookwoodWeir](http://www.cropsuitabilitytool.daf.qld.gov.au/RookwoodWeir)

DAF also provides information and support on soil types and crop

suitability outside of the areas along the Lower Fitzroy corridor. These areas along the corridor may be highly suitable for large scale broad acre irrigation projects and the Department is available to assist with advice for these areas.

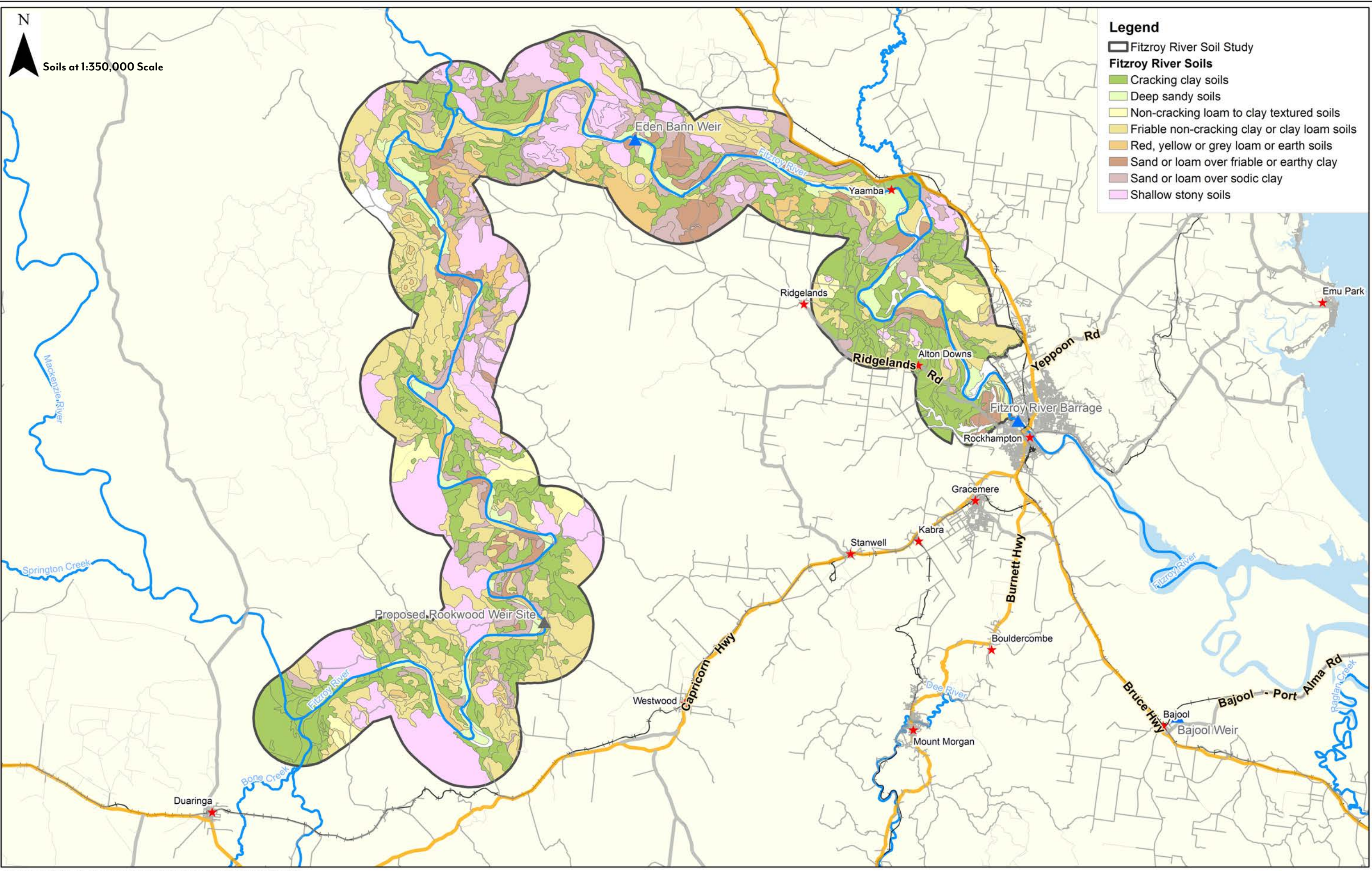
### ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL COUNCIL PLANNING SCHEME

The Rockhampton Regional Council Planning Scheme provides guidance on the local government land uses across the Region.

