

Useful apps for Australian agriculture – iPhone and iPad

AGRICULTURAL INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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This guide contains the latest iPhone and iPad applications (apps) useful in Australian agriculture. Apps are grouped into categories including government and industry; weather; farm management packages; agricultural tools (including calculators); general tools; i-device essentials; information; livestock management; markets, news and social media; books and banking. The guide will be reviewed periodically to capture the latest apps.

App name and owner/designer	Cost (\$)	Optimised for iPad	Optimised for iPhone	Internet required for use?	What it does	Comments
Government/Industry						
CropMate™ Variety Chooser NSW Department of Primary Industries	Free	Yes	Yes	No	Assists farmers to choose NSW varieties of barley, canola, chickpeas, faba beans, field peas, lupins, oats, triticale and wheat. Filters by parameters such as region, varietal characteristics such as quality and disease resistance. Provides current yield trial data.	Based on the NSW DPI <i>Winter crop variety sowing guide</i> and NVT data. NSW data only.
Weeds: the Ute Guide Grains Research & Development Corporation	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Identify the most common weeds in southern Australia.	Based on the GRDC Weeds: Ute guide publication.
Crop Diseases Horticultural Industry Network (DPI Vic)	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Compare current crop disease resistance ratings, compare disease symptoms, map diseases and share pictures of diseases with others.	Based on Victorian varietal information.
Water Storage Bureau of Meteorology	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Reports dam storage information for 250 publically owned storages across Australia.	
My Environment Department of Sustainability, Environment, Water, Population & Communities	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Uses GPS to show heritage places, wetlands, protected species, protected areas, weeds and invasive species around your location.	
Weather						
Weatherzone Plus The Weather Company	1.99	Yes	Yes	Yes	Weather forecasts and maps.	Detailed, reliable, forecasts and past 24hrs, no Delta T, good range of country weather stations.
Elders Weather Elders Rural Services	1.99	Yes	Yes	Yes	Weather forecasts and maps.	Good app with Delta T.
Yr.No. NRK	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Weather forecasts and maps.	
Other weather apps: Rain (We make apps, Free), Pocket Weather AU (Shifty Jelly Pty Ltd), Oz Weather HD (ozPDA), Aus Weather (Mende App Inc). All \$1.99					Weather forecasts and maps.	Each app has different advantages, user's preference.

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Farm Management Packages						
Spray Spray Lite (Free) EziAPP	549.99 or Free	Yes	Yes	Yes for some sections	Spray data recording system that allows you to include: farms, sprays used, products used, crop type and generates a report.	Dropbox upload. Free version has limited features.
Agro Agro Lite (Free) EziAPP	1049.99 or Free	Yes	Yes	Yes for some sections	Create, email and store inspection reports from the paddock, record client details and requirements, supports multiple paddocks and properties per client.	Syncs when connection is available. Saves when out of range. Free version has limited features.
Agworld Agworld Pty Ltd	109.99	Yes	Yes	Yes for some sections	Farm planning, management and reporting app that shares information between farmers, consultants and contractors.	Cloud synchronised. Also available as a WebApp.
Back Paddock Advisor Mobile Back Paddock Company	Free	Yes	Yes	No	Agricultural spray recommendation generator for BackPaddock Advisor	Synchronisation and data transfer requires an active account. A suite of other products are available from BackPaddock.
F-Track live Farm Apps Pty Ltd	Free for 30 days, \$250/pa	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes for some sections	On-the-go farm management app that lets multiple users record and access all their farm information live. Includes crop, livestock, paddock, silo, fuel, chemical and task managers. Has web interface.	Syncs when connection is available. Saves when out of range.
Farm Manager Stringybark Software	17.99	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Allows farmers to record and access cropping, livestock and machinery operations.	Features include crop chemical and fertilizer use, full details of stock including ear tag numbers, bloodlines, breed, year born and machinery maintenance.
Farm Contractor Stringybark Software	10.49	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes for some sections	Allows farmers to record client and job details and email them back to office for invoicing. 25 job types are included.	25 job types including baling, equipment hire, shearing, spraying and windrowing.
PocketPAM-gpsScout FTI (1997) Pty Ltd	Free	Yes	Yes		Collect crop observations, pest and disease records and weed counts, sends records back to PAM and overlays your PAM map as a layer of points linked to crop monitoring records.	Uses Fairport's PAM production recording software.

