Principal Agricultural, Dairying, and Pastoral Features of the various Districts of the State of Victoria, Season 1949-50.

District.	Area Occupied.	Number of Holdings.	CULTIVATION.								DAIRYING AND PASTORAL.					PRODUCE.			
			Wheat (Grain).	Oats (Grain).	Barley (Grain).	Potatoes.	Onions.	Maize for Grain.	Vines.	Orchards Growing Fruit for Sale.	Dairy Cattle.	Other Cattle.	Horses.	Pigs.	Sheep.	Wheat.	Butter.	Wool.	Honey.
	Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	Bushels.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Central	2,759,159	15,780	24,228	11,053	29,375	22,031	1,680	76	4	28,912	287,284	112,508	52,249	36,713	1,712,859	522,719	14,695,531	17,834,614	1,224,307
North Central	2,164,242	4,565	20,095	8,448	1,731	9,740	..	32	51	2,895	47,383	47,473	11,628	7,975	1,612,108	492,671	4,454,550	18,170,723	783,965
Western	6,659,229	12,228	47,596	29,164	9,685	8,238	2,173	..	..	1,029	387,101	173,601	32,917	25,055	6,000,622	1,103,137	29,634,295	67,162,736	384,743
Wimmera	6,337,937	6,148	915,767	110,232	65,359	144	4	..	645	3,549	34,430	11,211	14,738	6,750	2,832,246	23,485,616	1,973,373	36,048,619	1,310,700
Mallee	7,213,233	6,367	1,235,790	204,494	80,910	13	4	..	39,859	4,183	31,042	7,863	12,805	9,235	1,183,893	19,867,426	3,843,681	13,778,297	294,397
Northern	5,556,970	11,405	539,384	110,793	40,360	150	5	3	929	28,130	213,784	57,066	34,390	54,267	3,195,681	11,097,449	25,273,328	35,803,784	2,139,744
North-Eastern	3,867,918	5,210	42,056	8,155	929	1,703	18	1,001	3,898	1,850	147,715	158,959	17,718	29,854	1,501,427	793,910	20,420,724	16,135,493	731,439
Gippsland	3,783,630	8,783	3,357	851	7,774	8,632	209	4,024	..	498	376,444	137,084	23,698	43,052	1,122,207	70,907	44,531,578	11,705,041	874,631
Total for State	38,342,318	70,486	2,828,273	483,190	236,123	50,651	4,093	5,136	45,386	71,046	1,525,183	705,765	200,143	212,901	19,161,043	57,433,835	144,827,060	216,639,307	7,743,866

Minor Crops of Special Interest :—Acreage : Canary Seed, 185 ; Chicory, 385 ; Hops, 278 ; Tobacco, 919 ; Millet (Broom), 94 ; Sunflowers, 446 ; Grass Seed, 12,028 ; Mustard, 365 ; Japanese Millet for Seed, 909 ; Flax, 5,261 ; Linseed, 8,148

TOTALS.

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per Acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	20·50	3,251,393	9·11	152,397,507	1,827,087	14,655,277
1946-47	29·37	3,501,135	13·99	197,076,238	2,060,061	16,598,490
1947-48	28·46	3,227,162	14·55	191,003,880	2,174,203	17,931,173
1948-49	23·61	2,995,705	16·38	195,404,886	2,224,543	19,170,312
1949-50	25·05	2,828,373	20·31	216,639,307	2,230,943	19,161,043

MALLEE

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	9·03	1,606,772	5·84	5,089,961	31,469	2,345,752
1946-47	14·07	1,621,694	8·86	9,326,254	26,277	976,633
1947-48	15·16	1,429,869	10·02	11,071,740	30,107	1,926,628
1948-49	11·29	1,302,404	9·65	12,453,342	29,431	1,215,941
1949-50	11·80	1,235,790	16·08	13,778,297	28,906	1,183,893

NORTHERN

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	14·84	550,727	13·72	19,212,052	211,420	2,246,762
1946-47	17·76	889,384	14·00	23,148,278	234,459	2,398,655
1947-48	20·35	850,723	17·24	27,461,496	256,331	2,866,332
1948-49	16·46	595,114	16·88	21,492,325	266,743	3,099,694
1949-50	20·45	539,384	20·37	35,803,784	270,830	3,193,681

WIMMERA

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	16·20	1,012,739	10·71	23,884,478	29,123	2,169,855
1946-47	22·07	1,024,356	21·02	32,490,972	45,277	2,478,963
1947-48	22·71	970,929	18·69	31,814,954	48,032	2,703,170
1948-49	19·15	946,219	24·50	32,111,423	48,815	2,934,477
1949-50	16·67	915,767	25·65	36,048,618	45,041	2,832,546

DALHOUSIE

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	21·71	13,742	19·57	11,107,234	64,293	1,186,076
1946-47	29·86	26,416	20·74	16,731,023	89,590	1,389,159
1947-48	32·93	28,995	17·50	16,027,921	89,023	1,508,007
1948-49	24·82	24,920	21·49	16,402,153	92,881	1,560,911
1949-50	31·35	20,095	24·32	18,170,723	94,856	1,612,108

NORTH CENTRAL

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	22·25	15,268	15·20	11,649,566	318,708	1,201,364
1946-47	33·01	32,151	19·94	15,116,221	378,498	1,444,556
1947-48	33·00	31,714	19·03	14,579,266	393,298	1,537,211
1948-49	25·93	24,352	20·52	15,265,265	393,158	1,645,638
1949-50	32·62	24,228	21·37	17,834,614	399,792	1,712,839

CENTRAL

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	25·21	25,327	27·65	59,219,011	466,251	5,042,107
1946-47	40·20	63,839	29·17	67,794,447	508,214	5,384,272
1947-48	33·80	60,737	17·36	64,011,994	538,047	5,664,541
1948-49	28·37	53,306	22·49	62,112,362	570,038	6,033,840
1949-50	26·91	47,296	23·18	67,162,736	560,762	6,000,622

WESTERN

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	20·50	3,251,393	9·11	152,397,507	1,827,087	14,655,277
1946-47	29·37	3,501,135	13·99	197,076,238	2,060,061	16,598,490
1947-48	28·46	3,227,162	14·55	191,003,880	2,174,203	17,931,173
1948-49	23·61	2,995,705	16·38	195,404,886	2,224,543	19,170,312
1949-50	25·05	2,828,373	20·31	216,639,307	2,230,943	19,161,043

NORTH EASTERN

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	29·97	21,970	25·39	11,292,514	260,118	1,199,946
1946-47	39·83	38,297	29·11	15,877,964	292,688	1,353,907
1947-48	40·91	39,746	29·11	14,737,138	306,698	1,422,356
1948-49	31·98	41,713	29·64	14,661,986	309,963	1,492,293
1949-50	33·72	42,056	28·88	16,135,493	306,674	1,501,427

GIPPSLAND

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	28·09	2,848	25·75	10,941,701	433,706	949,133
1946-47	41·19	4,978	29·82	10,783,039	483,168	1,020,282
1947-48	36·10	4,449	19·91	10,699,371	504,662	1,038,635
1948-49	34·37	3,477	23·00	9,906,090	503,402	1,128,798
1949-50	36·72	3,337	21·12	11,705,041	513,328	1,121,267

CROAJINGOLONG

Season.	Average Rainfall	Wheat. Area.	Wheat. Average per acre.	Wool, Total Production.	Live Stock. Cattle.	Live Stock. Sheep.
	Inches.	Acres.	Bushels.	lb.	No.	No.
1945-46	28·09	2,848	25·75	10,941,701	433,706	949,133
1946-47	41·19	4,978	29·82	10,783,039	483,168	1,020,282
1947-48	36·10	4,449	19·91	10,699,371	504,662	1,038,635
1948-49	34·37	3,477	23·00	9,906,090	503,402	1,128,798
1949-50	36·72	3,337	21·12	11,705,041	513,328	1,121,267

VICTORIA

Showing

Location of Butter Factories in operation, e.g., ◉ Orbost ; also Rainfall and Statistics of Wheat, Wool and Live Stock, in each District for 5 years ; and Agricultural, Dairying and Pastoral Statistics in detail, for the Season 1949-50.

SCALE OF MILES

16 12 8 4 0 16 32 48

C.C.R. 1950

Drawn at the Department of Lands & Survey, Melbourne.

PART II.

LAND SETTLEMENT; AGRICULTURE; PASTORAL AND DAIRYING; FORESTRY.

LAND AND SETTLEMENT.

The total area of the State is 56,245,760 acres. On 31st December, 1949, this comprised:—

	Acres.
Lands alienated in fee-simple	29,896,746
Lands in process of alienation	2,842,942
Crown lands	23,506,072
Total	56,245,760

The Crown lands comprise—

Permanent forests (under Forests Act)	4,237,551
Timber reserves (under Forests Act)	717,433
State Forests and timber reserves (under Land Act)	164,609
Water reserves	318,608
Reserves in the Mallee	410,000
Other reserves	548,795
Roads	1,794,218
Water frontages, beds of rivers, lakes, &c.; unsold land in cities, towns, and boroughs	4,425,714
Land in occupation under—	
Perpetual leases	77,850
Leases of former Agricultural College lands ..	45,586
Other leases and licences	19,910
Temporary grazing licences	8,752,240
Unoccupied	1,993,558
Total	23,506,072

Alienation of land.

In the following table are shown the area of Crown lands sold absolutely and conditionally, and the area of lands alienated in fee-simple during the six years 1944–49. A portion of the area conditionally sold reverts to the Crown each year in consequence of the non-fulfilment of conditions by the selectors. The lands alienated each year include areas selected in previous years :—

VICTORIA—ALIENATION OF CROWN LANDS, 1944 TO 1949.

Year Ended 31st December.	Area of Crown Lands Sold.			Crown Lands alienated in Fee-simple.	
	Absolutely, at Auction, &c.	Conditionally to Selectors.	Total.	Area.	Purchase Money.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	£
1944	2,429	1,507	3,936	108,750	116,118
1945	1,991	139	2,130	183,342	98,315
1946	1,789	49	1,838	264,316	126,625
1947	2,974	..	2,974	247,189	161,135
1948	3,450	..	3,450	169,258	197,367
1949	2,596	..	2,596	128,699	237,476

Amount realized by sale of Crown lands.

From the period of the first settlement of the State to the end of 1949 the amount realized by the sale of Crown lands was £38,298,175. Payment of a considerable portion of this amount extended over a series of years without interest, upon very easy terms.

Transfer of Land Act.

The "Torrens System", whereby persons acquiring possession of land may receive a clear title, was introduced into Victoria in 1862. The system has been the means of simplifying procedure in connexion with the transfer of land, thereby reducing the cost of dealing in real estate, and giving a title to the transferee free of any latent defect. The Crown grant issues through the Titles Office.

In order to bring under the Transfer of Land Act land that was parted with prior to 1862 (5,142,321 acres), application must be made accompanied by strict proofs of the applicant's interest in the property.

During 1949 there were submitted 207 such applications in respect of land amounting in area to 590 acres, and in value to £110,554; while the land actually brought under the Act as a result of applications was 1,316 acres valued at £87,271. Up to the end of 1949 there had been brought under the Act 3,315,959 acres valued at £75,438,294. The area of land still under the Old Law System at the end of 1949 was 1,826,362 acres. A summary of dealings under the Transfer of Land Acts will be found in part "Accumulation" of the *Year-Book*.

Assurance Fund.

In granting an application to have land brought under the *Transfer of Land Act* 1928, the Commissioner of Titles is required to issue a perfect Title save as to any circumstances of which he has had notice. To assure and indemnify the Government in a case where the Supreme Court or some higher Tribunal has decided that some person other than the applicant has an interest in the property, and it has consequently been found necessary to compensate such other person, there has been constituted an Assurance Fund which is built up of contributions of ½d. in the £ on the value of the land covered by the application. During 1949–50 receipts of the Fund comprised contributions, £3,985, and interest on stock, £3,269. Claims during the year amounted to £19, and the sum of £5,095 was paid out in accordance with section 3 of the *Special Funds Act* 1920 to provide for the interest on loan moneys expended on University buildings. The balance at the credit of the Assurance Fund on 30th June, 1950, was £122,810. The amount paid up to 30th June, 1950, as compensation and for judgments recovered, including costs, was £11,425.

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS' SETTLEMENT.

Soldier Settlement Commission.

The *Soldier Settlement Act* 1945, No. 5107, *inter alia*, (*a*) authorized the ratification of an agreement between the State of Victoria and the Commonwealth of Australia relating to the settlement on land of discharged members of the forces; (*b*) provided for the constitution of a Soldier Settlement Commission consisting of three members to administer soldier settlement and the appointment of the necessary officers and employees of the Commission and local advisory committees; (*c*) provided for the raising of £15,000,000 towards soldier settlement and the application thereof; (*d*) prescribed the powers and functions of the Commission relating to the acquisition and setting apart of land for purposes of soldier settlement; (*e*) provided for the valuation of land and the determination of disputed claims for compensation; and (*f*) set out the general duties of the Commission as to the settlement of discharged soldiers on the land and the advances to such soldiers.

The *Soldier Settlement (Amendment) Act* 1946, No. 5133 (*a*) extended the powers of the Commission to subdivide land by enabling the setting aside of portions of the land for public purposes and the

disposal of unsuitable positions; (*b*) provided for the appointment of assessors, two of whom will sit with the judge during hearings of disputed claims for compensation; and (*c*) extended the power of the Commission to make advances to discharged soldiers to include the making of "advances in kind" of stock, implements, and equipment.

Section 41 of the principal Act imposed the duty on the Commission to recommend such other legislation considered to be necessary or expedient in order to give effect to the War Service Land Settlement Agreement. The performance of this duty resulted in the *Soldier Settlement Act* 1946, No. 5179, which (*a*) legislated in detail for the subdivision of lands acquired for soldier settlement and the settling of discharged soldiers thereon; (*b*) authorized the making of advances to discharged soldiers in connexion with single-unit farms and for "carrying-on" expenses and for the purchase of stock, plant, equipment, &c.; and (*c*) contained miscellaneous administrative provisions and made consequential amendments to the Soldier Settlement Acts.

Land Acquired. To 30th June, 1950, the Commission has acquired by voluntary negotiation land as follows:—

	Acres.	Price Paid.
		£
Land acquired prior to 1st July, 1949 ..	652,158	5,969,127
Land acquired 1st July, 1949, to 30th June, 1950	79,994	1,175,313
	732,152	7,144,440

In addition to the land acquired, 24,116 acres of Crown Land have been set apart for settlement purposes.

In order to maintain production from acquired properties, it is the policy of the Commission to lease the land back to the vendors or to other suitable tenants pending sub-division and allocation to settlers.

Applications for Land. To 30th June, 1950, 14,008 ex-servicemen had lodged applications for classification as to eligibility and suitability. Of this number, 12,565 have appeared before Classification Boards with the following results:—

Suitable for farm ownership	9,638
Suitable for further training	1,349
Unsuitable, withdrawn and deferred	1,578
	12,565

It is interesting to note that only 3,938 individual ex-servicemen, after having been classified as suitable, had actually lodged applications for land made available.

Land Allocated. Of the land acquired and set apart, 575,435 acres have been sub-divided into 1,321 holdings. These holdings were made available for application and to 30th June, 1950, 1,238 holdings, comprising 541,397 acres, have been allocated.

Development of Holdings. The War Settlement Land Agreement provides that the State shall, *inter alia*, develop and improve land to a stage when it can be brought into production within a reasonable time. This work envisaged the erection of fencing and improvements, clearing, provision of water points, pasture improvement, planting of orchards, vineyards, &c., construction of roads, and arrangements for electricity supply if available. Tenders have been accepted for the construction of 1,035 new houses, and the renovation of a number of existing houses on purchased estates is proceeding.

Close co-operation exists between the Commission, the Country Roads Board, and the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission in connexion with the construction of necessary roads and the lay-out of irrigation farms, &c.

Stock Purchased. When purchasing some estates it was necessary to complete negotiations on a walk-in walk-out basis. In this way the Commission obtained 163,623 sheep, 4,307 cattle, and 217 horses. Thus, settlers obtain good station stock to form the nucleus of their flocks or herds.

Single Unit Farms. Financial assistance afforded to ex-servicemen to enable them to purchase farms of their own choosing is solely a State responsibility and is outside the terms of the War Service Land Settlement Agreement. The evidence to date shows that this form of re-habilitation is less costly to the State and more satisfactory to the ex-serviceman than that provided under the Agreement mentioned.

Applications for loans numbered 2,970 to 30th June, 1950. Financial assistance amounting to £6,464,854 has been approved in 1,835 cases; 1,038 applications were not granted, and the remainder are in stages of being dealt with. As advances of up to 90 per cent. of the Commission's valuations of the farms are provided for under the Act it is expected that some losses must be expected.

Commonwealth Agricultural Loans and Allowances.

The Commission as agent for the Commonwealth Government administers the *Re-Establishment and Employment Act* 1945 as far as it relates to the granting of agricultural loans and allowances. Loans are limited to £1,000 in each case and all capital is provided and administrative expenses are borne by the Commonwealth Government.

To 30th June, 1950, loans totalling £1,829,084 were granted to 2,849 ex-servicemen and allowances totalling £280,100 were made to 2,224 applicants.

WATERWORKS.

State Expenditure on Waterworks.

All Victorian waterworks are controlled by official bodies, either State or local. The following table shows State expenditure (all of which was from loan funds) on works under the control of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, as well as grants and loans to local bodies. In addition to free grants to local bodies, large sums have been written off their liabilities. The following information has been taken from the Annual Report of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission :—

VICTORIA—STATE EXPENDITURE AND LOAN LIABILITY ON WATERWORKS* TO 30TH JUNE, 1950.

Description of Works.	Capital Expenditure to 30th June, 1950.	Loan Redemption Paid.	Loan Liability at 30th June, 1950.
	£	£	£
Free Headworks	1,243,393	1,124	1,242,269
Capital Works and Charges not apportionable to Districts	4,672,495	379,515	4,292,980
Headworks Costs apportioned to Districts.. ..	13,869,851	147,189	13,722,662
Irrigation and Water Supply Districts (exclusive of Headworks Costs)	8,377,119	109,668	8,267,451
Urban Divisions of Irrigation Districts	85,218	2,405	82,813
Waterworks Districts (exclusive of Headworks Costs)	3,084,509	63,868	3,020,641
Urban Districts of Waterworks Districts (exclusive of Headworks Costs)	3,192,021	59,339	3,132,682
Flood Protection and Drainage Districts	517,222	8,885	508,337
Waterworks Trusts and Local Governing Bodies ..	5,638,471	874,528	4,763,943
TOTAL	40,680,299	1,646,521	39,033,778

* Excluding Melbourne and Metropolitan Board of Works, Geelong Waterworks and Sewerage Trust, and the Ballarat Water Commission, particulars of which appear in part "Local Government" of this issue.

IRRIGATION AND WATER SUPPLY DEVELOPMENT.

Progress of Irrigation.

Prior to 1905 the management of irrigation in Victoria was in the hands of various Irrigation Trusts, which were financed by the State. These Trusts drifted into financial difficulties and the State was compelled to assume control. In the year mentioned, the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission was constituted and entrusted with the management of all irrigation works, except those controlled by the First Mildura Trust. This authority is embodied in the *Water Act* 1928, which consolidates the Water Acts of 1915, 1916, and 1918, and the *Ballarat Water Commissioners Act* 1921.

The particulars in the following statement, while not covering the whole of the activities of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission, furnish a general idea of the development of water conservation and distribution, and of drainage and flood protection in districts under its administration :—

VICTORIA—WATER CONSERVATION AND DISTRIBUTION: DRAINAGE AND FLOOD PROTECTION DISTRICTS.

	At 30th June	
	1907.	1950.
Area of State artificially supplied with water (acres)	10,800,000	15,359,700
Capacity of reservoirs .. (acre feet)	474,000	1,974,260
Irrigation Districts—		
Number of Districts administered	10	29
Number of Districts having Water Rights ..	Nil	26
Total of such Water Rights (acre feet)	Nil	553,602
Area classified as irrigable .. (acres)	..	1,047,254
Area under Irrigated Culture .. (acres)	108,000	662,290
Rural Waterworks Districts (Domestic and Stock Supply)—		
Number of Districts administered	3	30
Annual Value for Rating purposes .. (£)	125,000	1,621,681
Urban Districts—		
Number of Districts administered	1	90
Annual Value for Rating purposes .. (£)	5,600	1,143,086
Coliban System (Urban, Rural, Irrigation, and Mining Supplies)—	At 30th June, 1910.	
Annual Value for Urban Rating purposes (£)	317,750	473,931
Flood Protection Districts—		
Number of Districts administered	..	4
Drainage Districts—		
Number of Districts administered	..	1
Number of Assessments	..	4,871

PROGRESS IN IRRIGATION DEVELOPMENT.

The area under irrigated culture for all kinds of crops has increased from 129,771 acres in 1909–10 to 662,290 acres in 1949–50.

VICTORIA—LANDS UNDER IRRIGATED CULTURE, 1949–50.

District.	Area Irrigated.
	Acres.
Katandra	7,605
North Shepparton	16,907
Shepparton	20,121
South Shepparton	6,469
Rodney	79,732
Tongala–Stanhope	40,955
Rochester	62,300
Dingee	4,194
Calivil	11,960
Tragowel Plains	43,446
Deakin	6,492
Boort	17,115
Cohuna	59,968
Koondrook	31,258
Swan Hill	22,623
Third Lake	2,542
Mystic Park	2,788
Tresco	1,078
Fish Point	4,248
Kerang	28,571
Murray Valley	33,285
Kerang North-West Lakes	3,475
Nyah	2,965
Red Cliffs	11,638
Merbein	8,153
Robinvale	1,458
East Loddon	615
Loddon	39
West Loddon	3,983
Coliban	7,474
Campaspe	1,019
Western Wimmera	2,671
Wimmera United	127
Bacchus Marsh	3,013
Werribee	7,678
Maffra–Sale	20,782
Mornington Peninsula	1,663
Bellarine Peninsula	80
Lands outside constituted Districts	81,800
Total	662,290

Total area Irrigated.

The subjoined table shows the total extent of irrigated land in the State in each of the five years, 1946 to 1950, and the purposes for which the land was utilized. The area irrigated in 1948–49 (722,968 acres) was a record, being 14,378 acres in excess of the 1946–47 total. Areas of sown pastures irrigated have increased in latter years and in 1949–50 reached 374,847 acres. This tends to add stability to production and to provide a more productive use for the water available :—

VICTORIA—IRRIGATED AREAS : HOW UTILIZED.

Crop.	Year ended 30th June—				
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Cereals	72,956	83,263	33,889	62,123	35,305
Lucerne	67,309	69,700	65,211	62,071	60,095
Sorghum and other annual fodders	15,152	17,657	8,685	9,937	7,903
Pastures	407,415	440,879	478,576	483,867	453,349
Vineyards, Orchards, and Market Gardens	83,579	87,953	88,539	90,028	93,034
Fallow and Miscellaneous ..	10,434	9,138	11,948	14,942	12,604
Total	656,845	708,590	686,848	722,968	662,290

Of the total area irrigated in 1949–50 (662,290 acres) the percentages devoted to different purposes were as follows :—Pastures, 69 ; lucerne, 9 ; vineyards, orchards, and gardens, 14 ; cereals, 5 ; sorghum and other annual fodder crops, 1 ; fallows and miscellaneous, 2.

Progress in Irrigation Areas, 1949-50.

Dairying and fat lamb production are two of the principal industries in irrigation districts. Dairy herds grazed on irrigated pastures obtained prominent positions in the 1949–50 Standard Herd Test conducted by the Department of Agriculture.

The production of dried vine and tree fruits, of citrus, and of fruits for canning are established features in these districts. There has also been considerable expansion in vegetable growing and a development of the canning industry in relation thereto. The Victorian dried

vine-fruit crop amounted to 49,124 tons. The Victorian production of citrus fruits during the 1949–50 season amounted to 848,508 bushels —approximately 90 per cent. of which was grown within irrigation districts.

The Victorian production of canned apricots, peaches, and pears in the season 1949–50 was 2,123,820 cases, each of two dozen 30-oz. tins. This represented 69 per cent. of the Australian output of those fruits.

Supply of water for domestic, industrial, and stock purposes.

Extensive schemes for the supply of water for domestic, industrial, and stock purposes are under the control of the State Rivers and Water Supply Commission. Altogether, the rural and urban area so supplied is approximately 20,189 square miles—23 per cent. of the total area of the State. The major portion of such area is in the Mallee and Wimmera districts.

The numbers of country centres supplied with water for domestic and industrial purposes are—129 by the Commission, 120 by Waterworks Trusts, and 15 by Local Government bodies.

The estimated population in country centres supplied with water in 1949–50 was 470,290 persons.

STORAGE AND SUPPLY SCHEMES.

Water Storages in State.