Council has created an online planning and development service called Rock-E-Plan. Rock-E-Plan provides various items of information including mapping with numerous overlays.

Visit [www.rrc.qld.gov.au](http://www.rrc.qld.gov.au) for more information.





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The Digital Cadastral DataBase is current as at April 2018. © The State Government of Queensland (Dept. of Natural Resources and Mines) 2018. All other data © Rockhampton Regional Council 2018.

0 5 10 20 Km  
1:350,000 at A3.

**Fitzroy River Soils**  
**Fitzroy Agricultural Corridor Project 2017**

Information Source: Information Source: Soils Land Suitability for Irrigated Agriculture Along the Fitzroy River LFZ (DNR, 2000). © State of Queensland (Department of Science, Information Technology and Innovation) 2017. Rockhampton Regional Council makes no representations or warranties in relation to accuracy, reliability, completeness, currency or suitability for any particular purpose.





# EXISTING PRODUCTION

**CENTRAL QUEENSLAND PRODUCES 13 PERCENT OF QUEENSLAND’S \$13 BILLION ANNUAL VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION. THE GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTION IN THE FITZROY REGION IS \$1.7 BILLION (18/19).**

The most important commodities in the Fitzroy region (2018-19) based on the gross value of agricultural production were beef cattle (\$1.4 billion), followed by cotton (\$69 million) and sorghum (\$41 million). These commodities together contributed 83 percent of the total value of agricultural production in the region. Grapes, macadamias, pineapples, mangoes and citrus fruit and vegetables are also produced across Central Queensland.

Rockhampton has two major beef abattoirs, Teys Australia and JBS. These abattoirs have the capacity to process close to 2,000 head a day and supply domestic and international markets.

Rockhampton, known as the Beef Capital, showcases innovations, best practice, live showing and the industry’s best services at Beef Australia every three years.

Rockhampton, given its strategic location to ideal cropping country, has led to the development of specialised and bulk feed manufacturing operations. Blue Ribbon Stockfeeds is a prime example of harnessing local grain and legumes to produce specialised livestock feed for the cattle, pork and poultry sectors.

**FAST FACTS**

- › The Fitzroy River has an average discharge of 5,900 gegalitres of water.
- › The Fitzroy Basin has a total size of 142,665km2
- › The Fitzroy Agricultural Corridor in the Rockhampton Region has opportunities for horticulture expansion.

VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL PRODUCTS		
› Beef \$1.4 billion	› Cotton \$69 million	› Grapes \$15.6 million
› Pork \$8.4 million	› Pulses \$45 million	› Vegetables \$11.9 million
› Milk \$4.5 million	› Sorghum \$41 million	› Pineapples \$10.8 million
› Poultry \$490,000	› Wheat \$30 million	› Macadamias \$3.1 million
› Lamb \$224,000	› Maize \$3.3 million	› Mangoes \$1.9 million



# HORTICULTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**HORTICULTURE PRODUCTION IN THE ROCKHAMPTON REGION IS A LARGELY UNTAPPED OPPORTUNITY THAT WILL SOON BE ENHANCED WITH THE INCREASED AVAILABILITY AND RELIABILITY OF WATER FROM THE PROPOSED ROOKWOOD WEIR.**

The region is also well located to cater for increasing demand for “clean and green” foods by domestic and international consumers. Australia is currently a net importer of horticultural products and all levels of government recognise the benefits of locally grown produce and associated employment and training the industry can offer.

