



Australian Government  
Department of Agriculture,  
Fisheries and Forestry



OCTOBER 2022

# Historical Soil Data Capture Payments Program

## Information for applicants



The \$21 million Historical Soil Data Capture Payments Program is a measure under the National Soil Package. The program pays participants (data owners) through data brokers to share their historical soil data with the Australian Government. The program is open from May 2022 to 30 June 2023.



The data brokers engaged to deliver the program are:

- [AxisTech](#)
- [Precision Agriculture](#)
- [Precision SoilTech](#)
- [Southern Cross University](#)

Historical soil data shared as part of the program will be made available through the Australian National Soil Information System (ANSIS). Increasing our records of historical soil data will improve our understanding of soil condition across Australia over time and support targeted soil research, policy and program design.

## How to participate

Applicants can register their interest to participate as a data owner by contacting a data broker, who will facilitate data owners' participation in the program and determine data eligibility.

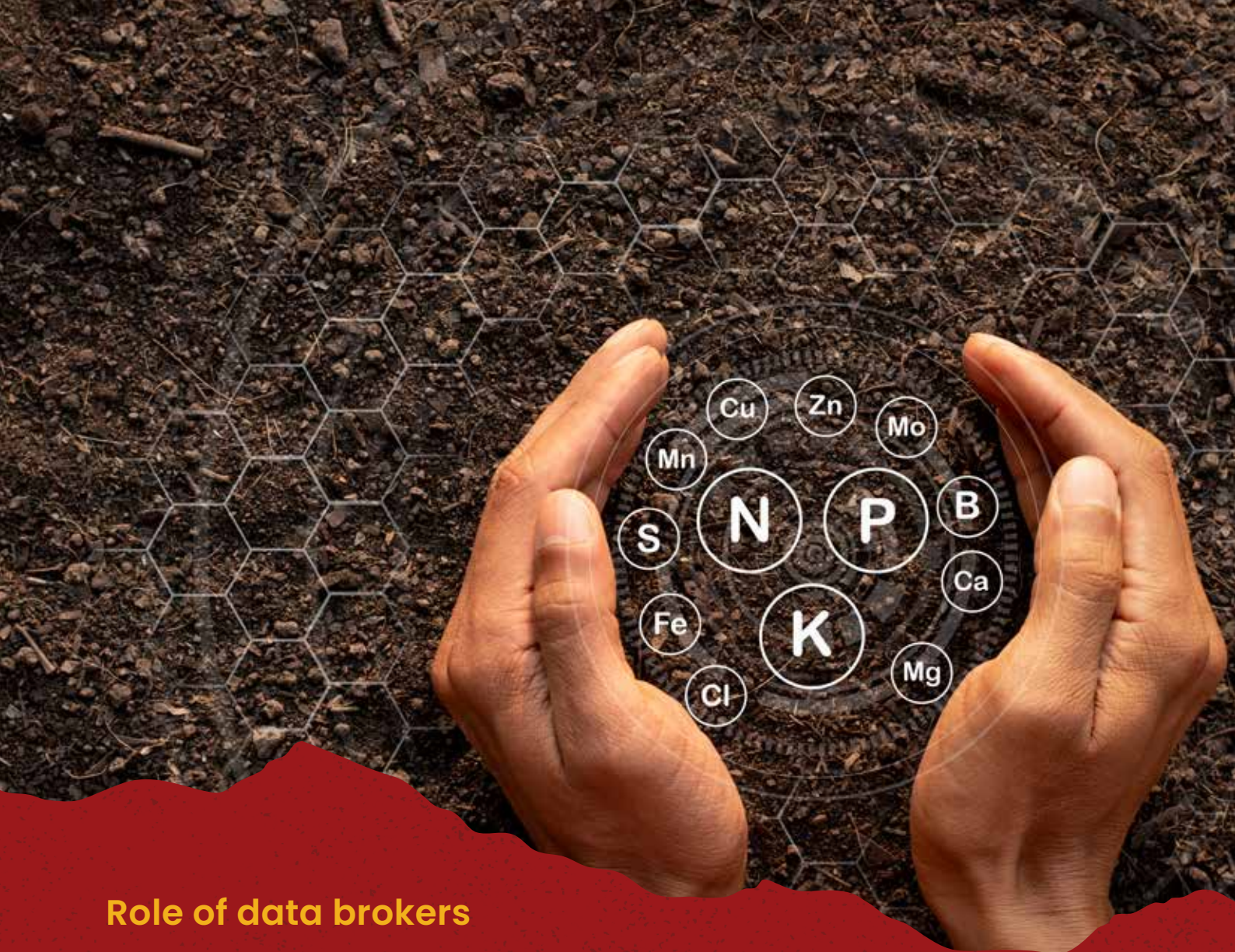
A data owner can be a farmer, land manager or an entity that owns soil data. To be eligible, data owners must be based in Australia and be Australian citizens. Data owners must have full ownership of the intellectual property rights of their historical soil data.

