

MEDIA RELEASE



CANEGROWERS
MACKAY

28 January 2026

MEDIA RELEASE:

DISASTER ASSISTANCE ACTIVATED FOR CYCLONE KOJI-AFFECTED CANE GROWERS IN MACKAY AND ISAAC REGIONS

CANEGROWERS Mackay has welcomed the announcement of joint Commonwealth-State disaster assistance for primary producers in the Mackay and Isaac regions following the devastation caused by the North Queensland Monsoon Trough and Tropical Cyclone Koji.

The severe weather system, which commenced on 24 December 2025, brought damaging winds and significant flooding to the region, impacting sugarcane crops, fencing, and essential farm infrastructure during a critical period for the industry.

The Queensland Rural and Industry Development Authority (QRIDA) has now opened applications for financial support under the Disaster Recovery Funding Arrangements (DRFA).

This disaster funding was made easily accessible through the combined efforts of Mackay Canegrowers and Queensland Canegrowers. Mackay delivers dedicated local support, while our Brisbane team advocates at a state-level, ensuring assistance reaches everyone in the industry.

Growers are urged to document all damage with photographs and retain receipts for any recovery work already undertaken.

For affected growers outside eligible regions, please continue to submit your damage evidence to the [Queensland Department of Primary Industries disaster survey](#). Reporting this impact helps the Department accurately assess the disaster's wider extent and activate further necessary recovery assistance.

For full eligibility criteria and to apply, visit the [QRIDA website](#) or contact the CANEGROWERS Mackay office for guidance.

__END__

For more information, contact:

Joseph Borg, Chairman, CANEGROWERS Mackay / Chairman Mackay Area Committee, Phone: 0427 504 118

Michelle Martin, District Manager CANEGROWERS Mackay. Phone: 0498 757 210