A variety of fruit and vegetable crops can be grown in the region, with a good mix of rich alluvium and sandy soils, sub-tropical climate and an annual summer dominant rainfall of approximately 815 mm providing for the ability to access specific market windows.

Our region’s established transport network of roads, rail, port and air transport facilities makes the Rockhampton Region an attractive location for the production, processing and transporting of horticulture crops.

Current horticultural production includes a wide range of crops such as sweet potatoes near Rockhampton and pineapples closer to the coast. There are a number of turf farms in the region and scattered significant perennial horticultural production areas, which follow a similar pattern

to annual horticulture. These include macadamias, mangoes, grapes, lychees, logans and avocados. Citrus and table grapes are also prominent to the west around Emerald.

Access to labour is a key component of being able to generate horticultural produce and meet market specifications during peak and critical periods. An experienced permanent workforce is available in the wider Central Queensland region servicing the citrus industry in the Central Highlands and the pineapple, lychee, sweet potato and macadamia farms in close proximity to Rockhampton.

The Rockhampton Region offers a diverse range of affordable accommodation and the lifestyle and tourism opportunities offered by the region already attracts international and domestic backpackers seeking employment.

Rockhampton is recognised as a technology hub and a centre of excellence for agriculture with the main campus for the CQUniversity located in North Rockhampton and the opening of Rockhampton’s SmartHub in collaboration with the Queensland Government. Rockhampton is also

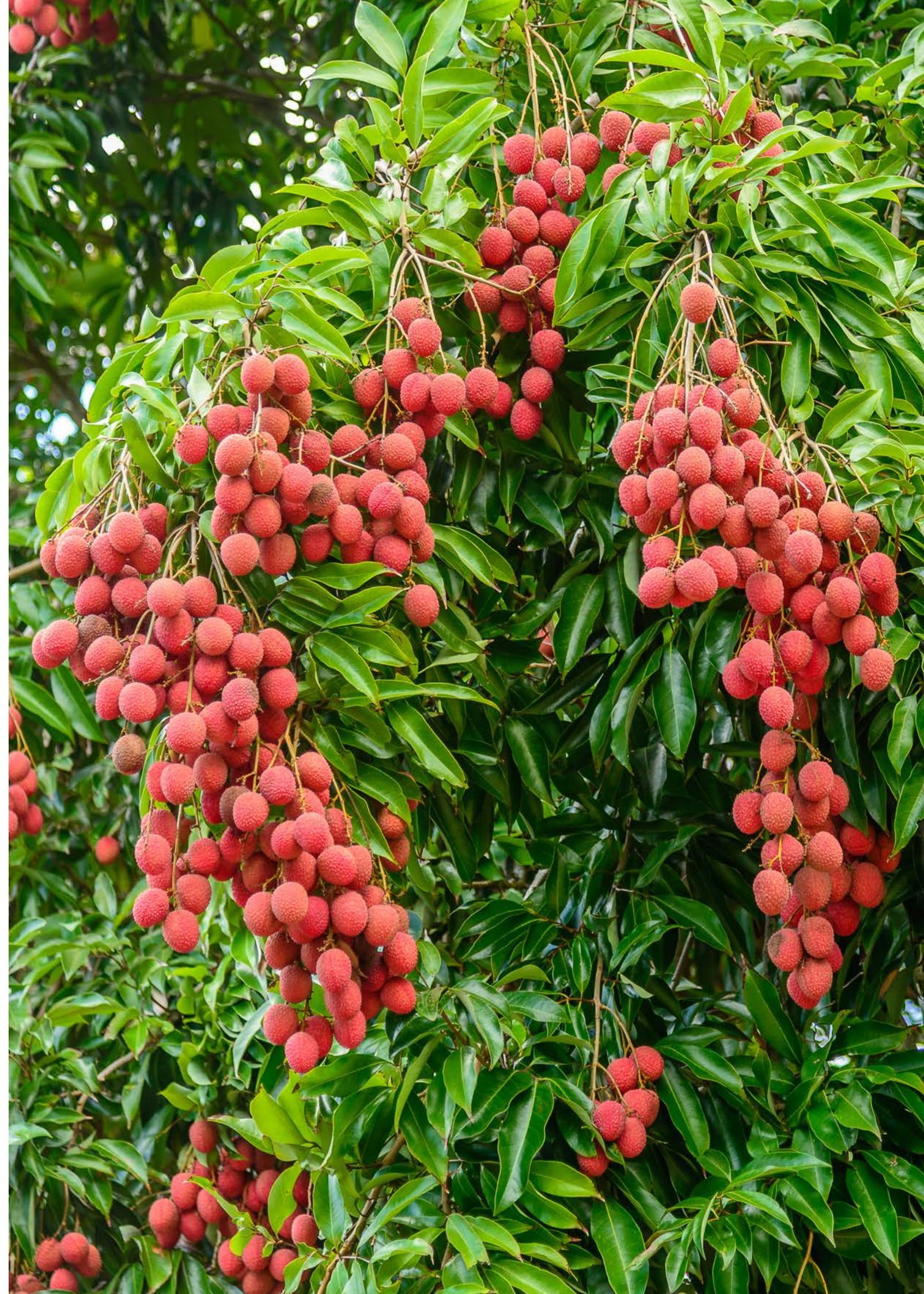
home to several of Australia’s leading professional advisors including supply chain specialists and researchers and lecturers in agronomy, agritech, cropping and horticulture.