In 1902, the capacity of storages in the State was 172,000 acre feet. The present capacity (including half share of the River Murray Works) is 1,974,260 acre feet. The Hume Reservoir, designed to contain 2,000,000 acre feet (half of which can, subject to the provisions of the River Murray Agreement, be credited to the State of Victoria) now has a capacity of 1,250,000 acre feet. When the final stage of this work has been completed, and when the Rocklands, Glenmaggie and Cairn Curran Reservoirs are also completed, the combined storage capacity available to users in Victoria will be 2,778,760 acre feet.

EXISTING STORAGES.

	Capacities in Acre Feet.	
Goulburn System—		
Goulburn Weir	20,700	
Waranga	333,400	
Eildon	306,000	
		660,100

EXISTING STORAGES—*continued.*

	Capacities in Acre Feet.	
Murray–Loddon System—		
Hume Reservoir (half share of 1,250,000 acre feet) ..	625,000	
Yarrawonga Weir (half share of 95,120 acre feet) ..	47,560	
Torrumbarry (half share of 28,900 acre feet)	14,450	
Mildura (half share of 29,360 acre feet)	14,680	
Wentworth (half share of 38,140 acre feet)	19,070	
Euston (half share of 31,320 acre feet)	15,660	
Kow Swamp	40,860	
Laanecoorie	6,300	
Kerang North-west Lakes	69,400	
Lake Boga	29,650	
Lake Cullulleraine	2,000	
		884,630
Wimmera–Mallee System—		
Fyans Lake..	17,100	
Lake Lonsdale	53,300	
Wartook	23,800	
Taylors Lake	30,000	
Pine Lake	52,000	
Green Lake	6,600	
Dock Lake	4,800	
Moora	5,100	
Lower Wimmera Weirs	2,870	
Batyo Catyo (Avon Regulator)	5,000	
Lake Whitton	1,300	
Township Reservoirs, and Mallee Tanks	4,970	
		206,840
Maffra–Sale System—		
Glenmaggie Reservoir (part of 150,000 acre feet) ..	104,500	
Stratford Service Basin	20	
Heyfield Service Basin	20	
		104,540
Coliban System—		
Upper Coliban	25,700	
Malmsbury	14,400	
Lauriston	16,000	
Spring Gully	2,000	
Subsidiary Reservoirs	4,630	
		62,730
Werribee System—		
Pykes Creek	19,400	
Melton	15,500	
		34,900

EXISTING STORAGES—*continued.*

	Capacities in Acre Feet.	
Bellarine Peninsula System—		
Wurdee Boluc	10,000	
Service Basins	850	
		10,850
Mornington Peninsula System—		
Lysterfield	3,400	
Beaconsfield	740	
Frankston	660	
Mornington	260	
Bittern	480	
Service Basins	260	
		5,800
Otway System—		
Service Reservoirs	..	1,080
Miscellaneous—		
Eppalock	1,200	
Wonthaggi	1,550	
Wonthaggi Service Basins	10	
Newstead	30	
		2,790
Total capacity of existing Storages		1,974,260

ADDITIONAL STORAGE BEING PROVIDED BY WORKS IN COURSE OF CONSTRUCTION.

Wimmera–Mallee System—	
Rocklands	264,000
Murray–Loddon System—	
Cairn Curran	120,000

FURTHER STORAGE WHICH COULD BE PROVIDED BY COMPLETION OF EXISTING WORKS.

Maffra–Sale System—		
Glenmaggie Reservoir (balance of 150,000 acre feet) ..	45,500	
Murray System—		
Hume Reservoir, at junction with Mitta River (half share of balance of 2,000,000 acre feet)	375,000	
		420,500
Total capacity of storages when works are completed ..		2,778,760

Detailed descriptions of the various systems which have been instituted for irrigation and for supplying water for domestic and stock purposes appear in the *Year-Book* for 1928–29 (pp. 526 to 534).

METEOROLOGY.

Meteorological Records.

Particulars in regard to climate and weather conditions have been furnished by the Meteorological Bureau, and are given in the following tables. In the first are shown the rainfall for each district and for the whole State for each of the years 1901 to 1951, together with the average rainfall covering a period of 30 years :—

VICTORIA—RAINFALL IN DISTRICTS.

Year Ended 31st December.	Districts.								Whole State.
	Mallee.	Wimmera.	Northern.	North-Central.	North-Eastern.	Western.	Central.	Gippsland.	
	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.	Inches.
1901 ..	9·39	16·61	13·58	24·78	28·08	27·90	28·98	33·66	22·05
1902 ..	7·64	11·94	11·26	18·41	20·10	23·54	24·88	33·35	18·55
1903 ..	16·34	22·76	22·22	32·07	33·13	33·43	32·86	33·68	27·44
1904 ..	10·75	17·22	17·32	28·00	33·56	28·54	31·29	30·02	23·49
1905 ..	12·01	18·40	16·39	25·36	31·72	28·79	29·61	37·84	24·53
1906 ..	15·22	23·42	24·16	32·00	42·11	32·53	30·13	34·81	28·49
1907 ..	9·25	17·07	14·74	22·42	26·19	26·16	25·36	27·20	20·40
1908 ..	12·33	17·72	14·38	19·98	26·40	25·81	20·08	24·29	20·02
1909 ..	14·35	22·38	20·04	29·77	35·62	31·37	30·57	34·09	26·52
1910 ..	15·96	22·36	20·13	29·13	32·10	32·45	28·28	30·80	25·96
1911 ..	17·84	19·89	19·87	29·79	33·24	31·13	36·88	39·71	28·08
1912 ..	12·50	17·52	18·12	23·00	30·93	25·94	24·92	26·60	21·86
1913 ..	12·66	16·38	16·76	24·22	29·69	25·85	27·64	34·65	22·96
1914 ..	7·29	9·76	9·73	14·95	19·94	18·56	20·05	23·81	14·66
1915 ..	12·42	18·98	16·75	25·65	34·17	27·44	24·67	27·63	22·35
1916 ..	17·72	22·54	25·60	34·44	44·01	30·72	38·78	37·78	30·27
1917 ..	19·55	21·96	26·34	35·86	56·09	31·70	32·41	34·63	30·77
1918 ..	13·59	16·44	21·96	28·30	36·96	25·70	30·11	33·39	24·70
1919 ..	11·46	13·86	15·06	21·21	27·27	26·47	25·48	37·03	22·77
1920 ..	14·93	16·04	20·15	28·37	34·42	25·99	31·38	33·37	25·43
1921 ..	16·29	19·99	23·69	31·75	39·57	27·36	31·13	31·73	25·35
1922 ..	10·44	17·15	13·15	20·85	26·10	28·09	27·82	32·92	21·35
1923 ..	15·07	20·21	17·60	27·30	34·80	33·51	30·11	33·88	26·12
1924 ..	16·08	22·17	23·29	34·74	40·70	31·13	40·30	37·37	28·10
1925 ..	9·87	14·20	14·09	20·28	27·42	22·43	23·12	29·69	19·74
1926 ..	12·64	17·00	16·85	24·25	35·36	26·70	24·20	29·72	22·90
1927 ..	7·66	13·93	11·14	18·67	26·15	23·20	22·16	28·43	18·56
1928 ..	14·04	19·10	21·27	29·56	37·21	30·46	29·86	33·98	26·14
1929 ..	9·10	15·56	13·65	24·20	27·24	29·28	31·13	32·36	22·00
1930 ..	15·32	20·94	19·68	30·59	32·49	29·43	30·85	33·66	25·76
1931 ..	14·86	19·25	21·77	31·20	43·18	28·79	32·88	32·65	26·97
1932 ..	14·96	18·90	20·60	29·63	34·33	31·85	32·91	34·19	26·34
1933 ..	14·13	20·96	20·25	31·09	32·09	26·87	27·56	30·65	24·47
1934 ..	13·21	16·64	21·01	28·57	42·81	29·20	35·60	43·39	27·60
1935 ..	10·84	17·71	19·53	29·14	35·86	30·49	34·23	42·53	26·63
1936 ..	14·39	19·41	19·50	28·47	35·52	26·91	30·24	36·38	25·63
1937 ..	12·69	17·19	13·70	20·08	26·25	26·39	25·20	28·33	21·02
1938 ..	6·30	11·39	8·66	15·62	20·49	22·63	20·47	26·39	16·28
1939 ..	15·32	20·33	27·72	37·83	53·05	32·94	38·10	38·16	31·37
1940 ..	6·82	11·26	9·67	17·13	21·21	21·51	22·81	26·94	16·73
1941 ..	12·23	20·14	17·31	25·39	30·41	29·73	31·53	33·13	24·29
1942 ..	14·31	22·04	19·66	31·91	38·28	30·54	29·68	31·59	26·28
1943 ..	8·25	13·48	10·98	20·22	26·76	25·86	22·46	30·05	19·44
1944 ..	6·59	10·46	9·24	17·10	20·72	24·30	23·97	27·54	17·09
1945 ..	9·63	15·20	14·84	21·72	29·97	25·21	22·25	28·60	20·50
1946 ..	14·07	22·07	17·76	29·86	39·85	40·20	33·04	41·19	29·37
1947 ..	15·16	22·71	20·35	32·93	40·91	33·80	33·00	36·10	28·46
1948 ..	11·29	19·15	16·46	24·82	31·98	28·37	25·93	34·37	23·61
1949 ..	11·80	16·67	20·45	31·35	33·72	26·91	32·62	36·72	25·05
1950 ..	17·57	20·04	23·67	31·63	35·03	24·01	30·82	36·65	26·52
1951 ..	12·09	19·61	20·26	31·87	37·45	33·32	34·71	41·78	27·91
Averages*	12·49	17·52	18·09	27·06	34·81	27·58	29·64	33·47	24·28

* Averages for a standard 30 years' period 1911–1940.

The heaviest rainfall in the State occurs in the Eastern highlands (from the Yarra watershed to the Upper Murray), in the Cape Otway Forest in the Western District, and in the South Gippsland, Latrobe and Thomson Basin sections of the Gippsland District. The lightest rainfall is in the Mallee District, the northern portion of which receives on the average from 10 to 12 inches only per year.

The means of the climatic elements for the seasons in Melbourne deduced from all available official records are given in the following table :—

MEANS OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

Meteorological Elements.	Spring.	Summer.	Autumn.	Winter.
Mean pressure of air in inches	29·974	29·920	30·079	30·077
Monthly range of pressure of air—inches	0·886	0·768	0·816	0·974
Mean temperature of air in shade—° Fahr.	57·8	66·6	59·4	50·0
Mean daily range of temperature of air in shade—° Fahr.	18·7	21·1	17·4	14·0
Mean relative humidity. Saturation = 100	65	59	69	74
Mean rainfall in inches	7·16	6·26	6·46	6·01
Mean number of days of rain	42	28	36	50
Mean amount of spontaneous evaporation in inches	10·26	17·30	8·03	3·78
Mean daily amount of cloudiness—Scale 0 to 8	6·0	5·2	5·9	6·5
Mean number of days of fog	1	1	7	12

In the subjoined statement are shown the yearly means of the climatic elements in Melbourne for 1949 together with averages and number of years of record for each element as well as the extremes between which the yearly mean values of such elements have oscillated in the latter periods.

YEARLY MEANS AND EXTREMES OF CLIMATIC ELEMENTS IN MELBOURNE.

Meteorological Elements.	Mean for Year 1949.	Means Over Period of Years.			
		Number of Years Recorded.	Mean for Period.	Extremes between which the yearly mean values have oscillated during the number of years shown in second column.	
				Highest.	Lowest.
Mean atmospheric pressure (inches) ..	30·020	92	30·012	30·106	29·945
Highest atmospheric pressure (inches)	30·630	92	30·603	30·770	30·405
Lowest atmospheric pressure (inches)	29·343	92	29·251	29·495	28·942
Range (inches)	1·287	92	1·354	1·719	1·074
Mean temperature of air in shade (° Fahr.)	57·0	94	58·5	59·9	57·0
Mean daily maximum (° Fahr.) ..	65·5	94	67·4	69·4	65·4
Mean daily minimum (° Fahr.) ..	48·5	94	49·5	51·2	47·2
Absolute maximum (° Fahr.) ..	99·8	94	104·9	114·1	96·6
Absolute minimum (° Fahr.) ..	32·0	94	31·0	34·2	27·0
Mean daily range (° Fahr.)	16·9	94	17·8	20·4	15·0
Absolute annual range (° Fahr.) ..	67·8	94	74·0	84·1	66·0
Terrestrial radiation (mean minima) (° Fahr.)	44·9	89	44·0	47·1	39·5
Rainfall (in inches)	31·41	94	25·89	38·04	15·61
Number of wet days	163	94	156	187	102
Year's amount of free evaporation (in inches)	38·77	77	39·37	45·66	31·59
Percentage of humidity (saturation = 100)	66	93	67	76	58
Cloudiness (scale 8 = overcast, 0 = clear)	6·5	92	5·9	6·7	4·8
Number of days of fog	19	92	21	50	5

An estimate of the areas of the State, subject to different degrees of rainfall, is contained in the following statement :—

VICTORIA—DISTRIBUTION OF AVERAGE RAINFALL.

Rainfall.	Area.
Inches.	Square Miles.
Under 15	18,701
15 to 20	13,800
20 to 25	13,551
25 to 30	14,528
30 to 40	15,802
40 to 50	6,671
50 to 60	2,660
Over 60	2,171

AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH AND EDUCATION.

Department of Agriculture.

This Department is controlled by a Minister of the Crown, under whom there is a staff of experts with the Director of Agriculture as permanent head. These officers are actively engaged in supervising all matters relating to agricultural, dairying, and pastoral industries of the State, and in giving advice to those engaged therein.

Government Experimental Farms.

Research and experimental work are conducted at the State Research Farm at Werribee, the Mallee Research Station at Walpeup, the Horticultural Research Station at Tatura, the Rutherglen State Farm, the Longerenong Agricultural College, the Dookie Agricultural College, the School of Dairy Technology and Dairy Research Institute, Werribee, and at the School of Primary Agriculture, Burnley. A Potato Experimental Station has been established at Healesville, and Horticultural Research and Tobacco Research Stations at Scoresby and Myrtleford respectively. In addition, experiments and demonstrations are conducted on many selected private farms throughout the State and, in conjunction with the Victorian Pasture Improvement League, on some 80 pasture experiment plots.

At the State Research Farm, Werribee, experiments are undertaken for the improvement of wheat and other cereals, grasses, clovers, and various economic plants, and investigations made into the methods and problems relating to irrigated agriculture and the breeding and feeding of dairy cattle, horses, sheep and poultry. At the School of Dairy Technology the higher training of dairy factory operatives and research and investigation into problems arising in the manufacture of dairy produce are undertaken.

Work at the Rutherglen Farm, which serves as a research station for the North-East, includes various aspects of cereal growing and pasture improvement. It was here that the initial experiments were conducted (1911–1918) which resulted in the widespread practice of the topdressing of pastures with phosphates. The Mallee Research Station was established in 1932. In addition to cereal and grazing investigations, an important feature of the work at this station is research concerning various grasses with the view to producing a pasture which will thrive under Mallee conditions. Special attention is being paid to the problem of sand drift. At Longerenong and Dookie, experiments are conducted on wheat and oat cultivation for Wimmera and north-eastern conditions respectively. At the School of Primary Agriculture, Burnley, in addition to instruction in, and study of, horticultural problems, research work on the breeding and selection of grasses and clovers is carried on ; a Plant Research Laboratory mainly devoted to plant pathological and entomological research has also been established.

The Horticultural Research Station at Tatura was established as a research centre for the purpose of improving varieties of fruits. Officers are now engaged in the study of irrigation and soil fertility in the Goulburn Valley in relation to the production of canning fruits.

The work at the Government experimental plots on selected farms embraces investigations into pasture improvement, grazing trials and the cultivation of wheat, oats, barley, potatoes, tobacco, maize, broom millet and vegetables.

The pasture experiments are largely responsible for advances made in pasture improvement throughout Victoria. It is estimated that topdressing results in an increase in carrying capacity of about 50 per cent. above pastures not similarly treated. During the season 1950–51 7,185,111 acres were topdressed, as compared with 6,726,723 acres in 1949–50.

Agricultural Colleges.

An Act for the establishment of Agricultural Colleges was passed in 1884, and 14,458 acres, comprising 5,955 acres at Dookie, 2,386 acres at Longerenong, 2,500 acres at Gunyah Gunyah, 2,800 acres at Olangolah, and 817 acres at Ballarto, were reserved as sites for colleges and experimental farms. Only the lands at Dookie and Longerenong are being used for college purposes and in 1944 all the other areas reverted to the Crown under the provisions of the *Agricultural Colleges Act* 1944. This Act, which also abolished the Council of Agricultural Education, provided that the two colleges should be controlled by the State through the medium of the Minister of Agriculture. The fee for students in residence at the agricultural colleges is £59 5s. per annum for maintenance. No charge is made for instruction. Accommodation is provided at Dookie for 130 and at Longerenong for 70 students. At Dookie the special annexe which was established for the training of discharged servicemen, is now being used for farmers' classes, women's classes and other similar short-term instruction.

A property at Glenormiston (in the Western District) has recently been purchased for the purpose of establishing a dairy college, while a second property at Ellenbank, near Warragul, is to be established as an Animal Husbandry Research Centre.

Inspection of Orchards, Nurseries, &c.

The orchards, nurseries and gardens of the State are systematically inspected by officers of the Horticultural Division of the Department of Agriculture. All plant material entering Victoria, whether from other Australian States or overseas, is subject to strict inspection and measures are taken when necessary either to free such material of disease or to have it destroyed.

Melbourne University School of Agriculture.

Melbourne University has a well-equipped School of Agriculture, for the maintenance of which a special grant is provided by the State. This School affords opportunity for the training of students in science as applied to practical agriculture and kindred industries. The course occupies

four years. The first is devoted to pure science; during the second the students are in residence at the Dookie Agricultural College, engaged in practical farming with lectures on preparatory subjects, and the remaining two years are devoted to a more specialized study of agriculture and allied subjects on a scientific basis. A large number of graduates of this school is employed, mostly in the Victorian Department of Agriculture, on field advisory work and laboratory investigations.

Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization.

The Commonwealth Scientific and Industrial Research Organization was established on 19th May, 1949, when the *Science and Industry Research Act* 1949 was proclaimed. Under that Act the Organization took the place of the existing Council for Scientific and Industrial Research, which in turn had in 1926 taken the place of the former Institute of Science and Industry.

The powers and functions of the Organization are similar to those of the Council and include the initiation and carrying our of research in connexion with, or for the promotion of, primary and secondary industries in the Commonwealth or any territory of the Commonwealth, or in connexion with any matter referred to the Organization by the Minister; the training of research workers; the making of grants in aid of pure scientific research; the testing and standardization of scientific apparatus and instruments, and the carrying out of scientific investigations connected with standardization; the collection and dissemination of information relating to scientific and technical matters; the publication of scientific and technical reports and periodicals; and acting as a means of liaison with other countries in matters of scientific research.

Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

The Commonwealth Bureau of Agricultural Economics was established in August, 1945, in order to meet the need for a Commonwealth research and investigating authority in the fields of agricultural economics and rural policy.

The Bureau was developed from the rural division of the Ministry of Post-War Reconstruction in which Department it was first established. In 1946 it was transferred to the Department of Commerce and Agriculture, and is comprised of the following sections:—(1) General and Statistics; (2) Agricultural Commodities; (3) Land Use; and (4) Wool.

No administrative functions are vested in the Bureau. It is specifically a service institution charged with the duty of undertaking fact-finding researches, studying and interpreting the facts and making the results available to all concerned, including Commonwealth and State Departments, semi-governmental and private institutions and individuals.

Reference to the activities of the wool section of the Bureau appears on page 122 of this issue of the *Year-Book*.

AGRICULTURE.

Progress of cultivation.

In all divisions of the State there are areas suitable for cultivation. The area cultivated in 1949–50 was 6,910,090 acres, as compared with 6,988,526 acres in the previous season, and an annual average of 5,977,754 acres for the seasons 1941–45, 7,779,443 acres for the seasons 1936–40, 7,739,251 acres for the seasons 1926–35, 6,446,389 acres for the seasons 1916–25, 5,032,359 acres for the seasons 1906–15, and 3,547,111 acres for the seasons 1896–1905.

The following table shows the area under cultivation from period to period during the last 96 years :—

VICTORIA—ACREAGE CULTIVATED ANNUALLY, 1856 TO 1951.

Period or Year (ended March).	Annual average area in each decennium, 1856 to 1925, and actual area each year 1926–1951, under—		
	Crop.	Fallow.	Total Cultivation.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1856–65	325,676	12,146	337,822
1866–75	624,377	57,274	681,651
1876–85	1,306,920	137,536	1,444,456
1886–95	2,109,326	364,282	2,473,608
1896–1905	3,022,914	524,197	3,547,111
1906–15	3,756,211	1,276,148	5,032,359
1916–25	4,594,244	1,852,145	6,446,389
1926	4,433,492	2,457,136	6,890,628
1927	4,735,173	2,569,021	7,304,194
1928	4,942,258	2,692,044	7,634,302
1929	5,505,651	2,683,462	8,189,113
1930	5,579,258	2,482,662	8,061,920
1931	6,715,660	2,590,629	9,306,289
1932	5,407,109	2,145,819	7,552,928
1933	5,115,745	2,633,287	7,749,032
1934	5,266,913	2,543,043	7,809,956
1935	4,677,683	2,216,464	6,894,147
1936	4,438,761	2,358,777	6,797,538
1937	4,407,312	2,483,163	6,890,475
1938	4,662,354	2,604,556	7,266,910
1939	5,019,299	2,543,225	7,562,524
1940	5,002,362	2,377,405	7,379,767
1941	4,467,191	1,887,418	6,354,609
1942	4,731,712	2,101,360	6,833,072
1943	3,838,415	1,660,171	5,498,586
1944	3,478,889	1,719,363	5,198,252
1945	4,310,152	1,694,097	6,004,249
1946	5,327,122	2,394,032	7,721,154
1947	5,102,980	2,460,350	7,563,330
1948	5,023,149	2,527,306	7,550,455
1949	4,644,841	2,343,685	6,988,526
1950	4,480,202	2,429,888	6,910,090
1951	4,351,220	2,153,611	6,504,831

Land occupied in different districts.

For the season 1949–50, the number of occupiers of rural holdings was 70,486, the area devoted to agriculture 6,910,090 acres, and the total area occupied 38,342,318 acres.

VICTORIA—LAND IN OCCUPATION IN EACH DISTRICT, SEASON 1949–50.

(Areas of 1 acre and upwards.)

Districts.	Total Area of Districts.	Number of Occupiers.	Acres Occupied.				
			For Agricultural Purposes.	For Pasture.		Balance of Holding.	Total.
				Sown Grasses, Clover, or Lucerne.	Other Cleared Ground.		
	Acres.						
Central ..	4,065,280	15,780	329,979	1,047,142	1,029,614	352,424	2,759,159
North-Central ..	2,929,920	4,565	111,108	376,472	1,428,342	248,320	2,164,242
Western ..	8,775,040	12,228	311,596	3,037,634	2,462,240	847,759	6,659,229
Wimmera ..	7,394,560	6,148	1,999,035	815,425	2,789,489	733,988	6,337,937
Mallee ..	10,784,000	6,367	2,647,907	118,586	3,303,346	1,143,394	7,213,233
Northern ..	6,337,280	11,405	1,237,977	716,179	3,251,900	350,914	5,556,970
North-Eastern	7,220,480	5,210	131,294	666,232	1,779,461	1,290,931	3,867,918
Gippsland ..	8,739,200	8,783	141,194	1,042,506	967,458	1,632,472	3,783,630
State ..	56,245,760	70,486	6,910,090	7,820,176	17,011,850	6,600,202	38,342,318
	Percentage of Above to Area Occupied.						
Central ..	..	..	11·96	37·95	37·32	12·77	100·00
North-Central ..	..	..	5·14	17·40	65·99	11·47	100·00
Western ..	..	..	4·68	45·62	36·97	12·73	100·00
Wimmera ..	..	..	31·54	12·87	44·01	11·58	100·00
Mallee ..	..	..	36·71	1·64	45·80	15·85	100·00
Northern ..	..	..	22·28	12·89	58·52	6·31	100·00
North-Eastern	..	..	3·39	17·22	46·01	33·38	100·00
Gippsland ..	..	..	3·73	27·55	25·57	43·15	100·00
State ..	..	..	18·02	20·40	44·37	17·21	100·00
	Percentage in Each District of Total in State.						
Central ..	7·23	22·39	4·78	13·39	6·05	5·34	7·20
North-Central ..	5·21	6·48	1·61	4·81	8·40	3·76	5·64
Western ..	15·60	17·35	4·51	38·84	14·47	12·85	17·37
Wimmera ..	13·14	8·72	28·93	10·43	16·40	11·12	16·53
Mallee ..	19·17	9·03	38·32	1·52	19·42	17·32	18·81
Northern ..	11·27	16·18	17·91	9·16	19·11	5·32	14·49
North-Eastern	12·84	7·39	1·90	8·52	10·46	19·56	10·08
Gippsland ..	15·54	12·46	2·04	13·33	5·69	24·73	9·88
Total ..	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00	100·00

Size of holdings showing areas cultivated and grazed.

