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Page: 50

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page 1 of 1

## Free online workshop for Southern Downs farmers

A half-day workshop is being offered online so farmers anywhere in Australia can learn about carbon, climate change and drought. Southern Downs farmers interested in any of those three topics should apply now for the workshop, which will be held on Wednesday next week (31 May) from 11am to 4pm.

The workshop is a condensed version of the Climate Essentials course developed by Australian National University in collaboration with Farmers for Climate Action (FCA).

Coordinator Ellen Litchfield said Farmers for Climate Action created the course after being overwhelmed by interest for the FCA Climate Smart Scholarship last year, when 330 farmers registered for only 20 positions. FCA is expecting similar demand for this latest course so farmers are encouraged to apply straight away.

Farmers for Climate Change say it is part of a series of online science and communication workshops that would normally be

worth hundreds of dollars but is being presented for free.

"We know farmers are keen to learn more about climate adaptation and carbon farming. Surveys of 600 FCA members and other farmers last year found that just 10 per cent of farmers are growing and selling carbon and 70 per cent say they don't understand the carbon market," she said.

Farmers will hear from experts on topics such as climate change science, carbon

farming, adaptation options, agri-politics, and communicating climate change. The presenters include ANU's Professor Mark Howden, Caitlyn Baljak from Below Zero and Dr Bec Colvin. Expressions of interest can be submitted to <https://farmersforclimate-action.org.au/portfolio/climate-essentials/> and the event will be held through Zoom to make it an interactive experience where farmers have an opportunity to engage with the experts.