

## **Electronic livestock monitoring through the On Farm Connectivity Program**

The Australian Government's On Farm Connectivity Program is supporting Australian farmers to take advantage of connectivity solutions to help improve the productivity of farm operations.

Anthony Francis is a sheep farmer in the Colac region of Victoria. He considered purchasing connected equipment for sheep monitoring prior to the Program opening but was conscious of the cost. The On Farm Connectivity Program meant that Anthony was able to take advantage of a rebate to enable him to purchase connected equipment for sheep monitoring.

The equipment which includes a scanner and tags placed in sheep's ears, allows remote evaluation of various sheep metrics including weight, DNA and fat content prior to sale. Having this information at hand via the associated software, ensures better quality sheep can be produced for a more profitable sale.

'It was simple to apply for the Program and this initiative is great for the smaller producers,' Anthony said.

The Program has been a valuable initiative for farmers, reducing the financial barriers to improving connectivity across farms. The On Farm Connectivity Program is set to benefit more farmers, with a third round due to open later in 2025.