

Californian Raisin Industry Study Tour

Dried grape growers are invited to register their interest to take part in an industry study tour to California, USA later this year.

Organised by Dried Fruits Australia, the 10-day study tour aims to observe the management practices and technologies employed by one of the world's leading producers of dried grapes.

Growers who join the Californian Raisin Industry Study Tour in September will have their travel costs subsidised.

Young growers can seek additional assistance by applying for a travel bursary. DFA will select two growers aged between 18 and 40 to receive an Albert Heslop Travelling Bursary worth \$4,500.

The bursary was established by the Murray Darling Foundation in memory of viticulturist and Swan Hill councillor Albert Heslop, and is now awarded through SuniTAFE.

Applications close Friday 17 February. For more information, please contact the DFA office: 5023 5174 or enquiries@driedfruitsaustralia.org.au.

Register for backpacker tax rate

Growers who employ, or plan to employ, backpackers have less than two weeks left to register with the Australian Taxation Office (ATO).

Once registered, employers can withhold tax at 15 per cent for the first \$37,000 of a working holiday maker's income. From \$37,001, normal foreign resident withholding rates apply.

If not registered, employers must withhold tax at 32.5 per cent for the first \$37,000 of a working holiday maker's income.

The new tax rates for working holiday makers with visa sub-class 417 and 462 can be used from 1 January 2017.

However, employers must register with the ATO by Tuesday 31 January. Penalties may apply for failing to register.

For more information and to register, visit the [ATO website](http://ATO.gov.au).



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Disclaimer:

Dried Fruits Australia provides this information in good faith and of a general nature. Growers should make their own decisions regarding individual situations and property conditions.