The following table is a classification of rural holdings in Victoria (including Crown lands held) in which sizes of holdings together with areas under wheat and numbers of stock carried are shown. More detailed information in respect of earlier years appears on pages 436 to 438 of the 1938–39 *Year-Book* :—

VICTORIA—SIZE OF HOLDINGS SHOWING AREAS UNDER WHEAT AND STOCK DEPASTURED, MARCH, 1948.

Size of Holdings. (Including Crown Lands Held).	Number of Holdings.	Area Occupied.	Wheat 1947–48.	Sheep.	Dairy Cattle.	Beef-cattle.	Pigs.
Acres.		Acres.	Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1– 19 ..	9,031	88,300	76	6,111	21,814	1,751	8,622
20– 49 ..	8,087	254,641	1,476	26,918	53,392	4,395	12,206
50– 99 ..	7,692	555,551	7,194	94,277	165,765	11,651	29,249
100– 199 ..	11,521	1,635,705	40,153	413,987	417,074	39,190	70,121
200– 299 ..	6,356	1,543,814	55,901	641,809	243,915	43,030	40,857
300 399 ..	5,251	1,783,528	120,947	932,934	168,517	45,301	30,149
400– 499 ..	3,233	1,444,597	131,476	849,165	92,899	39,975	16,223
500– 599 ..	2,635	1,435,835	151,991	832,256	59,185	37,653	11,400
600– 699 ..	3,252	2,084,106	319,137	1,070,259	52,912	38,042	10,886
700– 799 ..	1,895	1,416,178	177,530	835,474	33,602	34,932	6,714
800– 899 ..	1,487	1,252,002	168,006	773,377	21,217	22,491	4,596
900– 999 ..	1,447	1,376,205	210,929	781,922	17,980	18,290	3,384
1,000– 1,999 ..	5,995	8,251,645	1,169,743	4,441,713	71,489	123,118	15,789
2,000– 4,999 ..	2,345	6,711,384	576,066	3,478,018	28,789	105,102	5,559
5,000– 9,999 ..	445	2,980,900	80,330	1,538,023	6,688	44,553	797
10,000–19,999 ..	144	2,005,186	13,331	756,703	1,828	30,601	183
20,000–49,999 ..	70	2,155,521	1,678	352,568	2,749	39,719	88
50,000–99,999 ..	15	917,872	618	16,690	292	3,659	232
100,000 and over	9	1,451,632	580	34,458	117	6,070	24
Totals ..	70,910	39,344,602	3,227,162	17,876,662	1,460,224	689,523	267,079

Principal Crops (Area, Production, and Average Yield).

The following table shows the annual average area, production, and yield per acre during each decennium, 1855 to 1945, and the actual area, production and yield per acre for the principal crops (excluding vegetables and fruit) during each of the four seasons, 1948–1951 :—

VICTORIA—ACREAGE, PRODUCTION, AND AVERAGE YIELD OF FIVE PRINCIPAL CROPS, 1855 TO 1951.

Period or Season.	Wheat.*	Oats.*	Barley.*	Potatoes.	Hay.
		ANNUAL AREA.			
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
1855–65 ..	119,001	83,296	4,843	24,123	80,117
1865–75 ..	278,077	129,384	19,262	36,744	117,393
1875–85 ..	776,031	147,343	41,188	39,089	226,775
1885–95 ..	1,236,501	210,901	64,310	48,009	437,087
1895–1905 ..	1,898,280	340,957	52,829	45,243	540,472
1905–15 ..	2,190,336	390,642	60,378	56,272	848,587
1915–25 ..	2,633,945	428,372	84,205	61,195	1,122,978
1925–35 ..	3,268,656	445,987	88,358	65,677	1,057,905
1935–45 ..	2,448,954	493,634	141,836	48,060	982,276
1947–48 ..	3,227,162	650,119	164,189	59,400	657,146
1948–49 ..	2,995,705	539,603	195,779	45,785	591,341
1949–50 ..	2,828,273	483,190	236,123	50,651	606,525
1950–51 ..	2,735,473	527,217	217,096	52,482	557,454
		ANNUAL PRODUCTION.			
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1855–65 ..	2,198,874	2,068,648	103,575	62,723	111,806
1865–75 ..	4,385,814	2,636,747	390,337	111,800	153,852
1875–85 ..	8,593,308	3,297,468	799,938	135,614	276,771
1885–95 ..	12,268,905	4,649,393	1,187,007	170,905	547,092
1895–1905 ..	14,032,145	6,649,453	947,580	134,357	672,982
1905–15 ..	22,906,743	7,342,468	1,243,442	158,445	1,084,726
1915–25 ..	39,171,358	7,965,864	1,923,654	169,864	1,511,298
1925–35 ..	38,661,077	5,696,134	1,772,099	167,965	1,242,808
1935–45 ..	31,723,840	5,144,194	2,126,636	165,756	1,145,099
1947–48 ..	46,962,385	15,380,970	3,576,771	184,882	1,042,438
1948–49 ..	49,063,560	7,489,601	3,547,691	166,105	933,983
1949–50 ..	57,433,835	8,718,307	4,876,180	167,881	1,000,855
1950–51 ..	51,235,929	9,034,005	4,510,079	139,391	894,585
		AVERAGE ANNUAL YIELD PER ACRE.			
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.	Tons.
1855–65 ..	18·48	24·83	21·39	2·60	1·40
1865–75 ..	15·77	20·38	20·27	3·04	1·31
1875–85 ..	11·07	22·38	19·42	3·47	1·22
1885–95 ..	9·92	22·05	18·46	3·56	1·21
1895–1905 ..	7·39	19·50	17·94	2·97	1·25
1905–15 ..	10·46	18·79	20·59	2·82	1·28
1915–25 ..	14·87	18·60	22·84	2·78	1·35
1925–35 ..	11·83	12·77	20·06	2·56	1·17
1935–45 ..	12·95	10·42	14·99	3·45	1·17
1947–48 ..	14·55	23·66	21·78	3·11	1·59
1948–49 ..	16·38	13·88	18·12	3·63	1·58
1949–50 ..	20·31	18·04	20·65	3·31	1·65
1950–51 ..	18·73	17.14	20.77	2·66	1·60

* For grain.

Growers of certain crops, season 1949-50.

The following table shows the number of growers of certain primary products, in each statistical district of the State, for the season 1949-50.

The information has no relation to the number of rural holdings in the State, as numbers of occupiers engage in the cultivation of more than one of the crops enumerated :—

VICTORIA—GROWERS OF CERTAIN CROPS—SEASON 1949-50.

Crops Grown.	Growers in each Statistical District.								State Total.
	Central.	North-Central.	Western.	Wimmera.	Mallee.	Northern.	North-Eastern.	Gippsland.	
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Grain Crops—									
Wheat ..	431	312	579	3,853	3,060	3,706	509	62	12,512
Oats	376	285	729	1,794	1,864	2,119	352	42	7,561
Barley ..	656	76	300	794	727	863	61	146	3,623
Maize	12	7	..	..	..	1	95	224	339
Hay—									
All kinds ..	4,738	1,724	5,562	2,669	1,223	4,353	2,537	4,678	27,484
Green Fodder—									
Maize	758	49	176	6	6	14	61	833	1,903
Lucerne ..	158	49	43	18	34	149	37	56	544
Millet	291	26	121	10	27	148	161	453	1,237
All other ..	156	88	126	11	17	50	66	112	626
Other—									
Potatoes ..	2,152	607	1,035	37	9	34	264	938	5,076
Onions	490	..	276	3	4	3	2	26	804
Other Vegetables	1,945	33	179	123	250	884	56	195	3,665
Orchards ..	2,446	200	153	239	900	1,114	281	149	5,482
Vineyards ..	2	3	..	38	2,157	197	71	..	2,468
Grass and Clover Seed	19	62	90	10	2	19	19	13	234
Tobacco ..	..	..	..	..	..	3	61	..	64*
Flax	18	..	92	8	..	..	20	4	142
Linseed ..	13	..	121	4	3	10	7	..	158

* Excluding Share-farmers.

Area Cultivated 1949-50.

A summary of the area under cultivation in each County

VICTORIA—AREA UNDER CULTIVATION

Districts and Counties.	Grain Crops.					Potatoes.	Onions.	Hay (Wheaten, Oaten, Lucerne, Grass, &c).
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Peas.			
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Central District—								
Bourke	7,382	5,020	4,802	..	168	3,490	511	36,716
Grant	16,845	5,844	24,314	..	4,705	7,980	960	34,033
Mornington ..	1	102	10	76	41	6,753	198	33,282
Evelyn	..	87	249	..	12	3,808	11	6,131
North-Central District—								
Anglesey	486	425	93	32	205	753	..	4,244
Dalhousie ..	924	878	23	..	8	2,379	..	7,440
Talbot	18,685	7,145	1,615	..	278	6,608	..	28,901
Western District—								
Grenville	8,639	4,894	3,999	..	2,054	783	1,025	15,253
Polwarth	34	320	1,129	..	2,428	3,011	674	9,043
Heytesbury ..	227	20	64	..	1	134	..	15,298
Hampden ..	8,080	6,012	1,506	..	170	148	79	18,602
Ripon	28,483	11,831	1,435	..	100	613	1	17,602
Villiers	559	1,256	623	..	3,242	2,720	394	23,170
Normanby ..	415	938	541	..	1,434	658	..	17,661
Dundas	1,146	3,635	388	..	1,351	21	..	16,064
Follett	13	258	..	..	..	150	..	3,378
Wimmera District—								
Lowan	195,872	47,319	26,089	..	30	7	..	21,258
Borung	550,584	30,657	33,357	..	2	94	4	23,065
Kara Kara ..	169,311	32,256	5,913	..	1	43	..	10,357
Mallee District—								
Millewa	54,349	6,404	20	..	..	..	..	2,451
Weeah	136,261	27,586	17,164	..	..	..	..	4,267
Karkarooc ..	639,206	97,299	55,976	..	..	4	2	16,251
Tatchera	405,974	73,205	7,750	..	2	9	2	13,619
Northern District—								
Gunbower ..	17,709	6,201	16,407	..	..	3	..	14,446
Gladstone ..	122,318	35,006	5,119	..	5	..	1	8,604
Bendigo	98,058	18,025	3,971	..	8	2	..	17,598
Rodney	47,303	14,708	13,246	..	7	..	1	35,006
Moira	253,996	36,853	1,617	3	64	145	3	27,369
North-Eastern District—								
Delatite	5,788	3,075	340	422	66	1,089	14	21,644
Bogong	36,066	4,745	479	518	32	597	4	19,006
Benambra	202	325	110	31	20	10	..	5,648
Wonnangatta ..	..	10	..	30	..	7	..	400
Gippsland District—								
Croajingolong ..	..	..	..	760	21	75	..	1,951
Tambo	8	59	55	834	97	141	..	1,762
Dargo	46	55	272	714	70	159	..	1,910
Tanjil	3,263	416	5,315	1,707	120	621	2	20,762
Buln Buln ..	40	321	2,132	9	48	7,636	207	52,333
Total for State ..	2,828,273	483,190	236,123	5,136	16,790	50,651	4,093	606,525

of the State for the season 1949–50 is given in the following table :—

FOR THE SEASON 1949–50.

Flax.	Green Fodder.	Grass and Clover for Seed.	Tobacco.	Vines.	Area Sown to Vegetables (other than Potatoes and Onions).	Orchards.	All Other Crops.	Total Area under Crops.	Land in Fallow.	Total Area under Cultivation.
Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
..	2,014	85	..	..	10,455	9,565	1,471	81,679	23,338	105,017
669	784	135	..	..	2,523	1,493	807	101,092	26,186	127,278
35	4,997	212	..	3	5,414	11,190	1,285	63,599	9,984	73,583
50	865	60	..	1	2,289	6,664	610	20,837	3,264	24,101
..	504	3	..	..	53	2	17	6,817	1,384	8,201
..	763	394	..	40	23	21	138	13,031	1,268	14,299
..	2,118	2,452	..	11	47	2,872	341	71,073	17,535	88,608
312	280	1,023	..	..	54	219	793	39,328	6,194	45,522
392	1,401	2,476	..	..	789	111	504	22,312	832	23,144
..	709	..	..	..	7	30	395	16,885	2,273	19,158
1,489	505	392	..	..	43	3	3,633	40,662	8,949	49,611
605	250	230	..	..	13	4	387	61,554	9,728	71,282
450	863	143	..	..	50	..	284	33,754	4,380	38,134
238	1,541	158	..	..	109	601	1,293	25,587	2,976	28,563
236	604	525	..	..	53	30	1,545	25,598	3,843	29,441
188	808	400	..	..	..	31	177	5,403	1,338	6,741
..	384	887	..	23	19	999	343	293,230	179,911	473,141
.. ..	146	79	..	580	463	2,359	342	641.732	512,911	1 154,643
..	71	..	..	42	3	191	90	218,278	152,973	371,251
..	350	..	..	224	6	63	428	64,295	14,635	78,930
..	2	..	..	..	..	..	7,884	193,164	138,608	331,772
..	921	..	..	31,899	713	2,614	5,840	850,725	549,297	1,400,022
..	1,043	170	..	7,736	1,639	1,506	1,258	513,913	323,270	837,183
..	2,698	310	10	14	160	1,219	1,257	60,434	19,732	80,166
..	1,175	..	..	1	29	177	..	172,435	93,409	265,844
..	372	104	..	25	1,563	1,897	34	141,657	76,004	217,661
..	1,616	128	..	244	1,847	11,646	159	125,911	39,221	165,132
..	997	256	14	645	3,485	13,191	188	338,826	170,348	509,174
323	2,150	808	541	71	109	533	402	37,375	4,329	41,704
216	1,158	494	354	3,827	272	1,294	532	69,594	12,090	81,684
..	565	..	..	..	7	18	32	6,968	365	7,333
..	5	..	..	..	1	5	8	466	107	573
..	352	..	..	..	266	18	255	3,698	553	4,251
..	629	..	..	..	945	26	456	5,012	222	5,234
..	870	40	..	..	1,000	83	380	5,599	664	6,263
..	2,877	..	..	..	399	124	101	35,707	3,235	38,942
58	7,541	64	..	..	513	247	823	71,972	14,532	86,504
5,261	44,928	12,028	919	45,386	35,361	71,046	34,492	4,480,202	2,429,888	6,910,090

Yields of Principal Crops. The table which follows shows the yields, in Counties,

VICTORIA—YIELDS OF PRINCIPAL

Districts and Counties.	Grain Crops.					Potatoes.
	Wheat.	Oats.	Barley.	Maize.	Peas.	
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Tons.
Central District—						
Bourke	156,321	159,039	133,435	..	5,261	13,401
Grant	366,380	167,784	792,292	..	56,445	22,144
Mornington	18	44	321	2,148	797	20,747
Evelyn	..	1,517	6,180	..	236	12,911
North-Central District—						
Anglesey	9,362	7,385	1,086	541	5,506	2,224
Dalhousie	17,003	18,347	392	..	99	6,846
Talbot	466,306	205,321	52,520	..	8,169	24,425
Western District—						
Grenville	153,966	136,038	117,222	..	30,888	2,497
Polwarth	444	5,764	25,933	..	36,782	11,487
Heytesbury	2,090	493	995	..	31	380
Hampden	182,112	198,799	47,916	..	3,680	572
Ripon	724,975	424,568	49,394	..	2,350	2,961
Villiers	13,753	39,187	18,816	..	61,715	9,077
Normanby	8,042	22,863	14,116	..	20,541	2,081
Dundas	17,598	57,439	10,307	..	24,924	63
Follett	157	3,128	..	..	..	444
Wimmera District—						
Lowan	5,006,749	743,106	472,535	..	620	17
Borung	14,286,237	496,992	562,094	..	62	341
Kara Kara	4,192,630	627,807	121,362	..	31	167
Mallee District—						
Millewa	443,245	56,513	147	..	..	..
Weeah	1,857,681	309,152	227,852	..	..	..
Karkarooc	9,960,017	1,118,035	797,438	..	..	16
Tatchera	7,606,483	1,253,569	176,673	..	109	16
Northern District—						
Gunbower	377,479	153,854	443,292	..	..	9
Gladstone	2,642,467	675,343	85,200	..	F	..
Bendigo	1,907,819	410,711	99,820	..	53	5
Rodney	1,060,355	361,501	403,389	..	682	..
Moira	5,109,329	856,164	31,589	150	756	561
North-Eastern District—						
Delatite	76,717	62,394	5,118	12,935	1,659	4,754
Bogong	714,563	123,910	13,217	13,940	1,147	2,357
Benambra	2,630	4,960	4,170	1,690	440	33
Wonnangatta	..	158	..	1,185	..	18
Gippsland District—						
Croajingolong	..	..	..	30,237	248	223
Tambo	217	1,409	1,513	39,298	3,054	483
Dargo	405	1,400	7,510	27,183	1,783	309
Tanjil	69,901	11,303	136,293	64,679	2,799	1,887
Buln Buln	384	2,310	23,043	135	2,616	24,425
Total for State	57,433,835	8,718,307	4,876,180	194,121	273,483	167,881

NOTE.—The letter "F" signifies that the crop was a failure.

of the principal crops for the season 1949–50 :—

CROPS FOR THE SEASON 1949–50.

Onions.	Hay (Wheaten, Oaten, Lucerne, Grass, &c.).	Grass and Clover for Seed.	Tobacco.	Wine Made.	Dried Vine-Fruits.		
					Raisins.	Sultanas.	Currants.
Tons.	Tons.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Gallons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
3,619	63,830	14	..		..	..	..
4,192	59,708	360	..		..	..	..
1,101	59,597	252	..		..	..	..
53	11,069	3	..		..	..	..
..	7,214	1	..		..	..	..
..	13,212	605	..		..	..	..
..	55,880	3,763	..		..	..	..
6,450	26,364	1,820	..		..	..	..
5,029	16,305	2,933	..		..	..	..
..	28,524	..	..		..	..	..
604	35,314	724	..		..	..	..
6	33,102	188	..		..	..	..
2,862	42,741	292	..		..	..	..
..	31,737	281	..		..	..	..
..	25,252	1,307	..		..	..	..
..	5,965	150	..		..	..	..
..	26,446	573	..		..	..	1
24	32,167	127	..		..	..	..
..	14,244	..	..	3,230,129	..	..	..
..	1,171	..	..		23	202	39
..	3,228	..	..		..	..	..
13	13,058	..	..		4,085	33,703	6,604
10	15,582	118	..		262	3,917	286
..	20,650	448	63		..	..	..
5	10,600	..	..		..	..	..
..	22,956	375	..		..	..	..
6	52,456	62	..		..	..	..
10	36,921	263	120		1	1	..
80	40,616	604	3,548		..	..	..
20	33,059	814	2,236		..	..	..
..	11,750	..	..		..	..	..
..	726	..	..		..	..	..
..	3,395	..	..		..	..	..
..	3,348	..	..		..	..	..
..	3,692	130	..		..	..	..
10	41,884	..	..		..	..	..
1,342	97,092	90	..		..	..	..
25,436	1,000,855	16,297	5,967	3,230,129	4,371	37,823	6,930

Area, Yield and Gross Value of Crops, Season 1949-50.

The following table shows the area under, the yield from, and the gross value of each of the principal crops in Victoria for the season 1949–50 :—

VICTORIA—AREA, YIELD, AND GROSS VALUE OF CROPS, 1949–50.

Crop.	Area.	Yield.	Gross Value.(*a*)
	Acres.		£
Wheat	2,828,273	57,433,835 bushels	33,708,712(*b*)
Oats	483,190	8,718,307 bushels	2,739,002
Barley—			
Malting (2 row)	211,852	4,406,009 bushels	2,317,120
Other (6 row)	24,271	470,171 bushels	209,376
Maize	5,136	194,121 bushels	123,467
Rye	16,690	127,506 bushels	70,128
Hay—			
Wheaten	39,117	60,378 tons	395,994
Oaten	272,100	412,509 tons	2,735,386
Lucerne, &c.	47,830	87,652 tons	684,078
Meadow	247,478	440,316 tons	2,892,982
Straw	..	30,000 tons	186,300
Grass and Clover Seed	12,028	16,297 cwt.	148,394
Canary Seed	185	920 cwt.	2,380
Peas for grain	16,790	273,483 bushels	263,972
Green Fodder	44,928	..	151,609
Potatoes	50,651	167,881 tons	3,259,460
Onions	4,093	25,436 tons	558,886
Other Vegetables	35,361	215,474 tons	4,503,623
Turnips, Beet, &c., for fodder	1,634	10,239 tons	122,868
Mangolds and Pumpkins for Stock	248	1,697 tons	13,576
Tobacco	919	5,967 cwt.	163,939
Hops	278	3,764 cwt.	88,268
Broom Millet	94	545 cwt. fibre 388 cwt. seed	2,498 273
Chicory	385	581 tons	47,933
Flax	5,261	6,925 tons of straw	70,612
Linseed	8,148	57,972 bushels	124,785
Orchards—			
Productive	56,467	..	4,306,833
Unproductive	14,579	..	..
Grapes—			
Table	1,586	3,690 tons	129,150
Wine	6,682	14,568 tons	179,615
Drying	34,284	Wine made 3,230,129 gallons 186,823 tons producing— 37,823 tons of sultanas 4,371 tons of raisins 6,930 tons of currants	 3,257,882 460,021 565,410
Vines, unproductive	2,834	..	..
Other Crops	6,830	..	495,715
Total Crops	4,480,202	..	64,980,247

(*a*) The gross value is based on the wholesale price realized in the principal markets. The places where primary products are absorbed locally or where they become raw materials for a secondary industry are presumed to be the principal markets.

(*b*) Includes Flour Tax payments.

THE GRAIN ELEVATOR SYSTEM FOR THE BULK HANDLING OF WHEAT IN VICTORIA.

The *Grain Elevator Act* 1934 provided for the handling of grain in bulk, for wheat within defined areas to be delivered to elevators, and for the constitution of the Grain Elevators Board. It also empowered the Board to borrow money to the extent that the money owing at any one time shall not exceed £2,000,000 (increased to £2,500,000 by legislation passed in 1940).

Except for the Williamstown Terminal, the construction of elevators has been completed. The scheme comprises 138 country elevators, with a total storage capacity of 14,951,000 bushels, serving terminals at Geelong and Williamstown. These terminals, which have storage capacities of 4,050,000 bushels and 2,600,000 bushels respectively, are designed to receive wheat from railway trucks at the rate of 20,000 bushels per hour and to load into ships at 64,000 bushels per hour.

In addition to the elevators within the scheme nine mill silos were leased by the Board as from 1942–43 and these provided a further storage capacity of 1,688,000 bushels. The total country storage capacity was therefore increased to 16,639,000 bushels.

The Geelong section, which embraces the western portion of the State bounded on the east by the Melbourne–Mildura railway line, came into operation at the beginning of the 1939–40 season.

Receivals for the seasons 1949–50 and 1950–51 amounted to 45,914,191 and 40,591,000 bushels respectively.

Wheat growing in counties.

The principal wheat-growing areas are in the Wimmera, Mallee, and Northern districts. In the season 1950–51 these districts were responsible for 96 per cent. of the total wheat production of the State. Although other districts provided only small proportions of the total area, they are not to be regarded as unsuitable for wheat growing, as their average yield per acre is usually greater than in the areas mentioned. The yield in 1950–51 was 51,235,929 bushels, or an average yield per acre of 18·73 bushels in comparison with an average of 20·31 bushels in 1949–50 and an average of 16·38 bushels in 1948–49. The area sown and the production of wheat for grain in different counties for each of the three seasons, 1949–51, are shown in the following table:—

VICTORIA—WHEAT AREAS AND YIELDS IN COUNTIES FOR THE THREE SEASONS, 1949–1951.

