



## David Littleproud MP

Federal Member for Maranoa

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# Media Statement

November 13, 2017

### **Trade deal with Peru creates new agricultural export opportunities in Maranoa**

WE know our products are the best and export opportunities have expanded to take our produce further on the world stage thanks to a new trade deal with Peru, Maranoa MP David Littleproud said.

“This new deal means there’ll be immediate duty free access for our sheep meat, most wine and most horticulture products, kangaroo meat and wheat,” Mr Littleproud said.

“Peru is Australia’s fifth largest commercial partner in Latin America and is a gateway to increased trade across South America.

“Whether it’s Granite Belt horticulture and wine from the South Burnett; kangaroo meat harvested and processed in Western Queensland; beef processed in Warwick, grazed on the Channel Country, sold at Australia’s largest cattle-selling centre in Roma; or Darling Downs grain – this trade deal is fantastic news for Maranoa.”

The Coalition Government – which is pursuing the most ambitious trade agenda in Australia’s history – has concluded the Peru-Australia Free Trade Agreement, creating new export opportunities in one of the fastest growing economies and regions in the world.

“Aussie exporters were effectively locked out of Peru due to the high tariffs they faced. This agreement has virtually eliminated them, putting our exporters in pole position to capitalise on this growing market,” Mr Littleproud said.

“Maranoa is synonymous with high-quality products and that’s exactly what the world is looking for. This agreement is a real boost for producers as the sector continues to grow thanks to this government’s commitment to growing our export opportunities.

“This isn’t just good news for red meat producers and, thanks to the resurgence of sheep which can be attributed to successful wild dog fencing projects in Maranoa, sheep meat producers and exporters will also benefit.”

The government will work closely with Australian export industries to guide and inform preparations for technical market access submissions to Peru. Discussions are underway between Australian and Peruvian authorities to establish the necessary import protocols for Australian beef and sheep meat.

### **Fast Facts:**

- In 2016 Australia’s total two-way trade in goods and services with Peru was worth \$590 million – up 51.2% from the previous year.

- Australia exported \$6.7 million of agricultural products to Peru in 2016 (mainly butter, food, beverages and paper products) and imported \$114 million worth (mainly seafood flours, meals and pellets, fish oil, coffee and asparagus).
- Australian beef, sheep meat, dairy, horticulture, wheat, barley, rice, canola, sugar and wine have been effectively shut out of the Peruvian market because of tariff barriers.

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