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Tools (Agriculture)						
Calculating chemical mixes CalSpray (FTI (1997) Pty Ltd, \$1.99), Tankmix (DuPont, Free), Tank mix Calculator (TapLogic, Free, USA), Spray Calc (minskaysoft)					Calculate chemical mixes including total chemical required per tank, per area and water per area but features vary slightly.	Each app has different advantages, user's preference.
Nozzle Selection HARDI Nozzles (HARDI International A/S, Free), SpraySelect (TeeJet Technologies, Free)					Assists in selecting the right nozzle.	Each app has different advantages, user's preference according to brand.
Pest Genie Pest Genie Pty Ltd	Free (subscription required \$210–895pa)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Provides access to your Pest Genie account. Pest Genie provides information about pesticides and animal health products including labels, MSDS and product support material.	
Learning Plant Language Agronomic Acumen	32.99	Yes	Yes		Photos of deficiencies and toxicities.	
AGRIplot SharpeTech	0.99	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Calculates area/distance from Google Earth and records measurements with photos.	Email results in pdf format.
Harvest Time and Expense Tracker Harvest	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Tracks billable hours as you work and logs expenses including photos of receipts.	
Fertiliser Cost Calculator (NPK) Smith Farm Apps	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Estimates value of nitrogen per unit of Phosphorus source and cost of P205.	Take care with unit conversion into metric.
RAGT Calc RAGT Seeds Ltd	Free	Yes	Yes	No	Seeding rate calculator.	UK but the terms are equivalent.
JDLink John Deere	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Monitor and manage your fleet of John Deere machines from your iPhone.	

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Tools (General)						
MultiMeasures HD SkyPaw Co.Ltd	1.99	Yes	Yes (\$0.99)	No	Stopwatch, Timers, Metronome, Protractor, Ruler, Surface level, Spirit level, Plumb bob, Seismometer.	There is a free version but it is full of ads. The spirit level can also be purchased by itself for free.
Spirit levels FreeSpirit-Spirit level (Claire Holmes), Spirit Level Free by IntegraSoft (IntegraSoftHN – Carlos E Hernandez Perez) TiltMeter – Advanced level (IntegraSoftHN – Carlos E Hernandez Perez), Multi Spirit level (SkyPaw Co.Ltd). All apps available free.					All apps turn your device into a spirit level.	Each app has different advantages, user's preference.
Unit converters Converber (Summit Applications, LLC), Convert – the unit calculator (tap tap tap), Total Converter (Three Stripes), Universal Unit Converter Pro HD (Easeware). <i>Customisable list: myConvert – unit converter</i> (Lu A Oo), Converter Plus (Universal) (TranCreative Software)					All apps convert units for example acres to hectares.	Each app has different advantages, user's preference.
Calculator++ FoxSoft Inc	Free	Yes	No	No	Scientific calculator.	Easy to use. Traditional scientific calculator, very similar to the native calculator on the iPhone.
Area Calc Summit Applications	2.99	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Determine the area and perimeter of 22 two dimensional shapes.	
Volume Calc Summit Applications	2.99	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Determine the volume and surface area of 26 three dimensional shapes.	
XE Currency XE.com Inc	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Converts international currency.	
Dictionary and Thesaurus Dictionary.com	Free	Yes	Yes	No	Words, definitions, synonyms and antonyms.	Has ads. Large app at 56.4MB.
iPrompt Greenality	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Teleprompting software.	
Australia Post Mobile Australia Post	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Access Australia Post services such as tracking items, scan bill barcodes and pay, calculate postage, convert and buy currency, search for a postcode.	
Track someone via their phone Track!: live GPS tracker (Enodo B.V, \$4.49), Track – Realtime route tracking and sharing (7sols, \$2.99), LiveGPSTracking Pro (Obiuz Limited, \$1.99)					Track your current position and route on map. Allow a base computer or other device to track you in real time for safety purposes.	Each app has different advantages, user's preference. High battery use requirement. Requires mobile reception but some apps will store and send data when in range.
Phonetic alphabet (Free) Echo Charlie Bravo Zulu (Mathias Navne), Phonetic Alphabet Viewer (Nate Glenn)					Provides the phonetic alphabet equivalents.	Each app has different advantages, user's preference.
Dragon Dictation Nuance Communications	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Turns short voice into text for a range of purposes such as text messages or notes to self.	
Flashlight John Haney Software	Free	Yes	Yes	No	Fills the screen with bright white light, custom colour, S.O.S etc.	Ads only in settings area.
CamCard – Business card scanner and reader CamCard lite (Free) IntSig Information Co., Ltd	7.49		Yes	No, only for backup to iCloud	Scans, stores and sorts business cards.	30 scans first week then 3/week. Free version has 10 scans first week then 2/week.
Evernote Evernote	Free	Yes	Yes	No, only when syncing data	Sync notes, lists, photos and much more between multiple devices.	One of the most useful apps you can purchase. The paid version gives you more storage.