Districts and Counties.	Year ended March.								
	Area.			Produce.			Average per Acre.		
	1949.	1950.	1951.	1949.	1950.	1951.	1949.	1950.	1951.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bus.	Bus.	Bus.
Central—									
Bourke ..	8,684	7,382	5,986	183,589	156,321	92,226	21·14	21·18	15·41
Grant ..	19,779	16,845	12,623	400,781	366,380	214,919	20·26	21·75	17·02
Mornington ..	31	1	..	720	18	..	23·23	18·00	..
Evelyn ..	58	..	3	927	..	59	15·98	..	19·66
Total ..	28,552	24,228	18,612	586,017	522,719	307,204	20·52	21·57	16·50
North-Central—									
Anglesey ..	722	486	324	18,781	9,362	3,994	26·01	19·26	12·33
Dalhousie ..	1,162	924	554	23,192	17,003	5,357	19·96	18·40	9·67
Talbot ..	23,036	18,685	17,310	493,665	466,306	283,156	21·43	24·96	16·36
Total ..	24,920	20,095	18,188	535,638	492,671	292,507	21·49	24·52	16·08
Western—									
Grenville ..	9,418	8,639	7,841	198,351	153,966	150,503	21·06	17·82	19·19
Polwarth ..	46	34	104	1,028	444	888	22·35	13·06	8·54
Heytesbury ..	..	227	61	..	2,090	997	..	9·21	16·34
Hampden ..	9,120	8,080	8,472	185,513	182,112	158,498	20·34	22·54	18·70
Ripon ..	32,201	28,483	29,338	768,758	724,975	582,537	23·87	25·45	19·86
Villiers ..	421	559	455	6,804	13,753	10,617	16·16	24·60	23·33
Normanby ..	660	415	176	12,814	8,042	2,938	19·42	19·38	16·69
Dundas ..	1,309	1,146	1,015	18,921	17,598	13,045	14·45	15·36	12·85
Follett ..	131	13	195	1,991	157	1,670	15·20	12·08	8·56
Total ..	53,306	47,596	47,657	1,194,180	1,103,137	921,693	22·40	23·18	19·34
Wimmera—									
Lowan ..	204,160	195,872	184,715	4,819,038	5,006,749	3,846,558	23·60	25·56	20·82
Borung ..	560,405	550,584	540,126	14,493,601	14,286,237	12,228,842	25·86	25·95	22·64
Kara Kara ..	181,654	169,311	160,444	3,865,910	4,192,630	3,571,831	21·28	24·76	22·26
Total ..	946,219	915,767	885,285	23,178,549	23,485,616	19,647,231	24·50	25·65	22·20
Mallee—									
Millewa ..	73,933	54,349	43,342	439,101	443,245	367,095	5·94	8·16	8·47
Weeah ..	154,941	136,261	143,296	1,835,215	1,857,681	1,849,556	11·84	13·63	12·31
Karkarooc ..	671,012	639,206	659,803	6,927,512	9,960,017	10,298,193	10·32	15·58	15·61
Tatchera ..	402,518	405,974	386,720	3,371,226	7,606,483	7,454,854	8·38	18·74	19·26
Total ..	1,302,404	1,235,790	1,233,161	12,573,054	19,867,426	19,969,698	9·65	16·08	16·19

VICTORIA—WHEAT AREAS AND YIELDS IN COUNTIES FOR THE THREE SEASONS, 1949–1951—*continued.*

Districts and Counties.	Year ended March.								
	Area.			Produce.			Average per Acre.		
	1949.	1950.	1951.	1949.	1950.	1951.	1949.	1950.	1951.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bus.	Bus.	Bus.
Northern—									
Gunbower ..	19,378	17,709	14,588	182,041	377,479	275,733	9·39	21·32	18·90
Gladstone ..	137,596	122,318	110,308	2,208,575	2,642,467	2,127,894	16·05	21·60	19·28
Bendigo ..	115,015	98,058	89,130	1,755,515	1,907,819	1,585,404	15·26	19·46	17·79
Rodney ..	62,632	47,303	46,695	1,199,660	1,060,355	920,049	19·15	22·42	19·70
Moira ..	260,493	253,996	229,023	4,702,378	5,109,329	4,411,011	18·05	20·12	19·26
Total ..	595,114	539,384	489,744	10,048,169	11,097,449	9,320,091	16·88	20·57	19·03
North-Eastern—									
Delatite ..	5,550	5,788	4,197	149,416	76,717	70,340	26·92	13·25	16·76
Bogong ..	35,979	36,066	36,208	707,764	714,563	659,909	19·67	19·81	18·22
Benambra ..	184	202	138	3,836	2,630	1,900	20·85	13·02	13·77
Wonnangatta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Total ..	41,713	42,056	40,543	861,016	793,910	732,149	20·64	18·88	18·06
Gippsland—									
Croajingolong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Tambo ..	7	8	8	21	217	F	3·00	27·13	..
Dargo ..	33	46	34	991	405	431	30·03	8·80	12·68
Tanjil ..	3,315	3,263	2,229	84,621	69,901	44,763	25·53	21·42	20·08
Buln Buln ..	122	40	12	1,304	384	162	10·69	9·60	13·50
Total ..	3,477	3,357	2,283	86,937	70,907	45,356	25·00	21·12	19·86
Total (State)	2,995,705	2,828,273	2,735,473	49,063,560	57,433,835	51,235,929	16·38	20·31	18·73

NOTE—The letter "F" signifies that crop was a failure.

The production of wheat in the other Australian States in 1949–50 was as follows:—New South Wales, 81,939,000 bushels; South Australia, 28,351,860 bushels; Western Australia, 38,500,000 bushels; Queensland, 11,778,000 bushels; and Tasmania, 127,294 bushels. The total production for the Commonwealth was 218,221,630 bushels.

Monthly Rainfall and Average Yields of Wheat 1939–40 to 1950–51.

In the following table the average yield per acre in each of the main wheat growing counties for the seasons 1939–40 to 1950–51 is shown in conjunction with the approximate mean rainfall recorded each month. The rainfall during the growing season is shown separately to indicate its effect on wheat production. While the table is useful as a general reference in respect of the relationship of wheat yields to rainfall, it should be remembered that temperatures, winds, and other factors such as the extent to which fallowing, rotational cropping, and fertilizing are practised have also considerable effect on average yields, as do also the varieties of wheat used.

VICTORIA—RAINFALL AND AVERAGE WHEAT YIELD PER ACRE IN WHEAT-GROWING COUNTIES FOR THE SEASONS 1939-40 TO 1950-51.

County and Year.	Approximate Mean Rainfall each Month.												Total for Year.	Total Wheat-growing Period.	Average Wheat Yield per Acre.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	Wheat-growing Months.						Dec.			
						June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.				
	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Bushels.
Lowan—															
1939 ..	161	123	28	187	201	194	122	389	126	115	253	50	1,949	1,199	20·05
1940 ..	85	16	30	257	115	67	200	82	92	72	177	109	1,302	690	14·01
1941 ..	436	29	223	171	56	174	317	117	313	146	77	41	2,100	1,144	21·13
1942 ..	87	88	38	117	385	306	266	335	282	242	184	59	2,389	1,615	23·76
1943 ..	57	123	18	163	85	206	227	242	256	109	95	52	1,633	1,135	22·60
1944 ..	39	62	26	161	213	45	122	19	66	189	77	139	1,158	518	4·88
1945 ..	74	224	18	11	148	180	124	307	134	199	155	104	1,678	1,099	11·80
1946 ..	293	447	359	57	123	221	421	174	120	90	76	190	2,571	1,102	24·63
1947 ..	28	149	317	17	82	272	408	232	212	304	200	317	2,638	1,628	17.24
1948 ..	17	65	22	425	165	226	151	173	141	368	181	199	2,134	1,240	23·60
1949 ..	74	311	33	14	202	74	138	75	139	314	258	17	1,649	998	25·56
1950 ..	13	175	261	96	329	90	120	165	227	114	81	65	1,736	797	20·82
Borung—															
1939 ..	97	208	12	261	267	172	120	308	95	76	273	25	1,914	1,044	18·01
1940 ..	69	9	15	236	70	38	147	50	88	48	145	97	1,012	516	6·35
1941 ..	343	28	180	126	44	218	259	103	322	165	133	45	1,966	1,200	23·46
1942 ..	93	55	44	142	356	262	179	360	222	237	198	51	2,199	1,458	28·26
1943 ..	68	90	16	119	78	150	178	200	184	102	42	38	1,265	856	15·65
1944 ..	53	61	22	143	178	27	142	7	52	142	69	156	1,052	439	1·69
1945 ..	67	227	18	10	87	251	161	268	93	125	134	49	1,490	1,032	10·27
1946 ..	291	359	273	70	134	200	296	139	102	77	81	111	2,133	895	20·09
1947 ..	19	112	300	90	47	215	288	168	169	311	181	228	2,128	1,332	19.38
1948 ..	15	40	10	265	157	233	150	88	127	401	116	189	1,791	1,115	25·86
1949 ..	31	310	67	11	170	65	181	60	160	336	192	21	1,604	994	25·95
1950 ..	6	321	279	146	331	66	156	153	224	148	113	70	2,013	860	22·64
Kara Kara—															
1939 ..	93	293	32	518	279	191	118	323	107	88	280	25	2,347	1,107	22·91
1940 ..	83	12	16	197	42	49	157	43	135	47	81	84	946	512	2·73
1941 ..	306	34	167	90	33	189	265	155	326	192	176	49	1,982	1,303	24·13
1942 ..	100	50	77	99	373	260	188	371	214	240	181	44	2,197	1,454	24·18
1943 ..	79	96	14	104	81	146	203	193	187	84	52	31	1,270	865	12·87
1944 ..	37	37	52	165	178	26	162	10	63	131	57	135	1,053	449	0·86
1945 ..	49	107	13	8	85	318	182	254	95	133	135	33	1,412	1,117	10·84
1946 ..	330	340	256	87	129	185	261	138	91	110	93	141	2,161	878	19·49
1947 ..	11	118	317	93	48	234	298	176	157	378	169	228	2,227	1,412	18.39
1948 ..	40	64	9	195	148	203	158	94	118	358	103	97	1,587	1,034	21·28
1949 ..	28	316	146	11	159	77	201	58	146	337	258	22	1,759	1,077	24·76
1950 ..	5	340	319	149	323	72	200	192	291	189	135	77	2,292	1,079	22·26

VICTORIA—RAINFALL AND AVERAGE WHEAT YIELD PER ACRE IN WHEAT-GROWING COUNTIES FOR THE SEASONS 1939–40 TO 1950–51—*continued.*

County and Year.	Approximate Mean Rainfall each Month.												Total for Year.	Total Wheat-growing Period.	Average Wheat Yield per Acre.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	Wheat-growing Months.						Nov.	Dec.			
					May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.					
	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Bushels.
Millewa—															
1939 ..	6	367	37	34	126	118	69	154	67	87	259	1	1,325	621	9·20
1940 ..	34	7	4	131	22	10	64	34	89	22	54	34	505	241	0·42
1941 ..	284	9	49	10	18	154	140	101	90	157	92	35	1,139	660	9·28
1942 ..	19	43	9	121	174	178	112	179	36	211	45	29	1,156	890	11·16
1943 ..	7	36	3	38	23	33	43	93	81	52	59	66	534	325	0·01
1944 ..	35	15	5	18	98	16	58	14	13	65	74	74	485	264	0·04
1945 ..	4	12	4	1	56	176	82	89	39	142	65	69	739	584	3·97
1946 ..	125	218	88	48	80	131	153	40	22	38	187	91	1,221	464	3·45
1947 ..	13	211	250	30	2	107	123	92	106	153	84	135	1,306	583	3.15
1948 ..	9	2	1	143	60	140	69	76	23	186	62	80	851	554	5·94
1949 ..	34	103	57	10	262	27	69	20	136	181	47	12	958	695	8·16
1950 ..	..	434	369	15	113	31	88	72	70	123	109	48	1,472	497	8·47
Weeah—															
1939 ..	32	214	6	103	119	131	77	187	36	27	221	5	1,158	577	7·71
1940 ..	45	17	12	246	35	13	84	40	118	25	62	72	769	315	5·31
1941 ..	275	12	100	51	23	225	171	64	198	194	82	32	1,427	875	13·80
1942 ..	66	32	13	103	186	187	158	220	123	129	139	33	1,389	1,003	13·96
1943 ..	41	70	8	85	35	101	83	132	107	151	82	62	957	609	7·84
1944 ..	35	15	22	57	143	8	92	7	35	79	71	101	665	364	2·53
1945 ..	10	64	6	5	77	198	88	126	77	135	90	86	962	701	6·10
1946 ..	147	306	154	36	77	127	140	105	51	45	105	70	1,363	545	10·36
1947 ..	3	180	196	38	35	103	181	139	135	183	132	179	1,504	776	8.68
1948 ..	4	29	5	195	106	159	104	68	47	313	131	144	1,305	797	11·84
1949 ..	20	112	28	3	163	29	88	30	167	262	87	12	1,001	739	13·63
1950 ..	1	382	304	51	249	60	77	86	168	101	109	57	1.645	741	12·31
Karkarooc—															
1939 ..	24	375	34	135	169	149	85	173	59	45	234	2	1,484	680	12·93
1940 ..	48	15	8	151	26	11	67	34	153	16	74	55	658	307	2·73
1941 ..	239	15	73	23	21	139	159	64	163	162	117	39	1,214	708	12·90
1942 ..	40	37	20	110	216	199	140	224	75	165	130	26	1,382	1,019	15·42
1943 ..	34	42	5	61	38	88	88	133	99	94	56	35	773	540	7·13
1944 ..	22	15	8	95	121	7	74	7	29	73	71	88	610	311	1·14
1945 ..	20	51	6	4	55	239	85	136	42	148	74	54	914	705	5·69
1946 ..	213	275	101	29	134	133	131	92	33	44	115	68	1,368	567	9·18
1947 ..	6	176	221	55	24	117	168	108	98	195	159	145	1,472	710	10.51
1948 ..	6	21	2	133	96	155	67	38	42	285	94	91	1,030	683	10.32
1949 ..	27	181	89	10	251	27	113	30	121	246	90	12	1,197	788	15·58
1950 ..	1	373	341	33	195	55	106	82	120	139	123	62	1.630	697	15.61

VICTORIA—RAINFALL AND AVERAGE WHEAT YIELD PER ACRE IN WHEAT-GROWING COUNTIES FOR THE SEASONS 1939–40 TO 1950–51—*continued.*

County and Year.	Approximate Mean Rainfall each Month.												Total for Year.	Total Wheat-growing Period.	Average Wheat Yield per Acre.
					Wheat-growing Months.										
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.			
	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Bushels.
Tatchera—															
1939 ..	19	394	34	165	247	154	99	178	87	54	220	4	1,655	819	17·03
1940 ..	48	15	11	130	15	22	84	40	187	9	62	28	651	357	1·61
1941 ..	211	19	69	13	27	77	175	62	168	137	120	32	1,110	646	8·42
1942 ..	41	89	48	93	219	213	119	230	59	134	142	32	1,419	974	15·19
1943 ..	15	36	4	63	27	90	88	121	93	107	43	28	715	526	4·42
1944 ..	20	9	11	117	119	10	70	5	26	75	68	106	636	305	0·14
1945 ..	17	28	13	..	54	276	95	162	39	219	112	44	1,059	845	6·44
1946 ..	271	313	99	28	132	145	124	105	27	50	120	75	1,489	583	9·35
1947 ..	15	159	237	49	25	127	174	96	105	228	172	137	1,524	755	11.44
1948 ..	9	55	2	107	118	130	55	29	64	279	79	94	1,021	675	8·38
1949 ..	15	155	253	22	231	46	159	32	106	278	116	9	1,422	852	18·74
1950 ..	1	344	373	63	208	81	137	83	140	178	139	50	1,797	827	19·26
Gunbower—															
1939 ..	12	400	85	209	192	176	105	203	96	94	235	8	1,806	866	18·14
1940 ..	35	10	14	155	10	29	112	36	199	18	76	62	756	404	1·28
1941 ..	300	13	95	12	35	98	236	58	158	123	69	22	1,219	708	12·42
1942 ..	65	76	142	54	252	191	146	249	96	138	106	35	1,550	1,072	14·72
1943 ..	88	32	7	66	46	78	105	79	94	91	50	34	770	493	3·72
1944 ..	31	13	33	138	156	19	89	4	26	85	66	88	748	379	0·33
1945 ..	54	56	22	2	43	209	124	215	49	175	122	37	1,108	815	7·95
1946 ..	227	338	77	34	109	112	131	85	29	67	148	39	1,396	533	6·95
1947 ..	10	116	205	52	21	89	253	118	130	304	144	232	1,674	915	12·10
1948 ..	13	86	1	149	147	189	71	31	74	259	89	104	1,213	771	9·39
1949 ..	20	233	314	24	120	85	183	49	146	381	196	17	1,768	964	21·32
1950 ..	2	180	543	107	202	89	153	91	191	180	161	70	1,969	906	18·90
Gladstone—															
1939 ..	72	350	38	431	293	208	127	272	97	76	303	15	2,282	1,073	20·05
1940 ..	73	21	18	173	24	45	122	41	187	31	52	60	847	450	2·42
1941 ..	270	34	143	60	27	147	226	109	238	190	123	34	1,601	937	19·51
1942 ..	74	57	78	68	358	261	168	335	156	173	198	35	1,961	1,451	19·93
1943 ..	88	54	10	89	62	120	199	158	134	87	50	36	1,087	760	10·97
1944 ..	21	26	34	149	154	23	129	9	46	106	48	83	828	467	1·01
1945 ..	47	110	18	4	100	345	165	250	83	130	132	29	1,413	1,073	11·77
1946 ..	290	305	140	67	129	152	222	111	60	96	116	86	1,774	770	14·30
1947 ..	4	102	292	82	37	190	297	147	150	347	169	200	2,017	1,168	16·55
1948 ..	35	138	4	135	160	194	118	65	90	342	113	130	1,524	969	16·05
1949 ..	20	304	276	9	151	60	165	46	136	349	289	22	1,827	907	21·60
1950 ..	6	372	406	141	297	68	214	176	246	206	140	76	2,348	1,207	19.28

VICTORIA—RAINFALL AND AVERAGE WHEAT YIELD PER ACRE IN WHEAT-GROWING COUNTIES FOR THE SEASONS 1939–40 TO 1950–51—*continued.*

County and Year.	Approximate Mean Rainfall each Month.												Total for Year.	Total Wheat-growing Period.	Average Wheat Yield per Acre.
	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	Wheat-growing Months.						Nov.	Dec.			
					May.	June.	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.					
	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Points.	Bushels.
Bendigo—															
1939 ..	55	400	109	412	221	231	104	261	93	106	244	17	2,253	1,016	18·46
1940 ..	49	24	27	186	24	51	145	38	196	26	50	56	872	480	3·92
1941 ..	245	31	157	41	23	121	208	59	211	153	120	28	1,397	775	16·63
1942 ..	82	130	133	70	352	242	152	293	116	232	155	25	1,982	1,387	18·32
1943 ..	150	41	5	76	55	96	167	101	130	119	57	38	1,035	668	9·39
1944 ..	30	23	29	155	177	15	107	10	31	94	45	78	794	434	1·31
1945 ..	63	81	19	2	71	267	161	266	66	151	101	32	1,280	982	12·07
1946 ..	197	294	102	76	114	113	199	88	34	99	131	85	1,532	647	12·20
1947 ..	5	91	225	53	29	126	263	130	157	331	118	234	1,762	1,036	16.31
1948 ..	20	209	1	172	174	221	119	40	81	250	97	125	1,509	885	15·26
1949 ..	21	361	333	14	100	54	180	49	153	438	387	25	2,115	974	19·46
1950 ..	7	298	517	194	220	76	192	124	264	194	180	88	2,354	1,070	17·79
Rodney—															
1939 ..	45	481	212	621	200	311	139	388	132	153	236	25	2,943	1,323	17·30
1940 ..	24	16	48	191	47	50	167	55	204	32	52	89	975	555	4·69
1941 ..	516	28	234	28	85	113	226	73	169	159	114	47	1,792	825	20·19
1942 ..	87	260	166	70	371	213	180	293	120	208	117	55	2,140	1,385	17·99
1943 ..	168	34	4	100	73	127	169	136	164	116	64	24	1,179	785	13·58
1944 ..	13	28	47	165	231	42	126	2	35	114	63	82	948	550	1·80
1945 ..	146	52	12	4	66	244	173	322	85	217	141	34	1,496	1,107	14·40
1946 ..	264	372	121	89	94	139	222	114	33	121	188	71	1,828	723	16·32
1947 ..	14	98	225	72	44	132	303	171	208	357	120	339	2,083	1,215	17·71
1948 ..	25	252	..	218	180	279	147	54	114	234	126	145	1,774	1,008	19·15
1949 ..	29	282	354	29	108	79	239	64	177	550	479	36	2,426	1,217	22·42
1950 ..	6	208	831	199	194	70	170	119	218	190	116	106	2,427	961	19·70
Moira—															
1939 ..	22	548	297	676	120	401	165	459	150	271	221	20	3,350	1,566	12·94
1940 ..	24	5	19	260	65	55	159	64	224	35	74	127	1,111	602	8·99
1941 ..	539	46	432	18	81	155	243	76	156	150	99	56	2,051	861	23·07
1942 ..	108	176	143	82	355	236	143	255	102	177	237	69	2,083	1,268	18·76
1943 ..	140	32	12	129	72	114	153	154	168	126	58	12	1,170	787	12·72
1944 ..	5	16	52	163	270	51	129	2	36	100	86	148	1,058	588	2·22
1945 ..	222	31	4	17	55	264	164	298	92	252	180	34	1,613	1,125	15·97
1946 ..	216	442	137	91	98	150	267	133	33	113	236	60	1,976	794	14·88
1947 ..	20	117	263	52	48	155	342	185	185	284	122	348	2,121	1,199	18·39
1948 ..	18	198	1	173	213	253	106	66	129	243	208	223	1,831	1,010	18·05
1949 ..	51	175	326	43	171	120	163	52	173	484	352	23	2,133	1,163	20·12
1950 ..	6	294	691	160	176	92	166	91	188	237	145	80	2,326	950	19·26

Varieties of Wheat.

The following statement shows the areas under the principal varieties of wheat, including wheat for hay, for the seasons 1948–49, 1949–50, and 1950–51. Varieties are tabulated in order of popularity for the last-mentioned season. The percentages shown indicate the fluctuation which has taken place amongst the popular varieties.

Over 100 varieties of wheat were sown. The number which was tried in the Mallee greatly exceeded that experimented with in any other district. A more extended list showing the area and percentage of each variety, and the ten principal varieties grown in the wheat-growing districts, may be obtained on application to the Government Statist :—

VICTORIA—VARIETIES OF WHEAT SOWN IN EACH OF THE SEASONS, 1948–49, 1949–50, AND 1950–51.

Variety (in order of Popularity, Season 1950–51).	1948–49.		1949–50.		1950–51.	
	Area Sown.	Percentage of Total Area Sown.	Area Sown.	Percentage of Total Area Sown.	Area Sown.	Percentage of Total Area Sown.
	Acres.		Acres.		Acres.	
Quadrat	1,431,634	47·20	1,286,262	44·86	1,060,354	38·27
Insignia	357,001	11·77	601,093	20·96	623,492	22·50
Pinnacle	146,180	4·82	229,952	8·02	416,657	15·04
Bencubbin ..	220,498	7·27	191,484	6·68	195,485	7·06
Magnet	219,284	7·23	165,945	5·79	171,990	6·21
Pindar	171,963	5·67	85,681	2·99	56,122	2·03
Diadem	40,314	1·33	68,695	2·40	55,373	2·00
Baldmin	36,371	1·20	36,534	1·27	42,956	1·55
Ghurka	215,341	7·10	83,761	2·92	42,232	1·52
Gabo	3,640	0·12	15,175	0·53	18,691	0·68
Ranee	74,592	2·46	31,907	1·11	16,589	0·60
Regalia	53,054	1·75	22,968	0·80	11,520	0·42
Koorda	80	..	757	0·03	6,746	0·24
Gluclub	7,887	0·26	5,393	0·19	6,417	0·23
Bungulla	623	0·02	2,085	0·07	6,202	0·22
Rajah	11,527	0·38	6,491	0·23	5,154	0·19
Bobin	10,617	0·35	5,151	0·18	4,189	0·15
Sepoy	5,157	0·17	3,578	0·12	3,122	0·11
Dundee	8,494	0·28	5,470	0·19	2,520	0·09
Turvey	2,427	0·08	2,933	0·10	2,416	0·09
Free Gallipoli ..	2,123	0·07	1,963	0·07	1,777	0·06
Blue Stem ..	15	..	1,405	0·05	1,168	0·04
Celebration ..	..	..	..	..	1,004	0·04
Mac's White ..	3,337	0·11	2,290	0·08	996	0·04
Kendee	..	..	..	..	823	0·03
Charter	..	..	..	..	752	0·03
Nabawa	1,517	0·05	1,385	0·05	652	0·02
Warigo	188	0·01	606	0·02	649	0·02
Gluyas	781	0·02	877	0·03	643	0·02
Scimitar	..	..	..	..	536	0·02
All Other Varieties	8,750	0·28	7,459	0·26	13,322	0·48
Total ..	3,033,395	100·00	2,867,300	100·00	2,770,549	100·00

It will be noted from the foregoing statement that changes have occurred in the leading varieties during the seasons shown. Free Gallipoli became the leading variety in Victoria in 1929–30, and continued as such until the season 1934–35, when it was superseded by Ghurka. This variety continued as the most popular until it was displaced by Quadrat at the 1946 sowing. Quadrat increased in favour until in the season 1948–49, 47·20 per cent of wheat sown was of that variety. Due to the rapid headway made by the varieties Insignia and Pinnacle, which were only released from the Werribee Research Station in 1946 and 1947, the percentage of area sown with Quadrat has commenced to decline and was 38·27 in the 1950–51 season.

Many changes have also taken place in the leading varieties of wheat in other Australian wheat-growing States during recent years. In New South Wales, Bencubbin and Gabo are now the leading varieties. In South Australia the area sown with Bencubbin was only ·66 per cent. of the total area sown in 1935–36, but the area now sown with this variety amounts to 18·35 per cent., of the total area sown. In Western Australia, Bungulla, Bencubbin, and Gluclub occupy 71 per cent. of the area. Nabawa, which was the leading variety with 47 per cent. of the area sown in 1929 has now declined to eleventh place with less than 1 per cent. of the area sown :—

PRINCIPAL VARIETIES OF WHEAT SOWN IN AUSTRALIAN STATES, 1949–50.