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- › Large scale macadamia production
- › Large scale lychee production
- › Large scale mandarin production
- › Large scale table grape production
- › Large scale pecan production
- › Protected cropping for vegetables

## FAST FACTS

- › The Fitzroy Agricultural Corridor has approx 45,000 ha suitable for irrigation.
- › Suitable crops within the corridor include macadamias, pecans, mandarins, table grapes, lychees, soybeans and peanuts.







# LIVESTOCK OPPORTUNITIES

ROCKHAMPTON IS RECOGNISED AS THE BEEF CAPITAL OF AUSTRALIA AND HOSTS THE INTERNATIONALLY RECOGNISED BEEF WEEK EVENT DRAWING PRODUCERS, PROCESSORS AND BEEF INDUSTRY SPECIALISTS FROM ACROSS THE WORLD.

Rockhampton is a major hub for cattle trading with several stock agents and banks servicing the rural sector. The Central Queensland Livestock Exchange (CQLX) is only eight kilometres from Rockhampton on the Capricorn Highway. CQLX is the largest stud selling complex in the southern hemisphere and one of Queensland's top cattle selling facilities holding weekly sales. It has the capacity to sell 4,000 head of cattle at a time.

The region is also serviced by two export focused abattoirs:

- › JBS Rockhampton abattoir has a processing capacity of approximately 700 head per day and supplies markets mainly in the USA and Asia; and
- › Teys Australia has a processing capacity of around 1,700 head per day and remains Australia's largest single shift slaughterer.

The Rockhampton Region is an ideal location for feedlots due to:

- › Access to feeder cattle from the Fitzroy Region, with almost 3 million head
- › Availability of water and climatic conditions

- › Availability of land that is away from sensitive receptors and outside of flood zones
- › Suitability for grain growing and proximity to grain growing areas
- › Suitability of soils for grain production and by-product waste utilisation
- › Proximity to major road networks, rail, airport, two ports, two abattoirs and a saleyard
- › Experienced labour and access to veterinarians, expert researchers and advisors
- › Access to local specialists to secure permits and approvals

Several potential feedlot sites were identified in the region by a comprehensive study conducted by the Queensland Government between 2002 and 2007. The study identified potential to develop at least four large cattle feedlots in the region with a capacity of approximately 30,000 Standard Cattle Units (SCUs) each. The total potential turnoff of these feedlots could reach approximately 445,000 finished head annually.