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idevice essentials						
Goodreader for iPad and Goodreader for iPhone (Good.iWare Ltd)	5.49	Yes	Yes	No	Read and perform a number of functions to any type of file including PDF.	One of the most useful apps you can purchase.
Instapaper Marco Arment	5.49	Yes	Yes	No	Save web pages for later offline reading.	Strips out ads and other excess data.
Skype and Skype for iPad Skype Software S.a.r.l	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Allows video or voice calling via the internet.	
Flipboard Flipboard Inc	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Compiles the news sources you visit regularly, including Twitter, Facebook, RSS feeds, photos etc – a single place to read, comment and share.	Saves time finding pages you regularly visit.
Dropbox Dropbox	Free (for 2GB of storage)	Yes	Yes	Yes	Cloud storage with automatic syncing from all sorts of programs, useable with any device, allows sharing of files.	Very easy and convenient to use. Dropbox is the most common non-Apple cloud storage option supported by other apps. There are other free cloud storage equivalents including Google Drive, iCloud, Microsoft Skydrive, and Box.
iWork – Pages, Keynote and Numbers Apple	10.49 each	Yes	Yes	Will sync to iCloud but not necessary	iOS equivalent to Word, Powerpoint and Excel respectively.	Will read, perform limited editing and save Microsoft items.
Documents to Go – Office Suite DataViz, Inc	10.49	Yes	Yes	No	Basic Microsoft Word, Excel and PowerPoint creation and editing.	
QuickOffice Pro Quick Office Pro HD QuickOffice	15.99 20.99	Yes (HD)	Yes	No	Editing Suite for Microsoft Word, Excel and Powerpoint.	You will have to buy the HD version for iPad in addition to the iPhone version.
i-nigma 3GVision	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Only if QR code requires internet	QR code reader.	One of the more reliable readers. Has website where you can create your own QR code.
Find my iPhone Apple	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Uses another device or computer to locate your iPhone on a map and protect the data. Display a message or play a sound, remotely lock the device or erase data.	
eWallet	10.49	Yes	Yes		Securely contains all your passwords, account information, card numbers or IDs.	
Penultimate CoCoo Box Design	0.99	Yes		No, only to import/export to cloud/email.	Handwriting and drawing app for iPad.	Import images/documents and export using Dropbox, Evernote, iTunes, emails etc.

