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### **BUSINESS SUPPORT ON OFFER FOR NURSERY INDUSTRY**

Minister for Small Business and Water Security Karlene Maywald says South Australia's nursery industry will receive tailored business support services to help it manage through the State's water restriction period.

"The Department of Trade and Economic Development has joined with the Nursery and Garden Industry of SA in developing a package of programs and workshops to meet the specific needs of nursery operators," Minister Maywald said.

"The State Government understands the difficulties that water restrictions are placing on nursery operators and will support special business training opportunities for the industry.

"The industry is important to SA, valued at \$466 million and employing more than 3500 people."

The free nursery industry sessions, to be delivered by industry specialists, will cover business skills like cash flow management, risk management and marketing strategies. In addition, industries similarly affected by water restrictions can attend other DTED workshops that assist business sustainability.

"DTED offers a range of workshops, including the Better Business Series, and the Business Continuity Management program, both of which have direct value to the nursery industry which is facing one of its biggest challenges," Minister Maywald said.

"The emphasis for the nursery industry session will be on flexibility, making sure we provide access to the courses and workshops that will be of most benefit to businesses."

Nursery and Garden Industry SA president Malcolm Lewis encouraged operators in all sectors of the industry, including nurseries, garden centres, turf businesses, landscaping, garden maintenance and irrigation, to enrol in the business management workshops on offer.

"The Nursery and Garden Industry South Australia would like to stress the importance of attending these free workshops, which it has worked closely with DTED to develop," he said.

"These workshops are essential to businesses that are committed to developing and extending their sales nationally and overseas – especially in these difficult trading times."

The nursery industry package will provide opportunities in both metropolitan and regional areas over the next 12 months.

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