



PRIME MINISTER

FOR MEDIA

WEDNESDAY, 24 JUNE 1981

DROUGHT AID - NSW

The Prime Minister today announced the introduction by the Commonwealth of a new measure to assist drought-affected cereal producers in New South Wales.

Short term loans will be provided to cereal farmers to enable them to sow crops.

These loans to farmers in necessitous circumstances as a result of the drought have been included as a special measure of assistance for the duration of the current drought. They are secured primarily by a preferential crop lien and are repayable from the proceeds of the crop assisted.

Funds will be provided under this arrangement as part of the measures eligible for Commonwealth assistance under the natural disaster relief arrangements.

The Prime Minister said that the Commonwealth was pleased to assist New South Wales with this recovery measure, which was clearly indicative of the benefits deriving from the recent rainfall.

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