New South Wales.		Victoria.		South Australia.		Western Australia.	
Variety. (Season 1948 49).	Percentage of Total Area.	Variety.	Percentage of Total Area.	Variety.	Percentage of Total Area.	Variety.	Percentage of Total Area.
Bencubbin ..	34·79	Quadrat ..	44·86	Bencubbin ..	18·35	Bungulla ..	28·37
Gabo ..	13·00	Insignia ..	20·96	Warigo ..	12·73	Bencubbin ..	27·86
Ford ..	7·12	Pinnacle ..	8·02	Waratah ..	6·10	Gluclub ..	15·25
Charter ..	5·29	Bencubbin ..	6·68	Gabo ..	5·79	Kondut ..	5·95
Bordan ..	3·88	Magnet ..	5·79	Reldep ..	5·71	Koorda ..	3·31
Yalta ..	3·86	Pindar ..	2·99	Quadrat ..	5·15	Ranee ..	3·14
Quadrat ..	2·72	Ghurka ..	2·92	Gluyas ..	4·33	Eureka ..	2·19
All others ..	29·34	All others ..	7·78	All others ..	41·84	All others ..	13·93
Total ..	100·00		100·00		100·00		100·00

Wheat Growing in conjunction with Sheep Grazing and Dairying.

For the season 1947–48, statistics showing the extent to which mixed farming was practised in conjunction with wheat growing were compiled in respect of each State in the Commonwealth. The tabulations were prepared by the Commonwealth Statistician from data prepared by each State.

An analysis of the tables for the State of Victoria for that season discloses that wheat for grain was grown on 13,836 holdings, and the area sown with wheat for grain 3,227,162 acres. On 10,526 holdings, or 76·1 per cent. of the total growing wheat for grain, there were 6,114,977 sheep, or 34·1 per cent. of the State's total of 17,931,173 sheep at 31st March, 1948.

On 10,827 of the holdings growing wheat for grain, or 78·3 per cent. of the total, there were 126,078 dairy cattle at 31st March, 1948. Pigs numbering 42,801 were held on 3,198 holdings which also grew wheat for grain.

The following table shows the total area of holdings growing wheat for grain with particulars of wheat growing, sheep, dairy cattle, and pigs thereon :—

VICTORIA—HOLDINGS GROWING WHEAT FOR GRAIN TOGETHER WITH SHEEP, DAIRY CATTLE, AND PIGS THEREON, SEASON 1947–48.

Area under Wheat for Grain.	Holdings Growing Wheat.		Sheep.		Dairy Cattle.		Pigs.	
	Number.	Total Area under Wheat.	Holdings With.	Total.	Holdings With.	Total.	Holdings With.	Total.
Acres.		Acres.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1– 19	1,133	11,250	767	472,472	1,043	25,620	402	7,109
20– 49	1,295	41,216	966	624,595	1,080	20,547	334	6,187
50– 99	1,750	124,510	1,332	844,231	1,340	18,920	357	6,563
100– 199	3,164	448,128	2,372	1,328,432	2,322	23,459	662	9,084
200– 299	2,314	544,665	1,726	889,242	1,756	14,554	518	5,217
300– 399	1,646	540,386	1,269	621,127	1,238	9,235	366	3,489
400– 499	994	422,612	794	456,467	781	5,074	214	1,624
500– 599	523	276,117	432	252,356	426	2,810	102	813
600– 699	403	251,335	328	178,485	317	2,208	80	1,057
700– 799	216	157,119	185	126,805	182	1,279	53	437
800– 899	150	123,955	133	101,122	131	903	46	498
900– 999	92	85,725	79	67,224	76	465	27	331
1,000–1,999	149	184,429	136	142,637	128	924	36	355
2,000 and over ..	7	15,715	7	9,782	7	80	1	37
Total ..	13,836	3,227,162	10,526	6,114,977	10,827	126,078	3,198	42,801

Seed and Fertilizers used on Wheat Areas (grain and hay), 1949-50.

The total seed wheat used for grain and hay areas amounted to 3,026,937 bushels, and estimated total fertilizers to 97,608 tons. The average rate of sowing in the principal wheat-growing countries ranged from 40 lb. of seed per acre in the County of Millewa to 88 lb. in Ripon.

SEED AND FERTILIZERS USED ON WHEAT AREAS SEASON 1949–50.

(GRAIN AND HAY.)

District.	Area Sown.	Seed Used.		Fertilizers Used. (Estimated).
		Per Acre.	Total.	
	Acres.	lb.	Bushels.	Tons.
Central	29,570	88	43,369	1,489
North-Central	22,959	80	30,612	1,052
Western	51,055	85	73,995	3,013
Wimmera	930,711	70	1,085,830	34,769
Mallee	1,238,237	54	1,114,413	33,786
Northern	547,521	68	620,524	21,370
North-Eastern	43,334	73	52,723	1,949
Gippsland	4,003	82	5,471	180
Total State ..	2,867,390	63	3,026,937	97,608

Fallow.

The large area of land fallowed for the next season's cropping operations is a feature of the three wheat-growing districts. Of the 2,429,888 acres in fallow during the season 1949–50, 1,025,810 were in the Mallee, 845,795 in the Wimmera, and 398,714 in the Northern districts. The total area of fallow in these three districts —2,270,319 acres—represented 93 per cent. of the land fallowed in the State.

The following table shows the acreage in fallow in various years, together with the area sown to wheat in each succeeding season :—

VICTORIA—LAND IN FALLOW AND WHEAT SOWN.

Season.	Land in Fallow.	Season.	Area Sown to Wheat.
	Acres.		Acres.
1901–02	681,778	1902–03	2,155,928
1911–12	1,469,608	1912–13	2,471,586
1921–22	2,052,964	1922–23	2,857,533
1931–32	2,145,819	1932–33	3,320,504
1937–38	2,604,556	1938–39	3,007,201
1938–39	2,543,225	1939–40	2,923,027
1939–40	2,377,405	1940–41	2,769,580
1940–41	1,887,418	1941–42	2,889,853
1941–42	2,101,360	1942–43	2,212,915
1942–43	1,660,171	1943–44	1,864,895
1943–44	1,719,363	1944–45	2,246,217
1944–45	1,694,097	1945–46	3,365,558
1945–46	2,394,032	1946–47	3,566,489
1946–47	2,460,350	1947–48	3,279,182
1947–48	2,527,306	1948–49	3,033,395
1948–49	2,343,685	1949–50	2,867,390
1949–50	2,429,888	1950–51	2,770,549

Wheat standard.

The weight of an imperial bushel of wheat is 60 lb., but the actual weight of a bushel of Victorian wheat of fair average quality standard is determined annually by the Chamber of Commerce.

The following table shows the standard determined in Victoria for each of the ten seasons, 1941–42 to 1950–51 :—

Season.	Weight of Bushel of Wheat, f.a.q.	Season.	Weight of Bushel of Wheat, f.a.q.
	lb.		lb.
1941–42	63¾	1946–47	63½
1942–43	64¼	1947–48	60½
1943–44	65	1948–49	63
1944–45	63½	1949–50	64
1945–46	62½	1950–51	62½

Farmers Growing Wheat for Grain.

The following statement shows the number of farmers engaged in the growing of wheat for grain :—

VICTORIA—NUMBER OF HOLDINGS WITH TWENTY OR MORE ACRES OF WHEAT FOR GRAIN, SEASONS 1944–45 TO 1949–50.

1944–45.	1945–46.	1946–47.	1947–48.	1948–49.	1949–50.
10,433	11,813	13,155	12,703	12,105	11,491

Oats.

Oats may be cut for hay, stripped for grain or fed off to stock. The proportion of the oat crop used for each of the above purposes varies according to seasonal conditions. Oats as hay or grain form a very suitable fodder reserve on Mallee farms. For many years past, increasing areas of oats have been sown with the object of providing feed for sheep during the winter and early spring months. Some varieties of oats show high powers of recovery, particularly for a grain yield, after such grazing. More than 40 varieties are generally sown, but Algerian, with 54 per cent., Orient, with 14 per cent., and Algeribee, with 13 per cent. of the area predominate. The area harvested (season 1949–50) for hay was 272,100 acres, and for grain 483,190 acres, which produced 412,509 tons of hay, and 8,718,307 bushels of grain respectively. The area of oats sown for grazing purposes amounted to 130,940 acres. The figures for the 1950–51 season were :—hay, 218,889 acres (326,523 tons), grain, 527,217 acres (9,034,005 bushels), and for grazing, 141,222 acres.

Hay.

Particulars of areas harvested and production of the several kinds of hay appear in the following table :—

VICTORIA—HAY PRODUCTION, 1948-49 TO 1950-51.

Kind.		Area.	Production.	Average Yield.
		Acres.	Tons.	Tons.
Wheaten	1948-49	37,690	51,994	1·38
	1949-50	39,117	60,378	1·54
	1950-51	35,076	54,626	1·56
Oaten	1948-49	284,305	407,223	1·43
	1949-50	272,100	412,509	1·52
	1950-51	218,889	326,523	1·49
Lucerne	1948-49	42,587	80,034	1·88
	1949-50	46,976	86,331	1·84
	1950-51	41,703	79,104	1·90
Barley, rye, &c.	1948-49	989	1,269	1·28
	1949-50	854	1,321	1·55
	1950-51	907	1,255	1·38
Grasses and clovers ..	1948-49	225,770	393,463	1·74
	1949-50	247,478	440,316	1·78
	1950-51	260,879	433,077	1·66
Totals	1948-49	591,341	933,983	1·58
	1949-50	606,525	1,000,855	1·65
	1950-51	557,454	894,585	1·60

The quantities of hay (in districts) held on rural holdings on the 31st March, 1949, 1950, and 1951, are shown in the following table :—

STOCKS OF HAY HELD ON FARMS.

District.	At 31st March—		
	1949.	1950.	1951.
	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
Central	133,710	152,560	135,703
North-Central	61,499	68,095	57,845
Western	208,312	213,185	188,875
Wimmera	128,342	111,280	114,041
Mallee	45,900	47,400	42,368
Northern	173,899	175,137	172,323
North-Eastern	93,717	103,926	102,910
Gippsland	123,863	143,164	126,472
State	969,242	1,014,747	940,537

Barley. The area under barley for grain in 1949–50 was 236,123 acres, of which 211,852 were under malting (2 row), and 24,271 under feed (6 row) barley. Although barley is grown generally throughout the State, 148,011 acres, or 68 per cent. of the total area for the season 1949–50, were sown in the counties of Grant, Lowan, Borung, Weeah, and Karkarooc. The figures in the subjoined table show the acreage, production, and yield per acre, for each of the five seasons 1946–47 to 1950–51 :—

VICTORIA—BARLEY PRODUCTION, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Year ended March—	Area under Crop.		Produce.		Average per Acre.		
	Malting (2 row).	Other (6 row).	Malting (2 row).	Other (6 row).	Malting (2 row).	Other (6 row).	Total.
	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1947 ..	124,079	13,943	2,106,595	215,317	16·98	15·44	16·82
1948 ..	149,567	14,622	3,253,774	322,997	21·75	22·09	21·78
1949 ..	175,532	20,247	3,174,535	373,156	18·09	18·43	18·12
1950 ..	211,852	24,271	4,406,009	470,171	20·80	19·37	20·65
1951 ..	196,253	20,843	4,080,473	429,606	20·79	20·61	20·77

Maize. Maize for grain is cultivated mainly in Gippsland, but one or two thousand acres are regularly grown in the Mornington and the North-Eastern districts. It is grown in Victoria both for grain and for green fodder. The areas for 1949–50 were 5,136 acres for grain, and 8,311 acres for green fodder. The area, production, and average yield for each of the six seasons, 1945–46 to 1950–51, are given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—MAIZE PRODUCTION, 1945–46 TO 1950–51.

Season.	For Green Fodder.	For Grain.		
		Area.	Production.	Yield per Acre.
	Acres.	Acres.	Bushels.	Bushels.
1945–46	17,407	6,809	307,934	45·22
1946–47	12,245	8,107	356,898	44·02
1947–48	10,873	7,968	323,984	40·66
1948–49	10,947	6,460	259,898	40·23
1949–50	8,311	5,136	194,121	37·80
1950–51	6,753	4,089	186,672	45·65

The annual average yield of the last five seasons was 41·6 bushels per acre, as compared with 45·0 in 1910–15, and 65·4 in 1900–05. The relatively light yield per acre for the latest five-year period was probably due to the cultivation of new areas, which are less fertile than the rich river flats upon which this cereal was grown exclusively in earlier periods.

Potatoes. Victoria is the chief potato-producing State in the Commonwealth. Of a total area of 134,007 acres planted in 1949–50 to potatoes, 50,651 acres were grown in this State.

The cultivation of potatoes in Victoria is confined mainly to the central highlands, the South-western district and the Gippsland district. These districts are favoured with good average rainfall varying from 30 to 50 inches per annum, which is fairly well distributed throughout the year.

The following table shows the area, yield, and value of potatoes for each of the five seasons, 1946–47 to 1950–51 :—

VICTORIA—POTATO PRODUCTION, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Season.	Area.	Production.*	Average Yield.	Gross Value.
	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	£
1946–47	56,400	223,782	3·97	2,479,641
1947–48	59,400	184,882	3·11	2,251,590
1948–49	45,785	166,105	3·63	2,960,268
1949–50	50,651	167,881	3·31	3,259,460
1950–51	52,482	139,391	2·66	3,661,748

* Includes amounts held on farms for seed, stock feed, &c., as follow :—49,753 tons in 1946–47 ; 37,030 tons in 1947–48 ; 36,084 tons in 1948–49 ; 38,374 tons in 1949–50 ; and 27,102 tons in 1950–51.

Onions. Onions are grown in nearly every county south of the Dividing Range. The returns for the season 1949–50 show that in Bourke the yield was 3,619 tons from 511 acres ; in Grant 4,192 tons from 960 acres ; in Grenville 6,450 tons from 1,025 acres ; in Polwarth 5,029 tons from 674 acres ; in Villiers 2,862 tons from 394 acres ; and in Buln Buln 1,342 tons from 207 acres. The following statement shows the area, yield, and value for each of the last five years :—

VICTORIA—ONION PRODUCTION, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Season—	Area.	Production.	Average Yield.	Gross Value.
	Acres.	Tons.	Tons.	£
1946–47	6,460	28,244	4·37	452,435
1947–48	6,722	61,540	9·15	904,887
1948–49	5,554	33,684	6·06	533,439
1949–50	4,093	25,436	6·21	558,886
1950–51	4,148	18,182	4·38	571,142

Wholesale prices of agricultural and pastoral products.

The prices which appear below are the average wholesale prices in Melbourne for the marketed produce of the seasons enumerated. Average monthly prices are shown on pages 129 and 130.

VICTORIA—AVERAGE WHOLESALE PRICES REALIZED FOR AGRICULTURAL AND PASTORAL PRODUCE, 1941–42 TO 1950–51.

Average Prices Realized for Produce of Season—	Wheat.	Oats (Milling and Feed.)	Barley (Malting).	Maize.	Potatoes.	Onions.	Wool.* (*Clipped, and on Skins.*)
	Per bushel.	Per bushel.	Per bushel.	Per bushel.	Per ton.	Per ton.	Per lb.
	s. d.	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*	*s. d.*
1941–42 ..	4 0⅛†	2 7	3 3½	8 4	320 0	320 0	1 2·20
1942–43 ..	3 11¼†	2 10	4 7¾	8 1	214 5	292 6	1 4·40
1943–44 ..	3 11¼†	3 1¼	5 0½	8 3	149 0	292 6	1 4·24
1944–45 ..	3 11¼†	3 11½	6 0	8 4	150 0	292 6	1 4·06
1945–46 ..	3 11¼†	3 7	6 1	8 5	150 0	292 6	1 3·00
1946–47 ..	3 11¼†	4 6½	6 1	8 6	159 3	305 6	1 10·78
1947–48 ..	6 0†	4 3½	6 5½	8 6	192 6	329 0	3 1·51
1948–49 ..	6 8	4 9½	7 0	9 7½	415 7	239 0	3 9·57
1949–50 ..	6 8	6 4¾	7 3½	11 5	448 9	437 6	5 0·97
1950–51 ..	7 10	9 0	7 8	21 6	555 8	680 0	12 2·02

* Victorian production only. † From June, 1942, to December, 1947, the price of wheat for flour for home consumption was 3s. 11¼d. per bushel.

Vine Production.

The production of dried vine-fruits for the season 1949–50 amounted to 49,124 tons, as compared with a production of 46,371 tons for the previous season. This far exceeds the requirements for home consumption. Overseas exports of Victorian produce of the season 1949–50 amounted to 29,673 tons.

Australian production of dried vine-fruits for the season 1949–50 amounted to approximately 68,000 tons, of which the Victorian portion represented over 72 per cent.

Particulars of vine production for the five seasons 1946–47 to 1950–51 are given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—VINE-FRUIT PRODUCTION, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Season.	Number of Growers.	Area.		Produce.				
		Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Grapes gathered.	Wine made.	Dried Fruits.		
						Raisins.		Currants.
						Lexias.	Sultanas.	
		Acres.	Acres.	Cwt.	Gallons.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
1946–47 ..	2,392	41,551	1,397	3,797,935	3,081,622	83,484	660,826	121,751
1947–48 ..	2,420	41,438	2,346	4,682,682	2,958,292	103,796	839,410	161,718
1948–49 ..	2,462	42,064	3,545	3,885,558	3,080,512	109,324	604,752	159,335
1949–50 ..	2,468	42,552	2,834	4,101,620	3,230,129	87,421	756,458	138,600
1950–51 ..	2,467	42,204	3,109	3,097,254	2,357,716	74,194	485,936	121,611

Of the total quantity of grapes gathered in 1949–50, it is estimated that 291,357 cwt. were used for making wine and spirits, 3,736,468 cwt. for raisins and currants, and 73,795 cwt. for table consumption.

Tobacco. The imposition of emergency tariff rates about 1931 greatly stimulated the growing of tobacco in Victoria and, as a result, the area planted increased in the 1932–33 season to 13,418 acres. Due, however, to economic circumstances and to disease in the crops, the acreage subsequently declined. The 1949–50 crop amounted to 5,967 cwt., which was obtained from 919 acres.

The following table furnishes details of the area, production, and average yield in each of the five seasons, 1946–47 to 1950–51 :—

VICTORIA—TOBACCO PRODUCTION, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Season—	Area.	Production.	Produce per Acre.	Gross Value.
	Acres.	Cwt. (dry).	Cwt. (dry).	£
1946–47	1,186	9,706	8·18	147,815
1947–48	958	1,162	1·21	18,379
1948–49	994	7,084	7·13	126,851
1949–50	919	5,967	6·49	163,939
1950–51	1,021	8,138	7·97	336,099

Flax. The production of flax is confined mainly to the Central, Western, and Gippsland Districts.

The following table shows the area, the quantity of straw delivered at mills, and the produce obtained therefrom for each of the seasons 1946–47 to 1950–51. Australian imports of certain flax products for each of the years ended 30th June, 1947 to 1951 are also shown:—

VICTORIAN FLAX PRODUCTION AND AUSTRALIAN IMPORTS OF FLAX PRODUCTS, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Season.	Area.	Straw delivered at Mills.	Produce Obtained.		Australian Imports (year ended 30th June).		
			Fibre.	Seed.	Fibre.	Linseed.	Linseed. Oil.
	Acres.	Tons.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Gallons.
1946–47 ..	12,041	13,858	28,240	16,036	241	318,670	86,392
1947–48 ..	12,183	19,427	20,126	27,671	..	270,039	1,411,625
1948–49 ..	6,971	11,062	22,760	18,500	328	365,358	2,081,703
1949–50 ..	5,261	6,925	15,020	17,771	..	388,631	1,498,572
1950–51 ..	3,633	5,071	14,107	11,664	..	274,531	2,104,712

Linseed. Linseed oil is one of the chief components of paints, varnishes, and linoleum, and has many other industrial uses. The presscake or meal, which remains after the oil has been extracted from the ground and partly-cooked seed, is a valuable stock food.

Several attempts have been made in the past to establish linseed growing in Australia. In general, they have failed because of unsuitable varieties, insect pests, and disease. However, the introduction of disease-resisting varieties and the development of effective means of pest control have combined to make linseed growing a favorable enterprise.

The area sown to linseed in Victoria for the season 1949–50 was 8,148 acres which produced 57,972 bushels (56 lb.) of pure seed valued at £124,785 (gross). The yield per acre was 7·36 bushels and the value to the grower was £82 per ton (41s. per bushel).

Orchards. The extent of cultivation of each important class of fruit on holdings of one acre and upwards during the seasons 1946–47 and 1949–50 is shown in the following table :—

VICTORIA—FRUIT TREES, PLANTS, ETC., IN ORCHARDS AND GARDENS, 1946–47 AND 1949–50.

Fruit.	Number of Trees, Plants, &c.					
	1946–47.			1949–50.		
	Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Total.	Bearing.	Not Bearing.	Total.
Apples	1,812,605	230,609	2,043,214	1,677,923	290,612	1,968,535
Pears	1,131,658	191,488	1,323,146	1,087,865	178,737	1,266,602
Quinces	53,524	19,543	73,067	49,968	21,665	71,633
Plums	228,346	67,593	295,939	213,366	87,630	300,996
Prunes	36,274	10,947	47,221	26,735	14,540	41,275
Cherries	98,708	67,844	166,552	108,696	76,374	185,070
Peaches	1,163,870	334,546	1,498,416	1,123,251	290,123	1,413,374
Apricots	394,048	112,443	506,491	400,453	116,757	517,210
Nectarines	30,133	11,583	41,716	27,376	7,793	35,169
Oranges	355,337	111,211	466,548	363,625	131,769	495,394
Lemons	120,550	73,640	194,190	124,427	51,894	176,321
Figs	17,959	2,200	20,159	14,906	3,268	18,174
Total Large Fruits	5,443,012	1,233,647	6,676,659	5,218,591	1,271,162	6,489,753
Raspberries	303,526	46,263	349,789	333,912	44,252	378,164
Loganberries	119,861	9,312	129,173	114,347	19,931	134,278
Strawberries	4,532,309	631,586	5,163,895	5,208,842	447,550	5,656,392
Gooseberries	69,208	11,708	80,916	72,172	29,462	101,634
Olives	1,606	55,806	57,412	3,609	96,197	99,806
Passion-fruit	22,197	13,614	35,811	18,891	10,588	29,479
Almonds	40,590	26,927	67,517	42,552	36,688	79,240
Walnuts	5,903	4,580	10,483	7,966	3,643	11,609
Filberts	2,800	830	3,630	4,584	2,174	6,758
Total Nuts	49,293	32,337	81,630	55,102	42,505	97,607

The distribution of the fruit industry over the State is set out fruit and the number of trees of each kind in each county are

Statistical Districts and Counties.	Growers.	Area.	Apples.	Pears.	Peaches.
	No.	Acres.	Trees.	Trees.	Trees.
Central District—					
Bourke	664	9,565	255,231	233,994	231,084
Grant	166	1,493	50,582	5,932	3,944
Mornington	856	11,190	892,020	62,483	27,076
Evelyn	760	6,664	211,837	43,689	51,853
North-Central District—					
Anglesey	4	2	117	23	15
Dalhousie	9	21	386	51	23
Talbot	187	2,872	201,331	61,569	3,723
Western District—					
Grenville	24	219	7,147	990	72
Polwarth	30	111	8,538	532	38
Heytesbury	8	30	2,335	92	5
Hampden	1	3	100	12	..
Ripon	2	4	279	64	12
Villiers	..	..	..	..	..
Normanby	70	601	56,550	731	32
Dundas	10	30	756	93	53
Follett	8	31	2,459	156	13
Wimmera District—					
Lowan	44	999	2,941	442	1,491
Borung	158	2,359	42,625	15,987	34,227
Kara Kara	37	191	12,741	1,256	1,016
Mallee District—					
Millewa	8	63	..	14	..
Weeah	..	..	..	..	..
Karkarooc	625	2,614	653	1,697	2,841
Tatchera	267	1,506	2,013	913	1,863
Northern District—					
Gunbower	82	1,219	2,058	434	1,339
Gladstone	26	177	11,830	1,833	1,395
Bendigo	181	1,897	43,785	34,549	22,543
Rodney	356	11,646	19,166	410,332	511,987
Moira	469	13,191	28,421	384,749	512,380
North-Eastern District—					
Delatite	86	533	19,239	551	1,564
Bogong	179	1,294	59,064	1,906	1,233
Benambra	12	18	601	74	122
Wonnangatta	4	5	233	5	4
Gippsland District—					
Croajingolong	24	18	365	97	111
Tambo	25	26	781	243	198
Dargo	36	83	3,382	182	244
Tanjil	23	124	8,040	515	192
Buln Buln	41	247	20,929	412	681
Total for State ..	5,482	71,046	1,968,535	1,266,602	1,413,374

in the following table, where the number of growers, the area under given for the season 1949–50 :—