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- › Large scale cattle feedlot
- › Specialised boutique cattle abattoir
- › Commercial piggery
- › Commercial chicken meat production
- › Commercial goat meat production

FAST FACTS

- › Rockhampton is the Beef Capital of Australia.
- › The Fitzroy area has Australia's largest cattle herd of approximately 3 million head.



# AQUACULTURE OPPORTUNITIES

**THE ROCKHAMPTON REGION HAS QUEENSLAND'S LARGEST SALTWATER AQUACULTURE DEVELOPMENT AREA (ADA) AND HAS THE POTENTIAL TO BE A MAJOR AQUACULTURE HUB CLOSE TO MAJOR TRANSPORT AND LOGISTIC OPTIONS.**

The global community will face enormous challenges by the middle of the 21st century when the world's population is expected to exceed 9 billion people.

Aquaculture is the business of farming live aquatic animals and plants, under varying degrees of controlled conditions, both in marine and freshwater environments. This industry will be pivotal in providing the world's protein needs.

As the world's population grows, wild capture fisheries will struggle to meet demand for fresh seafood. Highly regarded as a good source of protein, aquaculture can help meet this future consumer demand.

Aquaculture's contribution to the world's total fish production has increased dramatically. Since the mid 1990's the supply from wild caught fisheries has plateaued, with aquaculture increasing its production each year to help meet global demand.

The current size of the global aquaculture market is above \$176 billion and with the growth of consumption for higher quality and ethically sourced seafood the global industry is expected to continue to

expand over the next 10 years.

In Australia, our largest fishery is actually farmed salmon with nearly 53,000 tonnes produced in Tasmania. In Queensland, recent total aquaculture production was nearly 8,000 tonnes with a value of \$114 million.

There are many market opportunities in the Rockhampton Region including saltwater species (black tiger prawns and barramundi) and a niche potential for Cobia (Black Kingfish), Queensland Groper, Sea Cucumbers and Artemia (Brine Shrimp). Several freshwater species including Redclaw, Jade Perch and Freshwater Eels along with aqua-feed production also provide potential opportunities in the Rockhampton ADA and adjacent region.