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Information						
First Aid St John Ambulance Australia	4.49	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Step by step emergency First Aid information including images.	
Fires near me NSW NSW Rural Fire Service	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Locates fires in NSW on a map with a link to fire information.	Similar apps exist for SA (CFS Fire App) and Vic (CFA Fire ready).
NSW Transport Info Department of Transport NSW	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Sydney public transport timetables and routes.	
Yellow Pages Australia and Yellow Pages Australia for iPad Sensis Pty Ltd	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	The Yellow pages.	
Google Earth Google	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Satellite imagery and location data for anywhere in the world.	Same functions as Google Earth on a desktop.
Native Flora and Fauna Information						
Birds of Australia (mydigital earth.com, \$31.99), Field Guide to Victorian Fauna (Museum Victoria, Free), Frogs Field Guide (Australian Museum, Free) Australian Wildflowers (Mushroom Pudding, \$2.99), WA Snakes (Western Australian Museum, \$1.99)						
Livestock						
AgVantage Agvantage	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Calculates dosage rates for animal health products based on entered parameters. Provides specific product information such as withholding periods.	
Angus Australia Viva La Mobile/ Angus Australia	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Angus genetics, member search, website link.	
iHerd iApps Pty Ltd	Free 30 day trial	Yes	Yes	Yes for some sections	Keep track of cattle details and herds, movements, paddock details, property ID numbers, chemical treatments and inventories.	Syncs between managers. Australian.
Coopers Animal Health Intervet Australia Pty Ltd	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Information on Cooper's animal health range including labels, MSDS, product support material and a solution finder.	
iFarmer Inventory Applications Ltd	2.99 (subscribe for premium features)	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes for some sections	Inventory control and reconciliation – record and report on sales and purchases of stock, weight gains, animal health, movements etc.	New Zealand. Full integration with Xero accounting software.
BreederCalc Amy Curran	1.99	Works on iPad	Yes	No	Calculates the due date of several different types of animals by entering the serviced/joining date.	
EZ Breakeven Analysis JoesApps	10.99	Works on iPad	Yes		When buying animals, calculate breakeven costs, determine shrink weight, determine days on feed, and calculate expected shipping date.	

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Markets, News and Social Media						
GrainCorp GrainCorp	Free	Pending	Yes	Yes and no. Syncs when in range, saves when out of range	Price discovery, site information, harvest information, grower delivery information.	Coming soon, not released yet.
Agrowdata Agrowdata	Free (5.49 for 1 month subscription, 49.99 for 1 year)	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Current and historical Agricultural Commodity pricing information including CME futures, global fertiliser prices, swaps prices for fertiliser, Australian pricing for MLA and grains and oilseeds, FFAs for Panamax and Handysize vessels.	Australian data.
CSBP Insights CSBP Limited	Free	Works on iPad	Yes	Yes	Reference guide for global fertiliser markets, local CSBP news and weather.	WA specific.
DTN/The Progressive Farmer Televent DTN	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	International crop and agriculture news, articles, market details, interactive charts, cash grain prices, weather, videos, blogs and event details.	Predominately US content.
Agricultural news and market aggregators (Free) The Crop Site (Benchmark Holdings), AgWeb News and Markets (Farm Journal), Farm Futures Magazine (Farm Progress Companies), AgriNews (Common Man Innovative Technologies), AgWired (ZimmComm New Media)					Apps gathering international crop and agriculture news, articles, market details, videos, blogs and event details.	Mostly overseas content. Each app has different advantages, user's preference.
Grain/Cereal Global Trade and Markets Ian Vink	2.99	Yes	Yes		Track trade and reserves for all major grains from UN FAO data.	
Twitter Twitter Inc	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Twitter for iPhone and iPad.	Third party apps also exist e.g. Tweetdeck.
Facebook Facebook Inc	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Facebook for iPhone and iPad.	Third party apps also exist.