Apricots.	Plums.	Cherries.	Quinces.	Oranges.	Mandarins.	Grape-fruit.	Lemons and Limes.
Trees.	Trees.	Trees.	Trees.	Trees.	Trees.	Trees.	Trees.
46,598	33,332	35,122	22,070	56	2	138	77,081
46,893	4,912	1,426	844	306	..	3	881
6,629	41,302	31,486	5,051	148	5	51	22,565
7,444	91,854	90,111	9,734	84	2	35	33,265
5	11	8	7	..	..	..	..
18	36	20	5	..	..	..	..
1,140	12,325	6,299	1,485	2	..	..	122
9,812	1,833	13	170	1	..	1	1
540	608	15	66	..	..	..	5
9	198	2	8	..	..	..	..
18	20	..	..	..	..	..	..
5	5	3	1	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
199	178	5	27	2	..	..	11
368	83	17	12	..	..	..	..
47	28	..	10	..	..	..	..
7,931	601	35	238	143	15	7	53
27,683	4,515	3,231	4,171	286	11	11	663
596	219	1,236	38	..	..	..	4
81	..	..	..	3,822	22	573	307
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
8,125	759	55	315	162,054	5,134	15,221	7,723
15,048	1,547	113	356	82,436	718	5,209	3,940
599	113	4	23	91,145	1,297	5,157	2,633
199	146	334	29	328	6	6	26
10,487	12,568	819	4,643	20,590	31	769	5,590
153,359	21,643	306	9,276	13,674	45	805	2,795
171,046	65,575	7,842	12,285	76,497	1,218	3,660	16,994
874	256	1,640	316	740	8	217	144
397	4,944	3,985	238	2,224	56	40	761
39	84	27	33	23	6	1	10
6	19	4	3	1	1	1	2
49	112	66	40	56	4	4	18
221	159	191	36	38	2	3	45
190	166	334	52	55	9	29	407
364	672	95	34	33	2	6	126
191	173	226	17	9	..	100	149
517,210	300,996	185,070	71,633	454,753	8,594	32,047	176,321

The following tables show the numbers of growers (in counties) of

Districts and Counties.	Apples.		Pears.		Peaches.	
	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.
Central District—						
Bourke	316	75	329	47	327	39
Grant	68	53	21	42	14	24
Mornington	670	74	175	103	72	26
Evelyn	275	91	101	62	136	49
North-Central District—						
Anglesey	..	4	..	..	..	..
Dalhousie	2	5	..	2	..	1
Talbot	167	12	114	35	10	14
Western District—						
Grenville	10	7	3	11	..	2
Polwarth	13	15	2	6	..	1
Heytesbury	3	5	..	1	..	..
Hampden	1	..	..	1	..	..
Ripon	1	1	..	1	..	1
Villiers	..	..	..	..	..	..
Normanby	57	13	3	12	..	1
Dundas	3	6	..	3	..	2
Follett	5	3	1	1	..	..
Wimmera District—						
Lowan	8	12	..	10	3	7
Borung	53	43	46	52	56	35
Kara Kara	24	9	3	15	3	10
Mallee District—						
Millewa	..	..	..	1	..	..
Weeah	..	..	..	..	..	..
Karkarooc	1	12	4	22	11	34
Tatchera	4	22	1	17	6	34
Northern District—						
Gunbower	5	13	1	11	3	6
Gladstone	14	7	2	7	4	6
Bendigo	55	41	61	25	37	38
Rodney	29	34	233	19	270	8
Moira	96	75	294	22	313	34
North-Eastern District—						
Delatite	23	35	1	7	4	9
Bogong	62	55	4	23	2	18
Benambra	2	9	..	3	..	4
Wonnangatta	1	3	..	..	..	..
Gippsland District—						
Croajingolong	..	18	..	1	..	2
Tambo	3	17	..	7	1	2
Dargo	7	18	..	6	..	5
Tanjil	6	11	2	3	1	3
Buln Buln	11	20	2	3	2	..
Total	1,995	818	1,433	581	1,275	415

each kind of fruit and nuts grown in the State for the season 1949-50:—

Apricots.		Plums.		Cherries.		Quinces.		Passion Fruit.		Oranges.	
100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 vines and over.	10 and under 100 vines.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.
92	80	131	141	121	70	80	93	..	1	..	2
78	44	18	50	7	6	3	17	1	..	1	..
24	59	149	127	100	33	17	35	7	6	..	4
23	50	273	173	223	45	29	59	7	7	..	1
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	1	..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
4	18	48	36	22	17	5	14	..	..	..	..
17	3	7	7	..	1	..	5	..	..	..	..
1	2	2	11	..	..	..	2	..	..	..	..
..	..	1	2	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	6	..	9	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
1	3	..	4	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	1	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
23	9	2	8	..	1	..	4	..	..	1	1
70	42	21	40	9	12	8	33	..	3	1	6
3	6	1	3	3	8	..	1	..	..	..	..
..	1	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	7	1
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
27	62	1	14	..	1	1	5	3	4	288	246
61	74	5	23	..	2	..	10	1	..	90	48
1	7	..	3	..	..	..	..	..	1	63	7
..	4	..	5	1	3	..	..	..	..	1	1
33	38	37	34	3	12	13	22	..	..	32	15
252	20	52	21	1	3	22	6	..	..	26	19
306	29	200	69	9	8	43	47	5	1	96	37
3	6	..	7	4	9	1	2	16	3	3	7
..	7	2	14	6	3	..	2	2	..	8	31
..	1	..	3	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1
..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
..	1	..	3	..	1	..	..	..	..	..	1
..	3	..	6	1	2	..	..	1	1	..	..
..	5	..	5	1	4	..	2	4	2	..	1
1	1	2	4	..	1	..	..	2	1	..	1
1	1	..	4	1	..	..	..	3	..	..	..
1,021	585	952	829	512	244	222	360	52	30	617	430

Number of Growers—*continued.*

Districts and Counties.	Mandarins.		Grapefruit.		Lemons.		Almonds.		Walnuts.	
	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.	100 trees and over.	10 and under 100 trees.
Central District—										
Bourke	..	..	1	1	228	100	1	7	1	..
Grant	..	..	..	..	1	1	3	16	..	3
Mornington	..	..	..	1	66	57	1	11	..	3
Evelyn	..	..	..	..	111	101	2	7	3	6
North-Central District—										
Anglesey	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dalhousie	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	1
Talbot	..	..	..	..	..	3	1	3	..	..
Western District—										
Grenville	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Polwarth	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Heytesbury	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Hampden	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Ripon	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Villiers	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Normanby	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Dundas	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Follett	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Wimmera District—										
Lowan	..	..	..	1	..	..	..	1	4	4	..	..
Borung	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	16	10	24	..	1
Kara Kara	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	..
Mallee District—										
Millewa	..	..	..	1	1	5	1	1	..	..	..	..
Weeah	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
Karkarooc	..	..	8	82	34	126	21	76	19	93	..	11
Tatchera	..	..	3	10	12	24	14	36	39	73	..	3
Northern District—										
Gunbower	..	..	5	11	24	17	11	17	4	9	..	..
Gladstone	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	..	..
Benalgo	..	..	..	1	1	5	14	13	13	13	..	2
Rodney	..	..	..	1	2	3	7	15	12	16	..	2
Moira	..	..	5	17	9	31	39	55	16	33	1	6
North-Eastern District—										
Delatite	..	..	..	..	1	1	..	2	1	10	10	10
Bogong	..	..	..	1	..	1	2	17	17	16	6	7
Benambra	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	3
Wonnangatta	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1
Gippsland District—										
Croajingolong	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	1	2
Tambo	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	1	..	..
Dargo	..	..	..	..	..	1	2	3	1	..	2	2
Tanjil	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	2	..	4	..	..
Buln Buln	..	..	..	..	1	..	1	1	..	..	1	3
Total	..	..	21	125	86	216	519	518	146	344	26	66

Fruit growing 1944-45 to 1949-50.

The principal fruits grown in the State are apples, pears, peaches, and citrus. The apple and pear crops for the season 1949–50 amounted to 810,836 and 1,884,012 bushels respectively.

A considerable quantity of apricots, peaches, and pears is grown, mostly in irrigated areas, for canning purposes. The total output of 2,123,820 cases of canned fruits for the 1950 season comprised apricots, 318,590 cases; peaches (including 47,972 cases of mixed fruits), 971,235 cases; and pears, 833,995 cases. This output represented 69 per cent. of the total Australian pack of these fruits. In addition to the fruits shown in the subjoined table, large quantities of melons, rhubarb, and tomatoes are produced in orchards. The gross value of all fruit grown in the season 1949–50 was £4,306,833 as compared with £3,561,218 in 1948–49.

VICTORIA—FRUIT GROWING, 1944–45 TO 1949–50.

—	1944–45.	1945–46.	1946–47.	1947–48.	1948–49.	1949–50.
Number of Growers ..	5,706	5,598	5,737	5,941	5,943	5,482
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
Area	68,245	69,479	71,312	71,513	71,746	71,046
	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.	Bushels.
Kind of Fruit—						
Apples	1,138,801	2,597,618	1,111,780	1,991,297	1,847,793	810,836
Pears	1,750,802	1,464,075	2,215,592	1,854,909	2,018,682	1,884,012
Quinces	61,532	65,341	46,730	81,529	56,431	47,005
Apricots	366,000	336,871	429,951	563,774	480,365	608,515
Cherries	52,929	44,064	43,446	57,988	63,284	44,059
Nectarines	24,011	22,196	20,176	22,463	26,937	17,940
Peaches	1,404,870	1,086,841	1,350,113	1,619,066	1,192,953	1,236,733
Plums	156,391	189,155	135,653	248,226	167,552	151,157
Prunes	33,709	39,548	35,597	32,289	31,295	17,933
Lemons	100,897	109,463	117,936	170,385	148,466	142,887
Oranges	663,418	655,562	466,774	793,081	777,769	705,621
Figs	11,537	14,701	15,859	13,139	9,104	12,825
Passion-fruit ..	6,254	3,523	7,283	7,415	5,883	6,894
Other Large Fruits ..	2,157	2,113	724	1,510	604	1,142
	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.	Cwt.
Gooseberries	2,423	1,639	2,427	2,245	2,528	1,469
Loganberries	3,017	2,688	3,320	2,502	3,179	2,528
Raspberries	2,950	2,397	3,278	3,243	3,193	3,186
Strawberries	3,561	3,027	5,007	4,033	5,013	4,077
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Almonds	122,766	131,299	154,063	151,428	176,341	146,081
Filberts	9,572	4,970	7,219	6,934	11,057	18,028
Walnuts	86,987	63,310	85,303	61,622	69,840	59,109

Dried fruit (exclusive of Raisins and Currants).

The production of the various kinds of dried tree-fruits for each of the last five seasons is shown in the following statement. Particulars in respect of dried vine-fruits appear on page 87 :—

VICTORIA—DRIED TREE-FRUITS, 1945-46 TO 1949-50.

Year ended June—	Apples.	Apricots.	Figs.	Nectarines.	Peaches.	Pears.	Prunes.	Total.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1946 ..	4,508	103,040	8,153	149	465,920	176,960	432,320	1,191,050
1947 ..	61	78,400	..	1,120	436,800	241,920	465,920	1,224,221
1948 ..	108	55,343	5,010	141	624,736	135,082	407,372	1,227,792
1949 ..	196	151,773	2,992	4,456	411,850	273,980	379,275	1,224,522
1950 ..	72	230,771	4,112	28	334,194	133,059	301,865	1,004,101

Vegetable growing.

Prior to the season 1942-43, statistics relating to vegetable growing were collected only from those market gardeners who cropped an area of 1 acre or more. Only the surface area employed for vegetable growing was tabulated and, as a consequence, due to double-cropping, the actual area utilized was understated. Furthermore, vegetables grown between trees and vines in orchards and vineyards were not recorded.

From the season 1942-43, however, particulars were obtained of all vegetables grown on areas of $\frac{1}{4}$ acre and upwards, including those grown in orchards and vineyards, and allowance was made for double cropping. These changes in practice therefore invalidate any comparison with previous years.

Excluding potatoes and onions, which are shown under separate headings in this issue of the *Year-Book*, the area sown to vegetables in Victoria for the season 1949-50 was 35,361 acres and the gross value of the estimated production therefrom was £4,503,623.

The areas sown to the different kinds of vegetables were :—

	Acres.		Acres.
Carrots	1,752	Beans, Broad ..	171
Parsnips	944	Peas, green ..	8,707
Beetroot	675	Peas, blue	151
Cabbage	2,025	Asparagus	1,338
Cauliflower	2,836	Brussels Sprouts ..	803
Lettuce	1,774	Silver beet ..	100
Tomatoes	6,626	Cucumber	124
Pumpkins	2,336	Marrows	38
Turnips	372	Melons	309
Beans, French ..	3,233	Other	1,047

Minor Crops. There are other crops cultivated in Victoria in addition to those enumerated on pages 66 and 67. The most important of these are :—Nursery products, cut flowers, sweet corn, mustard, sunflowers, garlic, scent plants, and agricultural seeds.

Fertilizers. The following table shows the number of holdings upon which fertilizers were applied and the quantities used in the various seasons. The fertilizer mainly used on wheat areas is "Superphosphate 22 per cent." (reduced to 18 per cent. in July, 1941 and then increased to 19 per cent. in October, 1946, 21 per cent. in December, 1947, and 22 per cent. in September, 1948). It is also used on 90 per cent. of the oat areas fertilized :—

VICTORIA—ARTIFICIAL FERTILIZERS USED.

Season.		Number of Holdings.	Area Fertilized.	Quantity Used.
			Acres.	Tons.
1944–45	Crops	30,905	2,445,339	89,989
	Pastures	23,917	2,121,406	96,469
1945–46	Crops	32,148	3,383,072	114,541
	Pastures	25,019	2,708,379	133,484
1946–47	Crops	30,471	3,536,941	137,662
	Pastures	26,763	3,374,996	183,430
1947–48	Crops	30,853	3,769,125	157,816
	Pastures	29,056	4,461,025	244,826
1948–49	Crops	29,634	3,654,753	158,889
	Pastures	31,047	5,513,693	308,801
1949–50	Crops	35,418	3,839,023	175,559
	Pastures	35,444	6,726,723	374,461
1950–51	Crops	30,930	3,616,640	168,891
	Pastures	34,284	7,185,111	394,195

Machinery used on Holdings. Statistics in respect of most kinds of serviceable farming implements for the years 1946 and 1950 are shown in the table which follows. In 1951 the collection was confined to milking plants, shearing plants, and tractors.

VICTORIA—MACHINERY AND IMPLEMENTS IN USE ON RURAL HOLDINGS AT 31ST MARCH, 1946, 1950 AND 1951.

	Number.		
	1946.	1950.	1951.
Milking machines—Number of units	38,639	54,180	60,339
Shearing machines—Number of stands	15,136	20,485	24,755
Tractors—			
Wheeled type	13,599	23,235	28,132
Crawler or track type	584	884	926
Ploughs—			
Single furrow	37,599	32,753	Not collected.
Multiple furrow	42,758	43,428	
Cultivators (including scarifiers, harrows, &c.)—			
Tandem Disc	4,492	7,607	
Other Disc	14,045	14,569	
Spring tooth	15,245	13,996	
Rigid time	5,117	5,120	
Scarifiers	19,495	18,988	
Harrows—Number of leaves	189,216	191,776	
Rotary Hoes	1,423	3,345	3,867
Other	1,615	1,138	Not collected.
Fertilizer distributors and broadcasters	14,158	18,935	
Grain drills—			
Combine type	16,887	16,145	
Other types	10,321	9,781	
Maize planters	1,339	2,988*	
Harvesting machinery—			
Headers, strippers, and harvesters	15,048	14,471	
Binders	18,649	16,979	
Mowers	19,138	22,059	
Hay rakes	15,526	17,133	
Hay presses and balers	2,785	3,973	
Potato diggers	818	914	
Chaff cutters	23,013	20,324	
Spraying plants	3,209	3,428	
Fruit graders	835	920	
Motor trucks, utilities or motor lorries	19,824	27,838	
Stationary engines	33,682	39,549	
Electric motors (½ h.p. and over)	7,984	12,827	

* Seed planters.

Persons employed on Rural Holdings.

Information is collected annually as to the number of persons ordinarily engaged in farm work on rural holdings of one acre or more. Persons absent from their farms for the greater portion of the year following other occupations, as well as temporary hands engaged in harvesting, &c., are excluded from the tabulation. In respect of female employees, it is evident that numbers of occupiers misinterpret the questions and wrongly include those who, though they may give some assistance outdoors, are primarily engaged in domestic duties. Particulars for the years 1944–45 to 1950–51 are as follow :—

VICTORIA—PERSONS PERMANENTLY ENGAGED ON RURAL HOLDINGS, INCLUDING WORKING PROPRIETORS, ETC., BUT EXCLUDING CASUAL AND SEASONAL WORKERS, 1944–45 TO 1950–51.

Year ending March.	Males.	Females.	Total.
	No.	No.	No.
1945	87,418	12,064	99,482
1946	89,867	10,209	100,076
1947	92,533	8,784	101,317
1948	92,178	7,353	99,531
1949	88,728	6,509	95,237
1950	86,943	7,676	94,619
1951	89,917	6,380	96,297

NOTE.—Information relating to wages of males temporarily employed during the seasons 1946–47, 1949–50 and 1950–51 was collected in addition to the numbers of those permanently engaged. Such wages amounted to £2,654,600, £4,241,819 and £5,058,642 respectively.

Rates of Wages—Rural Holdings.

In the next table will be found particulars of the rates of wages paid (with rations) upon rural holdings during 1949–50. The information has been furnished by the occupiers of holdings :—

VICTORIA—RATES OF WAGES ON RURAL HOLDINGS, 1949–50.

Occupations.	Prevailing Rate.	Range.
Ploughmen	143s. per week	100s. to 200s. per week
Farm labourers	140s. per week	80s. to 200s. per week
Threshing machine hands ..	4s. per hour	2s. 3d. to 5s. per hour
Harvest hands	34s. 9d. per day	20s. to 60s. per day
Milkers	123s. 9d. per week	80s. to 180s. per week
Maize pickers (without rations) ..	1s. 9d. per bag of cobs	1s. 6d. to 2s. per bag of cobs
Married couples	172s. 9d. per week	120s. to 250s. per week
Female servants	74s. 3d. per week	40s. to 130s. per week
Shearers, hand (without rations) ..	91s. 9d. per 100 sheep	70s. to 130s. per 100 sheep
,, machine (without rations)	98s. per 100 sheep	70s. to 165s. per 100 sheep
Gardeners, market	134s. per week	120s. to 150s. per week
,, orchard	143s. 6d. per week	120s. to 158s. per week
Vineyard hands	138s. 6d. per week	100s. to 150s. per week

Financial Assistance to Primary Producers.

In recent years legislative provision has been made by both the Commonwealth and State Parliaments for granting financial relief to primary producers. These provisions have been described in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

PASTORAL AND DAIRYING INDUSTRIES.

Live Stock.

The pastoral and dairying industries have always been important sources of wealth to the State, and the indications are that both pastures and stock are, on the whole, steadily improving. The next table, which shows the number of horses, dairy cows, other cattle, sheep and pigs, illustrates the progress of stock breeding in Victoria :—

LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA, 1861 TO 1951.

At 1st March—	Horses (including Foals).	Cattle—		Sheep.	Pigs.
		Dairy Cows.*	Other.		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1861	76,536	197,332	525,000	5,780,896	61,259
1871	167,220	197,814	523,282	10,761,887	130,946
1881	275,516	329,198	957,069	10,360,285	241,936
1891	436,469	395,192	1,387,689	12,692,843	282,457
1901	392,237	521,612	1,080,772	10,841,790	350,370
1911	472,080	668,777	878,792	12,882,665	333,281
1921	487,503	620,005	955,154	12,171,084	175,275
1931	379,872	669,132	760,788	16,477,995	281,245
1941	318,441	942,107	980,229	20,412,362	397,945
1947 at 31st March ..	227,164	956,140	1,103,921	16,598,490	290,450
1948 „ „ ..	221,454	975,338	1,198,865	17,931,173	271,492
1949 „ „ ..	213,090	1,010,518	1,214,025	19,170,312	223,823
1950 „ „ ..	200,143	1,036,370	1,194,578	19,161,043	212,901
1951 „ „ ..	186,415	1,021,249	1,195,004	20,011,933	237,127

* Includes cows (in milk and dry), and springing heifers.

While the preceding table shows the actual number of live stock each year, it is difficult to determine the progress or otherwise of the pastoral industry unless the total number of live stock is brought to a common denomination. In the table which follows an arbitrary equivalent of ten sheep to each head of the larger kinds of live stock (omitting pigs) has been adopted and the total live stock grazed expressed as sheep :—

VICTORIA—LIVE STOCK GRAZED, 1861–1951.

Year.	Equivalent in Sheep of Live Stock Grazed.	Year.	Equivalent in Sheep of Live Stock Grazed.
	No.		No.
1861	13,769,576	1931	34,575,915
1871	20,335,496	1941	42,820,132
1881	25,978,115	1947	39,470,740
1891	34,886,343	1948	41,887,743
1901	30,788,000	1949	43,546,642
1911	33,079,155	1950	43,471,953
1921	32,797,704	1951	44,038,613

When making comparisons of the figures in the foregoing table, consideration should be given to the varying acreage under cultivation as shown on page 61.

Size of holdings and numbers of live stock. A table showing the sizes of holdings and the numbers of live stock thereon as at March, 1948, appears on page 63 of this issue of the *Year-Book*.

Live stock in Australia. In the following statement are given the numbers of horses, cattle, sheep, and pigs in the various Australian States at 31st March, 1950 :—

LIVE STOCK IN THE COMMONWEALTH, 1950.

State.	Horses.	Cattle.	Sheep.	Pigs.
	No.	No.	No.	No.
Victoria	200,143	2,230,948	19,161,043	212,901
New South Wales	342,479	3,440,461	53,298,000	333,198
Queensland	317,261	6,304,778	17,582,152	391,836
South Australia	82,617	464,141	9,477,026	69,523
Western Australia	59,166	864,936	10,923,167	79,126
Tasmania	21,197	274,740	2,170,329	35,841
Northern Territory	32,904	1,048,875	25,725	419
Australian Capital Territory	968	11,161	253,546	423
Total	1,056,735	14,640,040	112,890,988	1,123,267

Agriculture in Victoria and Great Britain. The figures relating to agriculture and live stock in Victoria and Great Britain (England, Wales, and Scotland) are, for comparative purposes, given in the table which follows :—

AGRICULTURE AND LIVE STOCK IN VICTORIA AND GREAT BRITAIN.

—	Victoria. (1949–50.)	Great Britain. (1946–47.)
Total area .. .. .. acres	56,245,760	56,208,959
Wheat .. .. .. bushels	57,433,835	62,197,000
Oats .. .. ,,	8,718,307	125,664,000
Barley .. .. .. ,,	4,876,180	72,307,000
Potatoes .. .. .. tons	167,881	6,742,000
Root Crops for Stock Fodder (Turnips, Swedes, and Mangolds) .. tons	10,239	13,337,000
Hay .. .. .. tons	1,000,855	6,327,000
Horses .. .. .. No.	200,143	702,923
Cattle .. .. .. ,,	2,230,948	8,633,424
Sheep .. .. .. ,,	19,161,043	16,186,297
Pigs .. .. .. ,,	212,901	1,294,186

Distribution of Live Stock. The next table contains particulars of Live Stock

VICTORIA—DISTRIBUTION

Statistical Districts and Counties.	Horses.	Dairy Cattle.					
		Cows.		Springing Heifers.	Other Heifers for Dairying.	Calves.	Bulls.
		Milking.	Dry.				
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central District—							
Bourke	25,608	29,500	12,572	4,241	9,856	6,663	1,311
Grant	8,784	17,564	6,758	2,115	6,654	6,099	1,156
Mornington	13,291	84,395	21,461	6,414	21,881	20,990	3,928
Evelyn	4,566	10,354	3,657	1,395	4,138	3,512	670
North-Central District—							
Anglesey	2,531	4,993	3,346	1,231	2,201	2,306	327
Dalhousie	3,155	4,100	1,619	459	1,650	1,865	315
Talbot	5,942	10,538	3,086	963	3,685	4,036	663
Western District—							
Grenville	4,590	12,704	8,323	2,521	4,501	4,330	851
Polwarth	3,017	23,103	8,628	2,976	7,884	7,143	1,367
Heytesbury	3,437	39,757	14,906	2,563	12,136	11,255	2,165
Hampden	4,399	28,317	16,664	3,712	11,108	9,323	1,825
Ripon	2,840	3,840	1,945	445	1,493	1,870	344
Villiers	5,115	25,905	16,587	4,559	11,061	8,112	1,565
Normanby	4,793	16,144	13,762	2,797	6,483	7,344	1,312
Dundas	3,440	4,329	5,942	1,503	1,768	2,888	486
Follett	1,286	1,545	2,491	751	454	1,172	142
Wimmera District—							
Lowan	5,163	4,690	3,265	805	1,518	2,599	559
Borung	6,375	6,243	2,614	760	1,617	2,841	706
Kara Kara	3,200	2,510	1,188	280	814	1,223	198
Mallee District—							
Millewa	885	436	206	46	119	151	39
Weeah	839	873	397	83	184	262	124
Karkarooc	5,347	3,861	1,347	348	713	1,774	319
Tatchera	5,734	9,053	2,684	934	2,920	3,571	598
Northern District—							
Gunbower	4,565	26,646	6,733	3,164	7,817	8,748	1,296
Gladstone	3,488	2,482	1,000	225	645	1,011	187
Bendigo	7,327	14,655	3,855	1,508	4,082	5,426	851
Rodney	7,107	39,855	8,028	3,687	13,655	14,128	2,033
Moira	11,903	17,403	6,965	2,524	6,313	7,591	1,271
North-Eastern District—							
Delatite	6,161	18,294	7,931	3,671	5,850	8,477	1,163
Bogong	7,558	33,675	8,889	5,289	8,085	11,938	1,619
Benambra	3,671	16,127	3,634	2,051	3,457	5,295	680
Wonnangatta	328	778	316	39	223	211	23
Gippsland District—							
Croajingolong	1,088	6,486	1,834	451	2,089	2,406	269
Tambo	1,641	5,639	1,517	510	1,726	1,931	241
Dargo	1,459	5,670	1,188	876	2,212	2,034	261
Tanjil	4,753	37,903	9,784	4,763	10,425	10,838	1,586
Buln Buln	14,757	144,960	26,109	9,153	37,334	39,741	6,508
Total for State	200,143	715,327	241,231	79,812	218,751	231,104	38,958

in each County of the State as at March, 1950:—

OF LIVE STOCK, 1950.