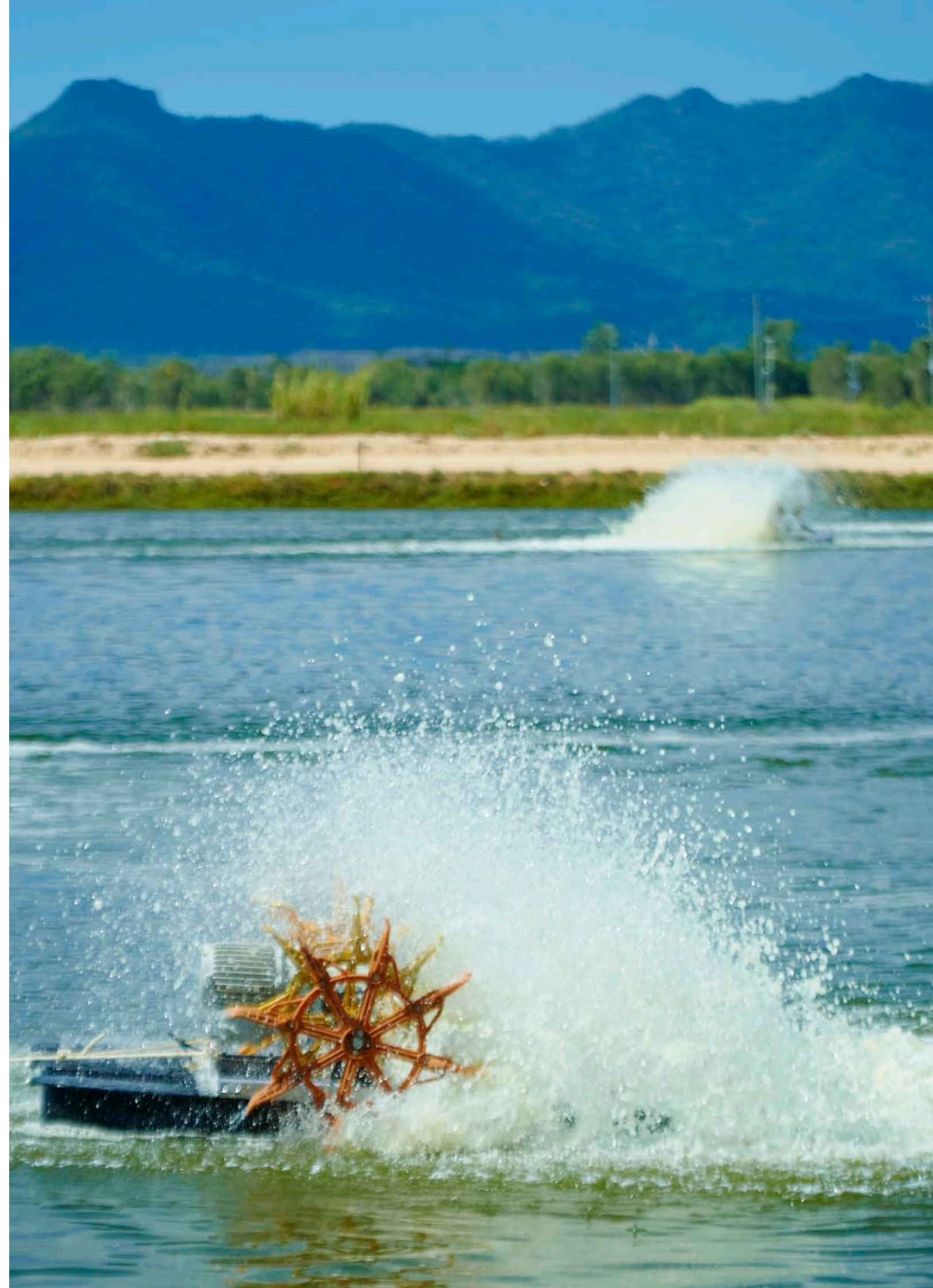
Commercial seaweed and algae production is also an opportunity in the Rockhampton Region. There are opportunities for more advanced circular economies to be enabled linking potential products such as seaweed fertilisers, seaweed based livestock feed or algae based protein supplements to agricultural opportunities in the Fitzroy Agricultural Corridor.

## INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

- › Prawn farms and processing systems
- › Fin fish farms and processing systems
- › Hatchery facilities and services
- › Bioremediation services and products
- › Seafood exporting services

## FAST FACTS

- › Queensland ADA's are approx. 7,000 ha in size.
- › Rockhampton has 50% of ADA land deemed suitable for aquaculture development.
- › On a global per capita basis fish meat consumption represents the high consumption of all meats consumed.
- › Aquaculture grown fish have the most efficient conversion rate when compared to poultry, pork, lamb and beef.







# SUPPORTING INFORMATION

## ACCESS AND LOGISTICS

**ROCKHAMPTON IS LOCATED AT THE JUNCTION OF THE BRUCE, CAPRICORN, BURNETT AND LEICHHARDT HIGHWAYS.**

Recent upgrades to the Bruce Highway immediately south of Rockhampton has significantly improved the flood immunity and capacity of the highway. Upgrades to the Bruce Highway and northern access into Rockhampton has commenced and final planning is underway for a third Fitzroy River crossing and Rockhampton Ring Road. In total, over \$1 billion is being spent to improve transport and logistics.

The North Coast Rail Line runs through Rockhampton providing access to both freight and passenger services north and south of Rockhampton. While rail freight data isn't readily accessible, container freight volumes handled in Rockhampton are thought to be in the

range of 20,000 to 40,000 twenty-foot equivalent units (TEU) per annum. There are two intermodal rail container terminals in Rockhampton operated by Aurizon and Pacific National. Aurizon has flagged its intention to exit its intermodal business and this may lead to consolidation of the two intermodal facilities in Rockhampton.

