



Media Release: 30 July 2018

A 7.30 Special Report: The face of Australia's drought crisis

Begins tonight on ABC's 7.30 and continues over two nights

Across Australia, farmers are living through a slow but crippling dry spell.

In this 2-part special the ABC's national current affairs program, **7.30**, investigates the country's drought crisis.

Over two nights meet different families from across the country, who have allowed 7.30 to document the reality of life when it stops raining.

When the rain stopped, sixteen-year-old Zara King began to document the destruction from her family's sheep and cattle farm in rural NSW.

Her hometown, Tullibigeal in Central West NSW, is drying out.

Severe drought conditions started in September 2017 and her family is running out of hay needed to feed their stock.

"We've been hand feeding the stock for about six months now," Zara told 7.30

"We used to have about 500 bales, now we're down to about 30."

Her family rely on drinking bottled water and do their washing in town.

"And for the toilet we use dam water which makes the house smell when it's rotten."

These drastic measures are just some of the ways these families are taking whatever steps they can to maintain their livelihood.

"We're doing everything we can to keep all of our stock alive." Says Zara

DROUGHT. A 7.30 Special, begins on Monday 30th July on ABC at 7.30pm and continues over two nights. Also available on iView.

For further information contact:
Jillian Reeves
Marketing Communications Specialist
02 8333 3969 / 0419 892 379