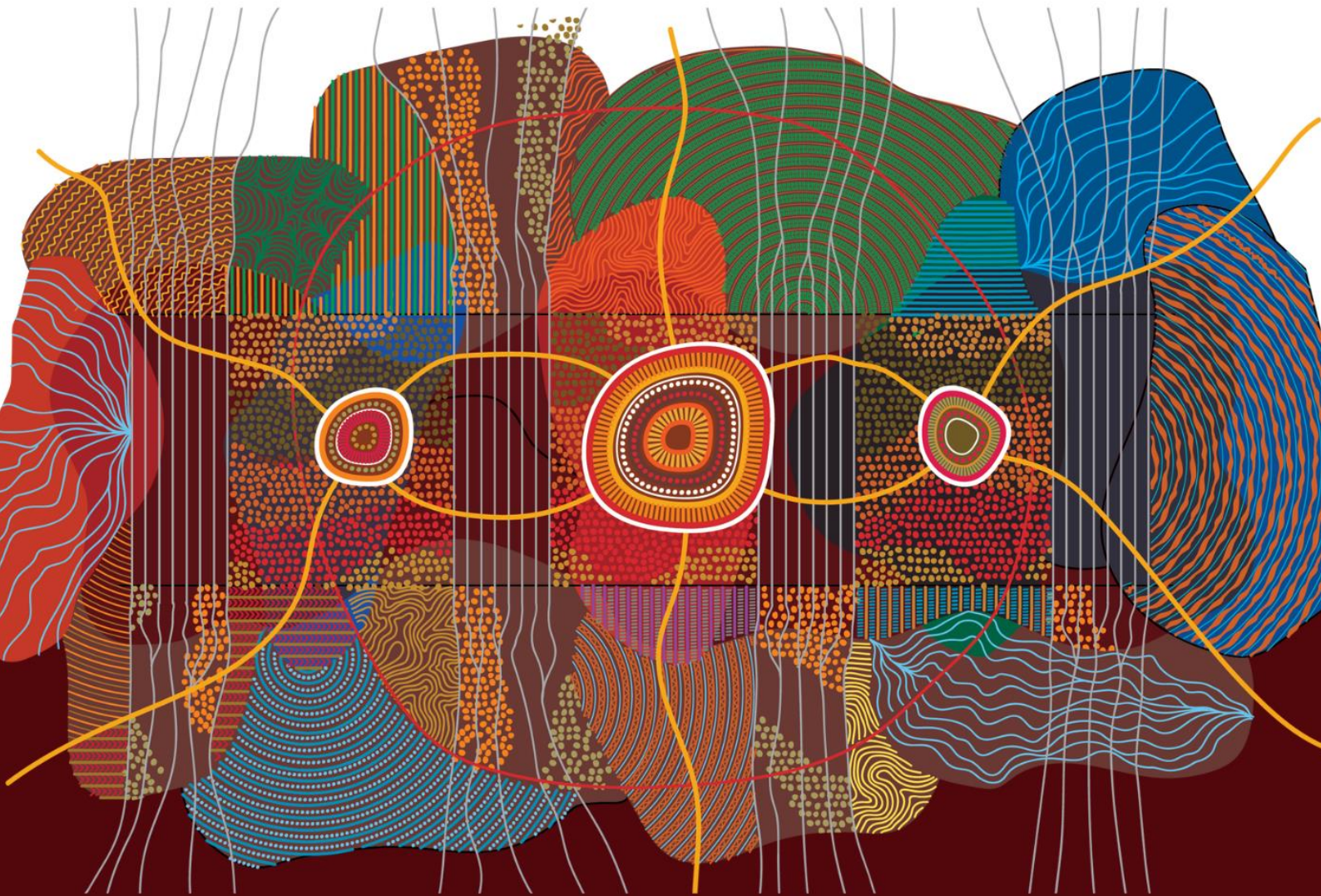




Indigenous Agricultural Product Framework Project

Building agreement around Indigenous agricultural product characteristics

Roundtable Discussions: April and May 2024



Together We Grow, Together We Prosper' artwork by Wakka Wakka artist, David Williams.



Australian Government
Department of Agriculture,
Fisheries and Forestry



Australian Government
Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation



The ILSC GROUP



National
Farmers
Federation

Building agreement around Indigenous agricultural product characteristics

Background: The first of its kind in Australia, the Indigenous Agriculture Product Framework project is jointly funded by the Australia Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC). The Indigenous Agricultural Product Framework project (the Project) represents a unique opportunity for Indigenous people to agree on the characteristics of Indigenous agricultural products. The Project will:

- provide an evidence base about the current value of Indigenous agricultural products
- estimate the potential economic and community benefits in domestic and export markets
- examine how establishing credentials attached to Indigenous agricultural products could provide assurance to consumers, regulators, processors, and others regarding the presence of characteristics or attributes that may or may not be easily observed.

The Project is being led by the National Farmers' Federation and is jointly funded by the Australia Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry (DAFF) and the Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation (ILSC).

We are currently seeking Indigenous perspectives on what characteristics must define an Indigenous agricultural product and on an associated credential, which combined will comprise the Indigenous Agricultural Product Framework.

The Findings: We have conducted initial consultation across Australia with Indigenous people and business to understand the sector's views on what defines Indigenous agricultural products.

The consultations have identified the following five characteristics as being critical to the definition of an Indigenous Agricultural Product:



The working definition, below, embeds the five characteristics. It has three (3) parts which are to be read together:

Indigenous



A native plant or animal connected with Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander peoples as the Traditional Custodians of Country.

It includes the responsibility and right to access and protect resources on Country.

Agricultural



The use of Country - including land, air and waters - to produce a product.

Product



Food and fibre resulting from the process of agriculture, with the intent to sell, consume and/or use.

The Ask: We are seeking input into the proposed working definition from Indigenous people and business involved in agriculture in Australia. Due to the complex nature of the sector, NFF know it may be difficult to come to one set definition. This suggests that a flexible definition may be a suitable option – as it would allow for variations across the sector and evolution of the definition over time.

The NFF will be hosting six (6) roundtables through April and May to understand and test the sector's views on this working definition and to build agreement around it.

Roundtable discussion points:

1. To what extent do you agree that the five characteristics describe the unique value of Indigenous agricultural products?
2. To what extent do you agree that the five characteristics are reflected in the working definition?
3. To what extent do you agree that the five characteristics help to distinguish Indigenous agricultural products from non-Indigenous agricultural products?
4. To what extent do you agree that the working definition supports economic, social, and environmental benefits for Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander producers?
5. To what extent do you agree that a credential system, based on the five characteristics, will support the growth and development of authentic Indigenous agricultural products?

Virtual Roundtable Dates:

- **Wednesday 17th of April from 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
- **Thursday 18th of April 12:00 PM - 2:00 PM**
- **Tuesday 23rd of April 3:00 PM - 5:00 PM**
- **Wednesday 24th of April 10:00 AM - 12:00 PM**
- **Wednesday 1st of May 5:30 PM - 7:30 PM**
- **Thursday 2nd of May 11:00 AM - 1:00 PM**

If you would like to contribute to this project and have your voice heard, please register for one of the six virtual roundtables on our project page linked below.

If you are unavailable to participate in the workshops listed above – you can still provide your feedback through this survey - [**click here**](#).

If you would like further information on this project, please visit: [**Indigenous Agricultural Product Framework Project - National Farmers' Federation \(nff.org.au\)**](#)