Beef Cattle.				Total Cattle (Dairy and Beef).	Pigs.	Sheep.		
Cows.	Calves (under Twelve Months).	Bulls.	Other Cattle.			Sheep.	Lambs.	Total.
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
10,853	5,061	330	9,375	89,762	13,487	480,316	96,173	576,489
11,664	7,092	752	8,104	67,958	5,110	662,715	168,456	831,171
21,655	8,713	386	15,900	205,723	13,288	200,521	48,081	248,602
4,998	2,667	210	4,748	36,349	4,828	45,127	11,470	56,597
8,059	5,157	243	8,292	36,155	3,341	425,761	72,709	498,470
3,544	2,828	145	5,219	21,744	1,236	429,468	94,289	523,757
4,053	3,530	175	6,228	36,957	3,398	450,636	139,245	589,881
2,689	1,505	117	4,326	41,867	4,247	596,750	152,061	748,811
4,126	2,033	81	3,996	61,337	7,364	144,629	42,953	187,582
2,232	1,333	93	2,817	89,257	3,441	56,016	12,208	68,224
12,529	6,573	407	15,016	105,474	2,519	726,997	216,314	943,311
2,758	1,918	102	2,167	16,882	574	797,737	196,954	994,691
20,285	10,988	599	14,423	114,084	1,416	778,750	215,944	994,694
13,256	7,720	516	8,032	77,366	3,898	610,092	148,892	758,984
7,345	4,607	302	5,666	34,836	1,306	839,708	181,963	1,021,671
5,991	3,412	235	3,406	19,599	290	235,719	46,935	282,654
1,918	1,591	88	1,129	18,162	1,679	1,084,561	257,632	1,342,193
679	1,113	49	1,394	18,016	3,806	697,727	180,765	878,492
1,059	920	50	1,221	9,463	1,265	476,810	134,751	611,561
130	189	15	152	1,483	294	80,876	23,911	104,787
68	159	3	178	2,331	468	103,573	22,206	125,779
486	536	28	883	10,295	2,345	399,144	99,996	499,140
1,465	1,441	57	2,073	24,796	6,128	354,326	99,861	454,187
4,124	3,698	127	5,644	67,997	14,493	283,251	87,626	370,877
576	616	25	1,136	7,903	1,468	379,261	117,268	496,529
2,359	2,127	97	2,861	37,821	8,038	429,711	138,052	567,763
4,678	3,763	135	4,700	94,662	19,525	476,061	170,997	647,058
6,120	5,268	251	8,761	62,467	10,743	877,245	236,209	1,113,454
16,966	11,786	519	24,599	99,256	7,509	618,348	166,287	784,635
19,334	11,921	557	15,565	116,872	15,987	324,939	72,694	397,633
23,113	14,526	715	15,189	84,787	6,276	209,569	57,025	266,594
1,755	1,064	56	1,294	5,759	82	41,981	10,584	52,565
3,596	2,242	112	2,163	21,648	3,991	37,272	11,701	48,973
8,678	5,482	236	2,687	28,647	2,816	104,155	29,000	133,155
4,990	2,899	114	4,356	24,600	2,270	85,704	24,379	110,083
12,107	8,857	343	14,348	110,954	5,110	307,371	76,663	384,034
21,551	12,887	651	28,785	327,679	28,865	353,702	92,260	445,962
271,789	168,222	8,921	256,833	2,230,948	212,901	15,206,529	3,954,514	19,161,043

Distribution of Live Stock.

The next table contains particulars of Live Stock

VICTORIA—DISTRIBUTION

Statistical Districts and Counties.	Horses.	Dairy Cattle.					
		Cows.		Springing Heifers.	Other Heifers for Dairying.	Calves.	Bulls.
		Milking.	Dry.				
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central District—							
Bourke	24,894	27,250	12,983	3,571	9,193	7,171	1,219
Grant	8,127	16,649	7,216	1,855	6,312	5,829	1,054
Mornington	12,677	82,395	22,937	5,946	21,549	21,023	3,963
Evelyn	4,422	9,739	4,045	1,137	3,712	3,906	593
North-Central District—							
Anglesey	2,490	3,830	3,552	1,025	1,629	2,094	301
Dalhousie	3,000	3,613	1,710	562	1,440	1,665	251
Talbot	5,493	9,929	3,467	969	3,264	3,813	657
Western District—							
Grenville	4,265	11,595	8,573	2,340	4,564	3,511	816
Polwarth	2,804	22,514	8,654	2,703	7,532	6,434	1,198
Heytesbury	3,287	37,287	16,370	2,606	11,512	9,870	2,050
Hampden	4,333	26,573	17,900	3,193	11,057	8,632	1,698
Ripon	2,760	3,526	1,854	476	1,403	1,670	360
Villiers	5,021	22,407	18,038	3,828	9,898	6,875	1,466
Normanby	4,590	12,146	14,767	2,645	5,632	6,080	1,099
Dundas	3,255	3,717	4,736	1,175	1,538	2,080	419
Follett	1,281	1,471	2,113	526	498	760	130
Wimmera District—							
Lowan	4,603	4,145	2,742	769	1,279	1,893	490
Borung	5,425	5,802	2,777	750	1,460	2,787	630
Kara Kara	2,807	2,240	1,256	295	711	1,079	197
Mallee District—							
Millewa	693	379	191	59	107	164	42
Weeah	700	807	410	83	79	310	100
Karkarooc	4,512	3,454	1,448	361	657	1,717	278
Tatchera	4,869	8,150	3,019	755	2,958	3,576	561
Northern District—							
Gunbower	4,062	24,758	7,506	2,999	7,281	8,955	1,247
Gladstone	3,012	2,202	1,082	236	581	1,033	187
Bendigo	6,312	13,440	4,559	1,690	3,851	5,375	761
Rodney	6,516	39,188	7,628	3,160	12,154	13,309	1,967
Moira	10,495	18,356	8,001	3,077	6,064	8,588	1,414
North-Eastern District—							
Delatite	5,915	14,694	12,307	4,126	5,028	9,446	1,154
Bogong	6,984	27,457	14,465	7,165	6,586	12,557	1,492
Benambra	3,628	14,249	5,660	2,179	3,377	5,895	683
Wonnangatta	362	588	549	62	230	226	29
Gippsland District—							
Croajingolong	1,104	6,530	1,082	249	2,099	2,548	318
Tambo	1,581	5,088	1,754	717	1,492	1,929	224
Dargo	1,391	5,516	1,848	713	1,956	2,230	282
Tanjil	4,528	37,762	11,446	3,905	10,474	11,190	1,673
Buln Buln	14,217	144,565	30,383	10,303	34,428	40,983	6,348
Total for State	186,415	674,011	269,028	78,210	203,585	227,203	37,356

in each County of the State as at March, 1951 :—

OF LIVE STOCK, 1951.

Beef Cattle.				Total Cattle (Dairy and Beef).	Pigs.	Sheep.		
Cows.	Calves (under Twelve Months).	Bulls.	Other Cattle.			Sheep.	Lambs.	Total.
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
11,556	5,362	339	9,822	88,466	14,312	469,820	114,365	584,185
12,556	7,924	830	7,652	67,877	4,931	659,310	193,419	852,729
20,957	9,675	435	15,140	204,020	14,298	196,959	66,005	262,964
5,307	2,945	208	4,418	36,010	6,590	46,871	15,756	62,627
9,032	5,966	272	9,012	36,713	3,564	431,087	79,384	510,471
4,707	3,519	187	5,509	23,163	1,461	452,815	90,953	543,768
4,674	4,154	195	5,425	36,547	3,815	451,573	156,824	608,397
3,117	1,848	107	5,603	42,074	4,721	624,527	157,379	781,906
3,854	2,185	75	3,377	58,526	8,898	144,887	46,214	191,101
2,479	1,250	80	2,633	86,137	4,150	58,316	13,697	72,013
13,294	7,068	423	12,646	102,484	3,030	760,952	212,260	973,212
3,697	2,146	141	2,223	17,496	553	845,240	203,422	1,048,662
19,270	9,839	595	11,167	103,383	1,401	765,203	189,232	954,435
11,068	6,496	426	6,029	66,388	3,651	563,045	132,013	695,058
6,239	3,836	313	3,085	27,138	1,192	801,808	149,343	951,151
5,412	3,241	233	2,331	16,715	232	216,292	41,823	258,115
1,927	1,514	118	1,033	15,910	1,576	1,117,804	248,051	1,365,855
911	1,398	75	1,753	18,343	3,914	757,025	216,015	973,040
985	1,029	60	1,752	9,604	1,248	544,197	146,196	690,393
162	140	13	122	1,379	193	86,603	30,660	117,263
119	190	6	97	2,201	461	105,526	30,457	135,983
826	724	30	836	10,331	2,743	379,562	134,555	514,117
1,342	1,256	44	2,454	24,115	6,697	386,986	148,839	535,825
4,927	4,561	171	4,920	67,325	16,148	317,606	100,927	418,533
546	866	35	1,189	7,957	1,467	411,619	138,597	550,216
3,304	2,820	76	3,562	39,438	9,447	464,184	173,695	637,879
5,543	4,496	185	5,773	93,403	19,848	497,499	190,871	688,370
7,225	6,472	353	9,015	68,565	13,160	954,146	298,413	1,252,559
20,908	13,314	604	24,392	105,973	8,756	644,678	199,742	844,420
20,174	12,977	521	13,573	116,967	17,985	338,981	97,798	436,779
24,469	16,480	737	14,755	88,489	6,970	227,221	62,951	290,172
2,353	1,415	75	1,523	7,050	177	44,703	12,138	56,841
3,727	2,340	136	1,880	20,909	4,214	40,583	9,797	50,380
10,475	6,443	275	2,830	31,227	2,641	104,241	34,517	138,758
5,385	3,325	159	3,085	24,499	3,279	88,684	26,348	115,032
15,871	10,456	418	13,549	116,744	5,702	299,852	93,038	392,890
23,648	14,476	647	26,906	332,687	33,702	352,134	103,700	455,834
292,046	184,146	9,597	241,071	2,216,253	237,127	15,652,539	4,359,394	20,011,933

Dairying. The dairying industry is one of the principal sources of the wealth of the community. The gross value of dairy produce in the season 1949–50 was £32,962,296 as compared with £26,845,000 in 1948–49, £23,547,860 in 1947–48, £21,525,932 in 1946–47, and £18,866,694 in 1945–46. The following table shows the numbers of cow-keepers and cows and the estimated total production of milk for each of the last five years :—

VICTORIA—DAIRYING, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

As at 31st March—	Number of Cow-keepers.	Number of Dairy Cows.*	Estimated Total Production of Milk for all Purposes (Year ended 30th June).
			1,000 Gallons.
1947	Not tabulated	956,140	445,536
1948	52,881	975,338	428,569
1949	52,861	1,010,518	462,446
1950	Not tabulated	1,036,370	469,253
1951	51,497	1,021,249	446,242

* Includes Cows (in milk and dry) and Springing Heifers.

Butter, Cheese, Condensed Milk and Casein. The quantities of butter, cheese, condensed and powdered milk, &c., and casein made during the last four years were as follow :—

VICTORIA—BUTTER, CHEESE, CONDENSED AND POWDERED MILK, CASEIN MADE, ETC., 1946–47 TO 1949–50.

Year Ended 30th June—	Butter.*	Cheese.*	Condensed and Full-Cream Powdered Milk.	All Other Milk Products.	Casein.
	1,000lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.	1,000 lb.
1947	134,936	39,526	104,898	22,753	5,135
1948	128,968	36,239	107,755	32,861	5,365
1949	136,946	41,163	116,141	37,271	6,359
1950	144,827	47,492	122,997	39,889	7,077

* Including that made on farms.

Numbers and Sizes of Dairy Herds.

The following table shows the number of dairy herds in Victoria, grouped, according to size, for each of the four years, 1948-51 :—

VICTORIA—DAIRY HERDS, CONTAINING FIVE COWS OR MORE, GROUPED ACCORDING TO SIZE.

As at March—	Number of Herds.							
	5 to 9 Cows.	10 to 14 Cows.	15 to 19 Cows.	20 to 29 Cows.	30 to 49 Cows.	50 to 99 Cows.	100 and Over.	Total.
1948 ..	7,986	3,563	2,313	4,028	6,622	5,024	751	30,287
1949 ..	7,649	3,480	2,246	4,020	6,863	5,394	788	30,440
1950 ..	Not tabulated							
1951 ..	6,703	2,944	2,021	3,741	6,779	5,780	874	28,842

The numbers of farmers with less than five cows were :—22,594 in 1948, 22,421 in 1949, and 22,655 in 1951. These numbers were excluded from the foregoing table as the groups were considered too small to be classed as dairy herds.

Regulation, Control and Distribution of the Metropolitan Milk Supply.

Information in respect of the regulation, control, and distribution of the Metropolitan Milk Supply appears on pages 335 to 337 of the 1943-44 *Year-Book*.

Herds of Dairy Cattle. In the following table, dairy cattle (as distinct from into herds which are depastured on the differently sized

HERDS OF DAIRY CATTLE IN

Total Area of Holding.	Total in Victoria.				Size of Herd.			
	Herds.		Dairy Cattle.		Number. 1 to 4.		Number. 5 to 9.	
	No.	Percentage to Total.	No.	Percentage to Total.	Herds.	Dairy Cattle.	Herds.	Dairy Cattle.
Acres.					No.	No.	No.	No.
Under 10	1,880	3·54	7,096	0·47	1,418	2,954	338	2,125
10 and under 25	3,832	7.21	22,393	1.48	2,313	4,610	767	5,128
25 ,, 50	3,694	6.95	44,053	2.92	1,586	3,190	533	3,601
50 ,, 100	6,167	11.60	175,426	11.62	1,188	2,636	628	4,256
100 ,, 150	5,742	10.80	243,961	16.17	645	1,475	444	3,008
150 ,, 250	7,369	13.86	366,369	24.28	874	2,077	563	3,769
250 ,, 500	8,838	16.62	365,681	24.23	2,026	5,011	1,271	8,512
500 ,, 750	5,396	10.15	124,624	8.26	1,951	5,034	1,338	8,817
750 ,, 1,000	2,999	5.64	51,262	3.40	1,206	3,149	825	5,464
1,000 ,, 1,500	3,299	6.21	47,583	3.15	1,409	3,627	1,018	6,732
1,500 ,, 2,500	2,332	4.39	32,513	2.15	1,047	2,772	710	4,698
2,500 ,, 5,000	1,129	2.12	16,277	1.08	461	1,218	353	2,336
5,000 ,, 10,000	347	0.65	7,031	0.47	89	233	110	719
10,000 ,, 20,000	92	0.17	1,886	0.13	27	69	21	135
20,000 and over ..	46	0.09	2,873	0.19	18	46	10	65
Totals ..	53,162	100.00	1,509,028	100.00	16,258	38,101	8,929	59,365

Pigs. The numbers of pigs in Victoria at 31st March, 1950, and at 31st March, 1951, were 212,901 and 237,127 respectively. About 75 per cent. of these are held in the Central,

dairy cows shown in the table on page 107), have been classified holdings as set out:—

VICTORIA AS AT MARCH, 1950.

Size of Herd—*continued.*

Number. 10 to 14.		Number. 15 to 19.		Number. 20 to 29.		Number. 30 to 49.		Number. 50 to 99.		Number. 100 and over.	
Herds.	Dairy Cattle.	Herds.	Dairy Cattle.	Herds.	Dairy Cattle.	Herds.	Dairy Cattle.	Herds.	Dairy Cattle.	Herds.	Dairy Cattle.
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
79	892	24	397	12	285	5	179	4	264	..	..
375	4,401	198	3,337	131	3,054	41	1,477	7	386	..	..
380	4,520	339	5,733	463	11,112	330	12,071	62	3,722	1	104
440	5,265	401	6,818	744	18,099	1,596	62,365	1,140	72,557	30	3,430
248	2,948	263	4,476	518	12,669	1,267	50,850	2,166	146,442	191	22,093
361	4,267	299	5,174	547	13,372	1,137	45,112	2,879	207,028	709	85,570
658	7,760	395	6,630	577	13,973	907	35,562	1,845	132,560	1,159	155,673
507	5,896	238	3,949	268	6,388	310	12,043	463	33,224	321	49,273
303	3,532	140	2,347	116	2,734	125	4,714	181	13,207	103	16,115
342	3,920	115	1,906	108	2,543	79	2,937	116	8,233	112	17,685
243	2,815	86	1,430	69	1,589	61	2,368	57	4,164	59	12,677
121	1,424	58	949	53	1,247	21	774	31	2,320	31	6,009
57	665	23	378	31	716	13	474	12	866	12	2,980
11	130	15	249	4	98	8	327	3	223	3	655
4	48	2	33	2	45	2	75	2	132	6	2,429
4,129	48,483	2,596	43,806	3,643	87,924	5,902	231,328	8,968	625,328	2,737	374,693

Western, Northern, and Gippsland districts which are so largely devoted to dairying. The following tables show classifications (in counties) of pigs together with the numbers of pig-keepers :—

VICTORIA—PIGS AND PIG-KEEPERS—MARCH 31ST, 1950.

Districts and Counties.	Boars.	Breeding Sows.	Baconers and Porkers.	Back-fatters.	Stores.	Suckers, Weaners, Slips.	Total Pigs.	Pig-Owners (1950).
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central District—								
Bourke	135	1,347	5,831	69	2,649	3,456	13,487	218
Grant	131	658	1,571	30	876	1,844	5,110	333
Mornington	337	1,821	3,384	46	3,581	4,119	13,288	635
Evelyn	118	738	1,212	39	667	2,054	4,828	271
North-Central District—								
Anglesey	86	480	650	14	769	1,342	3,341	161
Dalhousie	28	151	280	3	166	608	1,236	99
Talbot	89	466	1,078	22	425	1,318	3,398	304
Western District—								
Grenville	62	342	1,060	14	1,201	1,568	4,247	170
Polwarth	156	1,063	1,866	62	1,578	2,639	7,364	385
Heytesbury	114	500	671	13	855	1,288	3,441	227
Hampden	65	319	371	15	783	966	2,519	123
Ripon	19	62	184	..	147	162	574	50
Villiers	38	205	332	3	465	373	1,416	88
Normanby	116	582	894	17	649	1,640	3,898	385
Dundas	35	145	347	4	209	566	1,306	134
Follett	11	37	26	2	91	123	290	34
Wimmera District—								
Lowan	62	193	669	12	203	540	1,679	395
Borung	114	499	1,267	17	351	1,558	3,806	564
Kara Kara	32	162	343	8	160	560	1,265	161
Mallee District—								
Millewa	7	30	48	..	55	154	294	40
Weeah	14	76	164	3	21	190	468	69
Karkarooc	64	329	612	49	422	869	2,345	231
Tatchera	144	713	1,691	21	1,579	1,980	6,128	396
Northern District—								
Gunbower	353	1,823	3,952	45	4,435	3,885	14,493	613
Gladstone	37	186	424	8	136	677	1,468	184
Bendigo	155	978	2,593	7	1,818	2,487	8,038	420
Rodney	429	2,242	5,195	76	5,735	5,848	19,525	879
Moira	256	1,350	3,104	39	2,283	3,711	10,743	575
North-Eastern District—								
Delatite	202	1,014	1,987	38	1,722	2,546	7,509	469
Bogong	366	2,137	4,431	57	3,533	5,463	15,987	777
Benambra	152	797	1,714	20	1,500	2,093	6,276	316
Wonnangatta	3	18	12	1	24	24	82	18
Gippsland District—								
Croajingolong	100	598	852	10	1,147	1,284	3,991	123
Tambo	71	376	544	5	1,149	671	2,816	150
Dargo	64	336	712	7	403	748	2,270	156
Tanjil	139	643	1,040	13	1,747	1,528	5,110	291
Buln Buln	748	3,804	6,444	55	8,825	8,989	28,865	1,668
Total for State	5,052	27,220	57,555	844	52,359	69,871	212,901	12,112*

* Of this number 3,965 had herds of under 5 pigs, 2,012 herds of 5 and under 10 pigs, 2,526 herds of 10 and under 20 pigs, and 3,609 herds of 20 pigs and over.

VICTORIA—PIGS AND PIG-KEEPERS—MARCH 31ST, 1951.

Districts and Counties.	Boars.	Breeding Sows.	All Other.	Total Pigs.	Pig-Owners. (1951).
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central District—					
Bourke	163	1,446	12,703	14,312	204
Grant	119	704	4,108	4,931	316
Mornington	428	2,254	11,616	14,298	634
Evelyn	208	1,043	5,339	6,590	293
North-Central District—					
Anglesey	95	573	2,896	3,564	151
Dalhousie	35	156	1,270	1,461	84
Talbot	106	541	3,168	3,815	285
Western District—					
Grenville	82	470	4,169	4,721	170
Polwarth	221	1,383	7,294	8,898	386
Heytesbury	165	602	3,383	4,150	196
Hampden	74	378	2,578	3,030	106
Ripon	15	71	467	553	38
Villiers	35	178	1,188	1,401	83
Normanby	109	584	2,958	3,651	287
Dundas	35	168	989	1,192	93
Follett	13	28	191	232	19
Wimmera Distrtic—					
Lowan	84	217	1,275	1,576	309
Borung	122	549	3,243	3,914	455
Kara Kara	27	178	1,043	1,248	106
Mallee District—					
Millewa	16	41	136	193	27
Weeah	16	80	365	461	62
Karkarooc	80	355	2,308	2,743	200
Tatchera	138	835	5,724	6,697	348
Northern District—					
Gunbower	387	2,252	13,509	16,148	587
Gladstone	39	195	1,233	1,467	128
Bendigo	200	1,111	8,136	9,447	363
Rodney	467	2,751	16,630	19,848	800
Moira	313	2,000	10,847	13,160	607
North-Eastern District—					
Delatite	224	1,242	7,290	8,756	424
Bogong	412	2,659	14,914	17,985	704
Benambra	176	976	5,818	6,970	284
Wonnangatta	10	38	129	177	17
Gippsland District—					
Croajingolong	94	708	3,412	4,214	121
Tambo	81	409	2,151	2,641	141
Dargo	74	445	2,760	3,279	160
Tanjil	177	816	4,709	5,702	240
Buln Buln	907	4,526	28,269	33,702	1,523
Total for State	5,947	32,962	198,218	237,127	10,951*

* Of this number 3,153 had herds of under 5 pigs, 1,641 herds of 5 and under 10 pigs, 2,354 herds of 10 and under 20 pigs, and 3,803 herds of 20 pigs and over.

Pigs in Conjunction with Dairying.

The following tabulation shows the number of dairy herds (in size groups) separated into those where pigs are held in conjunction therewith, and those where no pigs are held. The sizes of pig herds are also shown :—

VICTORIA—PIG-KEEPING IN CONJUNCTION WITH DAIRYING AS AT MARCH, 1948.

