



## Towing flexibility for agricultural machinery

FARMERS will have more flexibility for towing their agricultural machinery following the gazettal of newly regulated changes. Licensed vehicles, such as small fuel trailers and motor vehicles under A-frame towing, can now be towed in agricultural combinations.

Agricultural Region MLC Brian Ellis, whose family farms across two properties, said the gazettal meant farmers no longer needed a permit for each off-farm movement and had more towing options.

He said the gazetted changes would ease the paperwork burden on farmers and dealers, simplify the towing process, increase efficiency and save money and time.

The new rules are contained under the Road Traffic (Towed Agricultural Implements) Regulations 1995

and include allowing agricultural machinery dealers and other authorised personnel, including contractors and prospective buyers, to move machinery under a trade plate without needing to apply for permits every time the machine had to be moved; changes to allow licensed vehicles to be towed as part of an agricultural towing combination including fuel trailers and motor vehicles under A-frame towing; and formal clarification of rules governing movement of farm plate vehicles with the aim of allowing more freedom for use of such vehicles between farm properties.

The reforms resulted from recommendations of the Agricultural Vehicle Advisory Committee (AVAC), which was established to workshop requests from the farming sector on transport operational matters.