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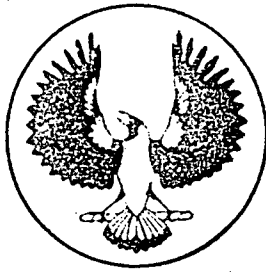
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**Title:**

Statement: Low interest drought assistance for farmers

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# STATEMENT

from the Premier

Date...November...9.,...1976...

Embargo.....

State Administration Centre,  
Victoria Square, Adelaide,  
South Australia 5001  
227 2688

## LOW INTEREST DROUGHT ASSISTANCE FOR FARMERS

The State Government is to provide low interest, long term carry on finance for drought affected farmers, the Premier, Mr. Dunstan, announced today.

"Loans over 7 to 10 years will be made available to primary producers at an interest rate of 4 percent, the Premier said.

"This assistance will be made available immediately to farmers on the basis of individual circumstances and needs", the Premier said.

"The Government has decided that repayments need not commence until March 1979, giving farmers up to 2 years free of repayment commitments.

"The financial effects of the drought will continue throughout next year, and the major thrust of the Government's programme has been carry-on assistance to help overcome those affects.

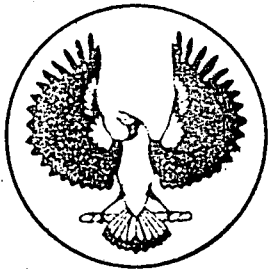
Mr. Dunstan said the provision of carry-on finance complemented the previous range of short term drought assistance measures instigated by the Government.

"The Government has worked on the basis that longer term problems would occur for farmers later this year and throughout next year and this has been consistent with the attitudes of State's producer organisations".

The Premier said the loans would be made available to meet living costs, superphosphate, feed, fuel and other carry-on requirements.

Applications for loans can be obtained from any office of the Department of Lands or Agriculture and Fisheries, and should be sent to the Minister of Lands, Box 1047, G.P.O., Adelaide 5001.

Enquiries can also be made to the Rural Industries Assistance Authority, 4th floor, Commercial Union Assurance Building, 44 Pirie Street, Adelaide (telephone 227 2652).



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