The Rockhampton Airport is owned and operated by Rockhampton Regional Council. The Airport's 2,628 metre high strength main runway is the third longest in Queensland and its airside infrastructure is capable of supporting large civil and military aircraft including A380 and Antonov 124-100.

The Airport is currently serviced by three airlines operating Regular Passenger Transport (RPT) services with direct flights to Brisbane (approx. 1 hour flight time), Townsville, Mackay, Gold Coast and indirect services to Cairns. Passenger numbers at the Rockhampton Airport are steady and have averaged 600,000 passengers per annum over the past 10 years. The Airport Terminal was redeveloped in 2008 and has the ability to process 1.6 million passengers per annum. Development and growth of air freight services is seen as a potential opportunity for the Rockhampton Airport.

## INDUSTRIAL LAND

**THE ROCKHAMPTON REGION HOSTS TWO REGIONAL SCALE INDUSTRIAL AREAS AT KEY LOCATIONS IN PARKHURST AND GRACEMERE.**

### PARKHURST

The Parkhurst Industrial Area (PIA) is located in North Rockhampton and is in close proximity to the Bruce Highway and North Coast Rail Line which form the backbone of Queensland road and rail networks. The PIA hosts a mix of heavy, medium and light industry and is ideally positioned to capitalise on the proposed Rockhampton Ring Road once constructed.

### GRACEMERE

The Gracemere Industrial Area (GIA) is located a short distance to the south-west of Rockhampton with good access to the Bruce and Capricorn Highways. The GIA has direct access to the Capricorn Highway and Type 1 Road Train Route.

The GIA is home to a number of existing transport operators including general, specialist and livestock freighters.

The industrial area also hosts a number of related service industries and has a 24/7 unmanned fuel station. Fully serviced and competitively priced land is available for purchase and several local developers will consider construct and lease arrangements.





## NEXT STEPS

## PLANNING & DEVELOPMENT APPROVALS

**ROCKHAMPTON REGIONAL COUNCIL ENCOURAGES AND ACTIVELY SEEKS TO PROMOTE THE DEVELOPMENT OF THE AGRICULTURAL SECTOR AND SUPPORTING INDUSTRIES IN THE REGION.**

Council's planning scheme seeks to protect agricultural land with productive capacity by minimising fragmentation, land use conflicts and urban encroachment. Rural land uses such as cropping and grazing and ancillary facilities such as small scale packing sheds and supporting facilities are currently exempt from assessment under the planning scheme.

Activities such as intensive horticulture and feedlots for example are subject to local and State regulations. Council and the Department of Agriculture and Fisheries are able to assist in identifying specific planning and approval requirements for proposed agricultural developments in the region.

For more information on required planning and development approvals with Council visit [www.rrc.qld.gov.au](http://www.rrc.qld.gov.au)

## DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE & FISHERIES

**DAF AND ITS PREDECESSOR AGENCIES HAVE LONG BEEN DEDICATED TO PROMOTING RURAL ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES.**

A thriving state economy provides the basis for achieving society's economic, social and environmental goals – jobs, income, and the revenue to provide public services to the community.

As part of its rural economic development responsibilities, Department of Agriculture and Fisheries (DAF) takes a pro-active role in:

- › Identifying and assessing opportunities that will promote economic development of a rural region.

- › Working with project proponents to identify issues or impediments to investment, particularly barriers to projects proceeding.
- › Working with proponents, other agencies and stakeholders to facilitate projects and address barriers and impediments.
- › Monitoring and advising on progress.

For further information, advice or assistance please contact DAF by visiting [www.daf.qld.gov.au](http://www.daf.qld.gov.au) or contacting the Rockhampton branch on 07 4936 0150.





Economic Development, Tourism,  
Events & Marketing

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