

# Media Release

## Andrew Broad

Member for Mallee

Monday, 3 April 2017

### JAEPA CONTINUES TO GET BETTER FOR AUSSIE EXPORTERS

The Member for Mallee, Andrew Broad, has said today that exporters in the Wimmera Mallee are set to benefit from the fourth round of tariff cuts under the Japan – Australia Economic Partnership Agreement (JAEPA), which will take effect from April 1.

“These cuts will provide further opportunities for our local exporters of commodities including honey, beef, dairy, wine, cereals and horticultural products.

“Japan is one of our leading markets in fact it is currently ranked second and was worth \$4.7 billion to our economy in 2016. These latest tariff reductions will help our producers to be more competitive than ever before.”

Among those to benefit in the Wimmera Mallee are orange and table grape growers.

With an export value of \$39 million, in their first export season, oranges will have a tariff of 10.2 per cent and this rate will steadily decline until it's eliminated within ten years.

Table grape growers will gain, with a new rate ranging from 3.9 to 10.8 per cent, depending on the period in which they export and this rate will also decline until it's eliminated over seven years.

Local honey exporters are also in line to benefit with a cut from a pre - JAEPA tariff of 25.5 per cent down to 16.2 percent after April 1 with the rate eliminated over the next ten years.

“This is all good news for our exporters and with further trade deals and tariff cuts coming, the future is very bright.

“Our Government's commitment to supporting regional Australia and our agricultural sector is behind much of the growth we are seeing, as optimism and confidence means more people are remaining in and investing in, agriculture and horticulture.

“Free Trade Agreements make a very real, practical difference and it is boosting not just the ag sector but our economy as a whole.”

**ENDS**

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