

## Alison Kennedy

Alison Kennedy grew up in Melbourne, but has lived in southwest Victoria's rural farming community for the past 12 years, with the most recent eight years spent living on a farming property. She has experience working in a number of areas with direct impact on the health of farm men and women including horticulture and sleep medicine. Her five-year role at the National Centre for Farmer Health has seen her involvement in research responding to alcohol misuse in farming communities, the coordination of the international photography competition 'Celebrating Rural Life', and the publication of 'Sowing the Seeds of Farmer Health'—a compilation of peer-reviewed papers from the 2012 NCFH conference. Alison is currently in the final stages of completing her PhD at the University of New England—supported by a Collaborative Research Network Scholarship and the National Centre for Farmer Health—exploring the impact that suicide and accidental death have on members of Australian farming families. This project has demonstrated significant engagement with male farmers and stimulated plans for further research to support farming men with a lived experience of suicide.