Eligible historical soil data must meet program requirements. It must:

- have been tested or analysed using standardised methods in Australia before 1 January 2022
- include metadata such as geolocation, date of collection, and depth
- have a minimum of 5 tested soil properties.







## Role of data brokers

Data brokers will liaise with data owners to access and capture historical soil data. Data brokers will manage the data and ensure it meets program requirements. Data brokers will share this soil data with the government through ANSIS.

Data brokers will engage with data owners to:

- determine the quality, value and eligibility of their historical soil data
- sign a data sharing deed to gain access to the data – this deed will outline how the data broker and government can access, store and use soil data shared with the program
- complete a qualitative survey about land-management practices to help administer the program and provide context to the data
- enter into a commercial agreement to provide payments to data owners.

## Payment schedule

For eligible datasets, data owners can receive payment based on the number of soil properties (physical, chemical and biological) tested per sample. The payments are:

- \$50 for 5 soil properties
- \$100 for 6 to 10 soil properties
- \$150 for 11 to 15 soil properties
- \$200 for more than 16 soil properties.

Each business or individual can receive up to \$10,000 (GST inclusive) in total. If the total value of a data owner's soil data exceeds this amount, data brokers will prioritise specific soil datasets from that data owner.



## Data sharing deed

The deed outlines how soil data is used. It gives the data broker and government permission to access, store and use soil data shared as part of the program. Data owners retain the ownership of their soil data. Soil data shared under this program cannot be used for any compliance or regulatory activities.

Specific approved user types will be able to access geolocated data through ANSIS for specific purposes, like research. Access to georeferenced data will be closely managed in line with use agreements with those users. Publicly viewable soil data will be aggregated to obscure specific soil data geolocations.

Applicants interested in participating in the program should discuss the terms and conditions of this agreement and the program with a data broker.

## Personal information

We will collect personal information to verify applicant eligibility and to support program administration. Personal information will not be made publicly available or linked to soil data through ANSIS. Geolocation associated with soil data may only be accessed by approved users for specific purposes. Only aggregated soil information will be publicly available through ANSIS.

## More information

**Email** [historical.soil.data@agriculture.gov.au](mailto:historical.soil.data@agriculture.gov.au)

**Web** [agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/natural-resources/soils/historical-soil-data](http://agriculture.gov.au/agriculture-land/farm-food-drought/natural-resources/soils/historical-soil-data)

## Acknowledgement of Country

We acknowledge the Traditional Custodians of Australia and their continuing connection to land and sea, waters, environment and community. We pay our respects to the Traditional Custodians of the lands we live and work on, their culture, and their Elders past and present.

## © Commonwealth of Australia 2022

Unless otherwise noted, copyright (and any other intellectual property rights) in this publication is owned by the Commonwealth of Australia (referred to as the Commonwealth).

All material in this publication is licensed under a [Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 International Licence](https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0/) except content supplied by third parties, logos and the Commonwealth Coat of Arms.

The Australian Government acting through the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry has exercised due care and skill in preparing and compiling the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, its employees and advisers disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.

