

**ABSTRACT.** Given a row-finite  $k$ -graph  $\Lambda$  with no sources we investigate the  $K$ -theory of the higher rank graph  $C^*$ -algebra,  $C^*(\Lambda)$ . When  $k = 2$  we are able to give explicit formulae to calculate the  $K$ -groups of  $C^*(\Lambda)$ . The  $K$ -groups of  $C^*(\Lambda)$  for  $k > 2$  can be calculated under certain circumstances and we consider the case  $k = 3$ . We prove that for arbitrary  $k$ , the torsion-free rank of  $K_0(C^*(\Lambda))$  and  $K_1(C^*(\Lambda))$  are equal when  $C^*(\Lambda)$  is unital, and for  $k = 2$  we determine the position of the class of the unit of  $C^*(\Lambda)$  in  $K_0(C^*(\Lambda))$ .