App name and owner/designer	Cost (\$)	Optimised for iPad	Optimised for iPhone	Internet required for use?	What it does	Comments
Books						
iBooks Apple	Free	Yes	Yes	Only to download books	Buy books from Apple's bookstore and store and read books from all stores (except Amazon).	This does not come standard, you have to download it. NSW DPI guides are being added to this site.
Kindle AMZN Mobile LLC	Free	Yes	Yes	Only to download books	Reader for books bought from Kindle (or Amazon).	
Kobo Kobo Inc	Free	Yes	Yes	Only to download books	Reader for books bought from Kobo.	Better store for books available in Australia.
Zinio Zinio LCC	Free	Yes	Yes	Only to download books	Buy and read a large range of magazines.	
Play Books Google	Free	Yes	Yes	Yes	Buy and read books from Google's bookstore.	Need to download books from an online account if you wish to read offline.
Stanza Lexcycle	Free	Yes	Yes	Only to download books	Offers an online catalogue with many publishers and a lot of free books including Project Gutenberg.	Small cost but you can access a range of classic literature. It supports a wide range of formats including epub.
Classics Andrew Kazmierski	0.99	Yes	Yes	Only to download books	Download and read books.	
Audible Audible	Free	Yes	Yes	Only to download books	Access audio books.	Not many are available in Australia.
Banking						
Commonwealth Bank, NAB, St George, Suncorp, Bankwest, ANZ, Westpac, HSBC Australia, Citibank, BankSA, ING amongst others. Most available free.					Provide easy and secure access to your bank accounts.	

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Overseas apps						
Livestock Apps						
ProDairy Event (Smart Farm Apps, \$12.99), Pro Grass Rotation (Smart Farm Apps, \$32.99), iCattle log (iSimpleTypeApp, \$8.49), iLivestockMgr (iSimpleTypeApp, \$8.49), iPastureMgr (iSimpleTypeApp, \$8.49) Herd – Animal and Livestock Management (John JR Scott, Free + 17.99), SDCES Grazing Records (SDSU AgBio Communications, Free), Livestock Global Trade (Ian Vink \$2.99), Beef Market Central (iNet Solutions Group, Free), Pork Business Advisor (iNet Solutions Group, Free), Dairy Source (iNet Solutions Group, Free), Spray Nozzle Calculator (CCIC, 13.99), The Pig Site (Benchmark Holdings, Free), The Fish Site (Benchmark Holdings, Free), The Poultry Site (Benchmark Holdings, Free)						
Tools						
Yield Check (Precision Planting Inc, Free), Corn Yield Calculator (Smith Farm Apps, \$1.99), Corn N rate calculator (University of Wisconsin Nutrient & Pest Management Program, Free), N Price Calculator (University of Wisconsin Nutrient & Pest Management Program, Free), Vector Sprays (United States Department of Agriculture, Free), Aerial Sprays (United States Department of Agriculture, Free), Mix Tank (Precision Laboratories, Free), Calc-Seed (FTI, \$1.99)						
Data management						
Wireless Farmer (BizApp Solutions, Free), Field Notes (AGS Sales and Consulting, \$25.99), AgLync (Idea Blitz Technology Solutions, \$10.49), iScoutCrops (Ag View FS, Free), Scout Doc – Farm field Scouting (AgNition, \$51.99)						
Information						
IPM toolkit (University of Wisconsin Nutrient & Pest Management Program, Free), Disease ID (BASF, Free), Weed ID (BASF, \$5.49), CAT Canopy Assessment Tool (BASF, Free), OSR GAI Green Area Index (BASF, Free), Crop Nutrient Deficiency Photo Library (International Plant Nutrition Institute, \$5.49), Fertilizer Global Business (Ian Vink, \$2.99), Commodity Markets for Rice Corn (Ian Vink, \$2.99), MySci Pubs Soil Crop Agron Pubs (Bravura Technologies, Free), Leafsnap , and Leafsnap for iPad (Columbia University, University of Maryland, Free)						

This table is for information purposes only and should not be considered an endorsement, advice or a recommendation. The list of apps is not exhaustive and contains a selected range of useful apps for farm advisors and farmers. Most apps have been selected for their relevance to Australian agriculture and their accuracy, however overseas apps have been included at the end of the document. Where multiple apps exist, the highest rated apps have been included, the most useful as an example by itself with selected other apps in a group. Where multiple free apps exist, priced apps are only included if they offer significant improvements in performance or quality. The list is continually updated and the latest update is available from www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/broadacre. Further information on digital technology is available in the publication *Essential technology making life easier on the farm*, available from www.dpi.nsw.gov.au/agriculture/broadacre.

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The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (July 2012). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of the NSW Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.

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