Sarah Wallis:

Hi I'm Sarah Wallis, I work for Agriculture Victoria as the Young Farmer Project Coordinator.

Today I'd like to have a chat to you about our Young Farmer Mentoring Program

and give you a few top tips on how to complete the expression of interest form.

Sarah Wallis:

So, firstly, head into the Agriculture Victoria website and follow the links to the Young Farmer Mentoring Program page. Once you are there you will find some guidelines and a link to the expression of interest form. But before you complete that form I thought that it might be a good idea to just share with you the three key questions that we really want to know about you.

Sarah Wallis:

So, first question is ‘How would being paired with a mentor help you manage your farms business, identify risk, resilience and help you achieve your business goals?’

So, we really want to know what business are you in and what do you need help with and what role do you see a mentor playing in helping you work through that?

Sarah Wallis:

The second question is around ‘How would developing new networks help you in your career in ag?’ So, you will be paired up with a mentor, an experienced farmer and a farm business consultant, so you'll be meeting some new people and also have the opportunity to draw further on their networks. So, can you tell us a little bit about how that would be useful for you.

Sarah Wallis:

And the third question is around, what we are looking for in this question, number three is ‘When have you taken learning's and made a change to your farm business or in your operation?’

So, what we want to know is that your the sort of person that really takes on board new information

and applies it to your industry or your business, your position.

Sarah Wallis:

So, we want to know that when you're in the mentoring program your prepared to listen and take on board and adopt some new ideas. So, you might have been to a workshop before, you might have been to a field day, talking to someone, you've learnt something new. Just explain what that was and how that has worked out for you.

Sarah Wallis:

So, they're those three key selection criteria that we are asking you to have a bit of a think about.

We don't want long winded answers, just a short paragraph or a few dot points on what you've done would be really valuable. We just need to be able to read these, have a look and be able to decide who the ten best sort of candidates are.

Sarah Wallis:

So, any questions, please send me an email to sarah.wallis@agriculture.vic.gov.au

More than happy to quick chat as well.