



Bushfood industry

Where to start

The Department of Primary Industries and Regional Development (DPIRD) has developed *Setting up for Success: Bushfoods* and the accompanying *Protection of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge for bushfood businesses* guides to help Aboriginal businesses entering, or growing their existing business, in the bushfoods industry.

The guides are available on the DPIRD website agric.wa.gov.au/aboriginal-business-development-0 or by contacting the Aboriginal Economic Development unit for more information and help, email aed@dpiird.wa.gov.au or call +61 (0)459 867 908.

Starting a bushfoods business or venturing into the bushfoods industry can be an exciting and productive experience. As a starting point, it is recommended that you:

Prepare for business

Do your research, and prepare by deciding on your business name, product, marketing strategy, and business goals, among others. Consider the most appropriate business structure and governance model to meet your business needs.

Understand your business purpose

Set short-term and long-term goals to help identify what you are striving to achieve with your business. Goals will also provide you with a means of reviewing the business, which is an important process.

Develop a business plan and way of doing things that sits well with your personal values, morals, and cultural beliefs.

Understand your business obligations

The *Setting up for success - Bushfoods* guide provides resources to help you understand your obligations and considerations when starting a bushfoods business.

Be proactive and stay up to date on changes in laws or regulations that may affect your business such as the *Australia New Zealand Food Standards Code*.

Be open to new business experiences

Things will not always go according to plan, despite the business planning you have undertaken.

Be flexible with your business goals and adapt them according to the needs of your consumers and the food industry.

Consider how you use Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property, including Indigenous Ecological Knowledge

When commercialising native plants, it is best practice to consult, collaborate, seek free, prior, informed consent from, and attribute Indigenous Cultural and Intellectual Property and Indigenous Ecological Knowledge to Traditional Custodians.

See the *Protection of Indigenous Ecological Knowledge for bushfood businesses* guide for more information.

Seek available help and resources

Prior to developing your bushfood business, you might like to connect with the following organisations:

DPIRD's Aboriginal Economic Development unit

Phone: +61 (0)459 867 908

Email: aed@dpird.wa.gov.au

Website: agric.wa.gov.au/aboriginal-business-development-0

First Nations Bushfood & Botanical Alliance Australia

Email: info@firstnationsbushfoods.org.au

Website: fnbbaa.com.au/

Indigenous Business Australia

Phone: Freecall 1800 107 107

Website: iba.gov.au/

Indigenous Land and Sea Corporation

Phone: Freecall 1800 818 490

Website: ilsc.gov.au/contact/



Desert quondong

Front cover photo: Kangaroo meat; cover artwork: Damper by Beryl Ponce, image courtesy of Spinifex Hill Studio

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