Size of Dairy Cattle Herd.	Size of Pig Herd.								Holdings with Pigs.	Holdings with no Pigs.	Holdings with Dairy Cattle.
	Number. 1–4.	Number. 5–9.	Number. 10–14.	Number. 15–19.	Number. 20–29.	Number. 30–49.	Number. 50–99.	Number. 100 and over.			
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	N.o	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
1– 4 ..	786	119	90	56	56	49	39	35	1,230	15,103	16,333
5– 9 ..	1,037	191	122	62	77	68	42	19	1,618	7,547	9,165
10–14 ..	628	126	114	26	64	39	30	11	1,038	3,409	4,447
15–19 ..	355	132	94	52	53	33	15	6	740	2,044	2,784
20–29 ..	506	270	182	102	115	66	20	9	1,270	2,677	3,947
30–49 ..	529	610	425	293	336	213	57	16	2,479	3,631	6,110
50–99 ..	333	499	575	483	769	770	324	49	3,802	4,527	8,329
100 and over	61	47	92	86	177	308	253	73	1,097	1,407	2,504
Totals ..	4,235	1,994	1,694	1,160	1,647	1,546	780	218	13,274	40,345	53,619

Sheep.

The numbers of sheep in Victoria in various years since 1861 are shown in the table on page 100. Sheep are depastured in practically all districts of the State, but are relatively more numerous in the Wimmera, Western and Northern districts. The distribution of all live stock is shown in tables on pages 102 to 105.

Factors such as seasonal conditions, prices of wool, mutton, and lamb and, to a less degree, wheat, affect the number of sheep in the State in any given year. In an adverse season flocks may be reduced by mortality due to lack of fodder or water, by the increase in the slaughtering of fat stock or by the decrease in lambing. Decreased imports from other States is another factor. In addition to the seasonal movements of sheep from New South Wales and South Australia for agistment, there is a regular importation of sheep from those States for slaughtering purposes.

Lambing. Climatical conditions also play a large part in determining the proportion of lambs dropped to ewes mated, and thus the natural increase from season to season may vary considerably. The following table shows the numbers of ewes mated and lambs dropped, in each of the six years, 1945 to 1950 :—

VICTORIA—LAMBING, 1945 TO 1950.

Season.	Lambs Marked.	Ewes Mated to produce such Lambs.	Proportion of Lambs Marked to Ewes Mated.
	No.	No.	%
1945	3,503,096	7,116,912	49·2
1946	5,936,792	7,328,321	81·0
1947	6,939,854	8,243,066	84·2
1948	7,086,995	8,623,790	82·2
1949	6,995,650	8,558,079	81·7
1950	7,063,583	8,613,812	82·0

Flocks of Sheep in Districts. The following table contains a classification of the flocks of sheep in each district of Victoria as at March, 1948. Sheep travelling on roads or located in cities or towns are excluded. The classification discloses that, although the four groups with sheep under 500 comprise 63·28 per cent. of the owners, the number of sheep in those groups was only 21·44 per cent. of the total sheep in the State.

FLOCKS OF SHEEP IN

Size of Flock.	Total in Victoria.				Districts.			
	Flocks.		Sheep.		Central.		North-Central.	
	No.	Percentage to Total.	No.	Percentage to Total.	Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.
					No.	No.	No.	No.
Under 50	3,147	10·78	71,156	0·40	448	10,167	202	5,178
50 and under 100	2,106	7·22	153,219	0·86	274	20,968	209	14,923
100 ,, 250	6,144	21·05	1,040,000	5·82	750	125,004	520	88,433
250 ,, 500	7,069	24·23	2,568,710	14·37	702	252,439	635	231,130
500 ,, 1,000	6,184	21·19	4,296,458	24·03	509	355,229	577	404,753
1,000 ,, 2,000	3,150	10·79	4,277,266	23·93	259	355,453	259	355,465
2,000 ,, 5,000	1,115	3·82	3,198,694	17·89	80	236,904	105	287,993
5,000 ,, 10,000	207	0·71	1,387,366	7·76	12	78,434	12	81,236
10,000 ,, 20,000	52	0·18	645,666	3·61	5	64,553	3	38,622
20,000 and over ..	9	0·03	238,127	1·33	..	..	..	..
Totals	29,183	100·00	17,876,662	100·00	3,039	1,499,151	2,522	1,507,733

Breeds of Sheep as at March, 1950. Although the principal breed of sheep in the State is the "Merino," the percentage of pure Merino sheep, at the 31st March, 1950, was only 36 as compared with 75 in New South Wales. In 1947 the percentages were 32 in Victoria and 72 in New South Wales.

The method of collecting particulars of breeds was changed considerably in 1950 and, apart from Merinos, all comparison with breeds of previous years is nullified. Merino Comebacks were previously collected as a whole, irrespective of whether they were fine or course. The 1950 collection made provision for segregating those "finer than half-bred" while those not up to that standard were included with other crossbreds.

Similarly, it cannot be determined if any increase in the numbers of other Pure Breeds (British and Australasian) has occurred as another very important change in method was the substitution of the category "Other *Recognized* Breeds" in place of the former category "Other *Pure* Breeds". Other Pure Breeds in 1947 numbered 1,407,349 whereas in 1950 Other Recognized Breeds numbered

VICTORIA AS AT MARCH, 1948.

Districts—*continued.*

Western.		Wimmera.		Mallee.		Northern.		North-Eastern.		Gippsland.	
Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.	Flocks.	Sheep.
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
818	17,033	286	8,117	108	2,814	326	7,735	460	9,630	499	10,482
374	27,320	335	24,471	144	10,564	341	24,779	202	14,029	227	16,165
759	123,278	1,060	182,699	735	127,135	1,369	233,210	501	84,348	450	75,893
855	316,801	1,164	432,575	939	336,768	1,724	619,148	611	222,187	439	157,662
1,229	886,174	1,016	689,506	581	382,945	1,282	885,199	612	432,320	378	260,332
961	1,315,420	464	632,706	140	180,274	524	700,848	312	424,114	231	312,986
490	1,456,109	180	500,750	32	83,744	98	277,631	65	179,459	65	176,104
130	876,260	25	173,183	3	22,322	10	68,958	7	41,069	8	45,904
36	449,696	5	58,734	..	..	2	22,601	1	11,460	..	..
7	192,825	..	..	1	21,602	1	23,700	..	..	..	..
5,659	5,660,916	4,535	2,702,741	2,683	1,168,168	5,677	2,863,809	2,771	1,418,616	2,297	1,055,528

4,451,686. Crossbreds, which numbered 6,923,603 in 1947 dropped to 5,758,669 in 1950 notwithstanding the inclusion of half-bred and courser Merino Comebacks.

Australasian breeds are the Polwarth and the Corriedale. The Polwarth is a Merino-Lincoln cross (approximately three-quarters Merino and one-quarter Lincoln). It was evolved to meet the conditions of light wool-growing localities found to be too wet and cold for the pure merino. The Corriedale was evolved by heavily culling the progeny of Lincoln rams and Merino ewes and by judicious mating over several years. The Corriedale is a dual purpose sheep, being favoured by many breeders both for lamb raising and for wool production.

Tables showing the breeds of sheep in Victoria and in Australia appear on page 120 of this issue of the *Year-Book*.

Rams, Ewes, &c., in Counties at March, 1950 and 1951.

The following tables set out the numbers of rams, ewes, wethers and lambs depastured on rural holdings in each county of the State as at March, 1950, and 1951, also the numbers of ewes mated, classified according to whether the progeny is intended for wool or for fat lamb production. The breeds of rams are also shown.

VICTORIA—RAMS, EWES, ETC.; EWES MATED; TRAVELLING SHEEP AND SHEEP

Statistical Districts and Counties.	Rams.	Ewes.		Wethers.	Lambs.	Total Sheep and Lambs.
		Breeding. (*Mated and not mated.*)	Other.			
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central District—						
Bourke	8,066	295,256	29,174	147,820	96,173	576,489
Grant	8,690	380,031	42,970	231,024	168,456	831,171
Mornington	4,739	152,616	12,514	30,652	48,081	248,602
Evelyn	968	31,201	1,905	11,053	11,470	56,597
North-Central District—						
Anglesey	5,021	209,584	16,736	194,420	72,709	498,470
Dalhousie	5,660	224,588	19,756	179,464	94,289	523,757
Talbot	8,975	304,615	20,380	116,666	139,245	589,881
Western District—						
Grenville	10,621	305,856	48,754	231,519	152,061	748,811
Polwarth	2,755	95,439	10,717	35,718	42,953	187,582
Heytesbury	1,174	47,918	1,430	5,494	12,208	68,224
Hampden	14,260	423,786	57,670	231,281	216,314	943,311
Ripon	11,585	386,539	82,878	316,735	196,954	994,691
Villiers	12,042	403,892	69,333	293,483	215,944	994,694
Normanby	6,428	291,850	59,183	252,631	148,892	758,984
Dundas	9,535	392,571	87,680	349,922	181,963	1,021,671
Follett	2,907	102,413	16,140	114,259	46,935	282,654
Wimmera District—						
Lowan	13,374	515,971	86,965	468,251	257,632	1,342,193
Borung	10,546	404,848	43,881	238,452	180,765	878,492
Kara Kara	8,586	265,806	37,598	164,820	134,751	611,561
Mallee District—						
Millewa	1,158	60,520	2,095	17,103	23,911	104,787
Weeah	1,466	78,555	1,498	22,054	22,206	125,779
Karkarooc	6,653	323,636	5,488	63,367	99,996	499,140
Tatchera	6,235	310,057	2,121	35,913	99,861	454,187
Northern District—						
Gunbower	5,583	232,777	8,100	36,791	87,626	370,877
Gladstone	5,515	241,309	17,404	115,033	117,268	496,529
Bendigo	7,747	325,438	12,183	84,343	138,052	567,763
Rodney	10,347	377,200	14,426	74,088	170,997	647,058
Moira	16,604	703,727	18,192	138,722	236,209	1,113,454
North-Eastern District—						
Delatite	10,545	445,976	20,333	141,494	166,287	784,635
Bogong	6,019	240,751	11,966	66,203	72,694	397,633
Benambra	2,925	128,817	8,239	69,588	57,025	266,594
Wonnangatta	433	22,166	3,707	15,675	10,584	52,565
Gippsland District—						
Croajingolong	442	20,302	3,524	13,004	11,701	48,973
Tambo	1,376	67,068	6,663	29,048	29,000	133,155
Dargo	838	46,621	6,715	31,530	24,379	110,083
Tanjil	3,494	185,150	14,545	104,182	76,663	384,034
Buln Buln	4,955	204,125	12,873	131,749	92,260	445,962
Total	238,267	9,248,975	915,736	4,803,551	3,954,514	19,161,043

BREEDS OF RAMS IN EACH COUNTY (EXCLUSIVE OF IN TOWNS) AS AT MARCH, 1950.

Ewes Mated (for Lambing during Season 1950).		Breeds of Rams (as at March, 1950).						
To Merino, Corriedale or Polwarth Rams (*Wool Production*).	To Rams of British Breeds (*Fat-lamb Production*).	Merino.	Corrie-dale.	Pol-warth.	Border Leicester.	Dorset Horn.	South-down.	Other.
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
63,008	222,791	385	1,198	257	868	2,828	1,270	1,260
203,979	143,170	2,338	2,005	724	1,005	1,731	321	566
10,279	133,332	40	924	18	380	583	1,709	1,085
7,837	21,924	30	124	132	121	86	132	343
97,914	95,823	1,482	874	140	136	556	1,423	410
94,085	114,437	1,600	836	138	850	1,224	596	416
151,729	136,467	3,355	1,949	130	1,498	1,027	180	836
210,503	58,700	6,854	1,226	891	410	532	212	496
39,893	46,561	11	330	1,291	171	127	307	518
2,158	43,743	..	31	22	44	72	720	285
298,619	80,001	5,165	3,740	2,989	219	495	543	1,109
298,922	36,346	9,147	1,163	296	287	375	84	233
287,233	64,011	5,915	2,838	1,747	281	288	194	779
194,384	57,443	2,088	2,257	448	293	354	154	834
282,258	54,127	5,143	2,506	347	241	482	110	706
44,441	48,794	505	664	25	302	301	164	946
377,921	87,920	9,132	1,768	126	317	843	185	1,003
214,701	162,967	4,544	1,545	102	1,711	1,448	137	1,059
156,311	91,395	5,323	539	448	1,458	678	16	124
36,420	21,170	635	163	13	129	171	1	46
30,616	45,380	243	411	22	339	320	49	82
54,742	265,273	279	820	43	3,525	1,699	16	271
42,512	265,279	241	515	20	4,107	875	115	362
64,102	163,385	1,005	573	81	1,511	1,556	251	606
135,279	93,386	2,572	879	29	1,405	297	85	248
99,088	218,430	1,717	929	33	3,156	1,386	133	393
74,018	290,337	840	1,917	53	2,894	2,754	1,023	866
122,959	568,909	844	1,971	112	4,128	4,084	4,439	1,026
167,056	260,952	1,584	1,872	248	1,888	841	1,988	2,124
68,433	164,368	713	788	158	2,447	523	712	678
65,409	56,067	874	432	110	315	472	228	494
12,952	7,311	96	110	78	27	6	22	94
8,501	8,673	224	34	3	71	4	..	106
46,216	17,024	519	414	68	74	53	29	219
26,018	15,749	308	186	10	67	50	32	185
92,849	75,448	1,380	453	164	149	694	94	560
54,204	139,170	653	660	10	697	1,137	691	1,107
4,237,549	4,376,263	77,784	39,644	11,526	37,521	30,952	18,365	22,475

VICTORIA—RAMS, EWES, ETC.; EWES MATED; TRAVELLING SHEEP AND SHEEP

Statistical Districts and Counties.	Rams.	Ewes.		Wethers.	Lambs.	Total Sheep and Lambs.
		Breeding. (*Mated and not mated.*)	Other.			
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Central District—						
Bourke	7,458	283,906	21,455	157,001	114,365	584,185
Grant	9,372	393,436	40,627	215,875	193,419	852,729
Mornington	4,636	159,269	8,603	24,451	66,005	262,964
Evelyn	1,098	34,052	1,761	9,960	15,756	62,627
North-Central District—						
Anglesey	4,981	202,962	15,917	207,227	79,384	510,471
Dalhousie	5,361	224,522	20,463	202,469	90,953	543,768
Talbot	8,631	304,708	17,325	120,909	156,824	608,397
Western District—						
Grenville	11,641	319,091	46,720	247,075	157,379	781,906
Polwarth	2,971	95,133	8,623	38,160	46,214	191,101
Heytesbury	1,368	50,925	1,903	4,120	13,697	72,013
Hampden	15,107	444,694	56,811	244,340	212,260	973,212
Ripon	13,061	403,419	79,713	349,047	203,422	1,048,662
Villiers	10,819	398,792	67,025	288,567	189,232	954,435
Normanby	6,423	271,033	51,083	234,506	132,013	695,058
Dundas	8,766	371,322	76,609	345,111	149,343	951,151
Follett	2,652	92,138	8,411	113,091	41,823	258,115
Wimmera District—						
Lowan	12,906	537,600	85,171	482,127	248,051	1,365,855
Borung	10,624	437,146	41,067	268,188	216,015	973,040
Kara Kara	8,355	289,146	36,397	210,299	146,196	690,393
Mallee District—						
Millewa	1,298	62,641	4,632	18,032	30,660	117,263
Weeah	1,410	76,167	1,924	26,025	30,457	135,983
Karkarooc	6,232	304,486	3,832	65,012	134,555	514,117
Tatchera	6,267	331,287	3,165	46,267	148,839	535,825
Northern District—						
Gunbower	6,155	255,468	4,236	51,747	100,927	418,533
Gladstone	5,607	259,262	21,363	125,387	138,597	550,216
Bendigo	7,733	337,498	11,674	107,279	173,695	637,879
Rodney	9,947	386,817	12,731	88,004	190,871	688,370
Moira	17,245	736,076	18,492	182,333	298,413	1,252,559
North-Eastern District—						
Delatite	10,556	456,438	18,939	158,745	199,742	844,420
Bogong	6,129	248,530	10,355	73,967	97,798	436,779
Benambra	2,974	135,626	7,856	80,765	62,951	290,172
Wonnangatta	515	24,419	2,360	17,409	12,138	56,841
Gippsland District—						
Croajingolong	374	18,449	5,961	15,799	9,797	50,380
Tambo	1,439	68,552	4,254	29,996	34,517	138,758
Dargo	972	50,378	4,189	33,145	26,348	115,032
Tanjil	3,699	179,760	20,595	95,798	93,038	392,890
Buln Buln	5,361	218,626	11,333	116,814	103,700	455,834
Total	240,143	9,463,774	853,575	5,095,047	4,359,394	20,011,933

BREEDS OF RAMS IN EACH COUNTY (EXCLUSIVE OF IN TOWNS) AS AT MARCH, 1951.

Ewes Mated (for Lambing during Season 1951).		Breeds of Rams (as at March, 1951).						
To Merino, Corriedale or Polwarth Rams (*Wool Production*).	To Rams of British Breeds (*Fat-lamb Production*).	Merino.	Corriedale.	Polwarth.	Border Leicester.	Dorset Horn.	Southdown.	Other.
No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
61,353	213,348	266	1,107	263	707	2,826	1,279	1,010
225,245	141,115	2,419	2,721	882	959	1,776	134	481
15,930	140,404	93	706	37	360	744	1,615	1,081
9,647	22,852	53	182	105	164	114	158	322
102,388	86,213	1,557	950	190	120	583	1,210	371
102,928	108,958	1,785	695	110	699	1,234	546	292
164,826	124,716	3,177	2,106	103	1,266	1,138	136	705
224,882	59,647	7,510	1,486	1,270	300	592	175	308
43,758	42,921	36	389	1,387	212	128	292	527
3,373	47,289	8	73	22	25	129	877	234
324,677	82,074	6,339	3,403	3,043	168	609	451	1,094
320,424	37,220	11,147	714	262	208	432	80	218
303,521	47,754	5,563	2,480	1,631	195	220	196	534
199,964	42,842	2,499	2,088	459	145	337	156	739
282,811	38,498	5,090	2,146	320	255	366	64	525
48,897	36,971	538	626	88	330	352	168	550
414,812	71,574	9,199	1,701	127	238	792	107	742
252,542	160,569	5,074	1,584	79	1,635	1,416	169	667
178,610	92,065	5,258	660	230	1,388	644	22	153
44,739	14,904	885	156	10	92	112	1	42
39,922	35,797	317	386	32	300	277	40	58
60,611	241,400	423	843	27	3,079	1,559	12	289
57,323	270,935	499	534	13	3,827	939	103	352
84,182	166,661	1,374	838	61	1,548	1,541	209	584
159,162	90,348	2,990	719	40	1,302	360	34	162
118,795	211,590	1,791	1,081	76	2,854	1,453	105	373
82,577	296,342	812	1,505	41	2,920	2,809	932	898
164,128	558,752	1,069	2,779	111	4,063	4,425	3,638	1,160
192,019	249,183	1,946	1,968	291	1,853	1,070	1,737	1,691
75,306	165,601	798	767	161	2,677	524	661	541
70,661	57,168	975	447	87	300	486	251	428
16,834	5,855	110	110	115	28	38	11	103
8,959	7,128	179	30	..	55	11	1	98
43,273	18,675	603	333	88	115	24	43	233
29,119	16,571	349	208	14	121	68	34	178
96,393	68,698	1,382	512	166	146	881	125	487
66,262	145,053	693	869	21	650	1,219	849	1,060
4,690,853	4,217,691	84,806	39,902	11,962	35,304	32,228	16,651	19,290

AUSTRALIA—BREEDS OF SHEEP—31ST MARCH, 1950.

Breed.	New South Wales.	Victoria.	Queensland.	South Australia.	Western Australia.	Tasmania.	A.C.T. and Northern Territory.	Australia.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Merino ..	40,017,801	6,870,411	17,326,470	7,717,943	9,666,603	284,574	250,270	82,134,072
Other Recognized Breeds	3,376,639	4,451,686	71,430	692,739	496,647	875,896	12,634	9,977,671
Merino Comeback (Finer than Half-Bred) ..	3,441,671	2,080,277	54,606	167,390	139,864	326,847	7,616	6,218,271
Crossbred (including Half-Bred and Corser Comebacks)	6,461,889	5,758,669	129,646	898,954	620,053	683,012	8,751	14,560,974
Total ..	53,298,000	19,161,043	17,582,152	9,477,026	10,923,167	2,170,329	279,271	112,890,988

VICTORIA—BREEDS OF SHEEP—31ST MARCH, 1950.

Breed.	Central District.	North-Central District.	Western District.	Wimmera District.	Mallee District.	Northern District. trict.	North-East District.	Gippsland District.	State.
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Merino ..	275,676	563,388	2,587,458	1,979,690	326,217	596,056	302,720	239,206	6,870,411
Other Recognized Breeds	503,508	357,466	2,129,065	339,816	142,754	447,789	334,762	196,526	4,451,686
Merino Comeback (Finer than Half-Bred) ..	195,881	211,879	502,263	125,545	219,105	378,994	171,100	274,510	2,080,277
Crossbred (including Half-Bred and Coarser Comebacks)	737,794	479,375	781,836	387,195	495,817	1,771,842	692,845	411,965	5,758,669

Production of Wool.

Statistics of wool production are obtained direct from the growers, from fellmongeries and, in respect of wool exported on skins, from the Customs Department.

VICTORIA—SHEEP AND LAMBS SHORN (IN DISTRICTS), SEASON 1949-50.

Statistical District.	Shorn.		Wool Clipped (including Crutchings).		Average.	
	Sheep.	Lambs.	Sheep's.	Lambs'.	Per Sheep.	Per Lamb.
	No.	No.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Central	1,450,698	373,119	13,733,853	1,041,637	9·47	2·79
North-Central	1,548,175	358,127	14,146,256	907,691	9·14	2·53
Western	5,775,680	1,421,591	52,188,043	3,454,448	9·04	2·43
Wimmera	2,843,142	701,890	27,995,335	1,869,960	9·85	2·66
Mallee	1,090,923	266,930	10,671,702	743,240	9·78	2·78
Northern	2,868,496	858,869	27,268,137	2,394,319	9·51	2·79
North-Eastern ..	1,410,996	374,830	12,449,459	918,356	8·82	2·45
Gippsland	996,893	292,977	8,975,038	722,269	9·01	2·47
State Total ..	17,985,003	4,648,333	167,427,823	12,051,920	9·31	2·59

VICTORIA—SHEEP AND LAMBS SHORN (IN DISTRICTS), SEASON 1950–51.

Statistical District.	Shorn.		Wool Clipped (including Crutchings).		Average.	
	Sheep.	Lambs.	Sheep's.	Lambs'.	Per Sheep.	Per Lamb.
	No.	No.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
Central	1,448,407	424,656	13,937,188	1,226,303	9·62	2·89
North-Central	1,568,625	381,347	14,937,685	1,002,675	9·52	2·63
Western	5,582,230	1,314,167	51,511,119	3,358,306	9·23	2·56
Wimmera	2,825,057	714,106	28,878,639	2,074,923	10·22	2·91
Mallee	1,153,380	380,687	11,878,157	1,100,314	10·30	2·89
Northern	3,008,831	1,038,620	29,774,046	3,036,469	9·90	2·92
North-Eastern	1,457,396	468,069	13,831,318	1,257,175	9·49	2·69
Gippsland	995,103	333,078	9,174,315	860,835	9·22	2·58
State Total ..	18,039,029	5,054,730	173,922,467	13,917,000	9·64	2·75

VICTORIA—SHEEP SHORN AND WOOL CLIPPED.

Season.	Shorn.		Wool Clipped (including Crutchings).		Average.	
	Sheep.	Lambs.	Sheep's.	Lambs'.	Per Sheep.	Per Lamb.
	No.	No.	lb.	lb.	lb.	lb.
1945–46	13,826,939	2,543,969	103,669,755	5,566,385	7·50	2·19
1946–47	14,033,081	4,130,818	139,885,117	10,922,452	9·97	2·64
1947–48	15,551,760	4,738,590	145,027,116	12,839,634	9·33	2·71
1948–49	16,922,401	5,322,921	150,591,169	14,601,259	8·90	2·74
1949–50	17,985,003	4,648,333	167,427,823	12,051,920	9·31	2·59
1950–51	18,039,029	5,054,730	173,922,467	13,917,000	9·64	2·75

VICTORIA—WOOL PRODUCTION AND VALUE.

Season.	Clip.	Stripped from and Exported on Skins, &c. (Greasy).	Total Quantity. (Greasy).	Gross Value.	Average Price per lb.
	lb.	lb.	lb.	£	*d.*
1944–45	142,615,657	34,527,400	177,143,057	11,856,369	16·06
1945–46	109,236,140	43,161,367	152,397,507	9,527,048	15·00
1946–47	150,807,569	46,268,669	197,076,238	18,708,593	22·78
1947–48	157,866,750	33,137,130	191,003,880	29,851,792	37·51
1948–49	165,192,428	30,212,458	195,404,886	37,105,206	45·57
1949–50	179,479,743	37,159,564	216,639,307	55,033,279	60·97

The annual collection of statistics is carefully and efficiently carried out by the police. It is realized, however, that the wool clip as recorded is not likely to cover the whole clip, which was shorn some months prior to the collection. After investigation, and examination of the results of investigations elsewhere, it is considered that the quantity not recorded does not exceed 5 per cent. of the Victorian clip.

There is some uncertainty also associated with skin wool. Allowance is made for skins from other States which are exported from Victoria, so that they are not included in Victorian production. The Victorian figures do, however, include skin wool from all sheep and lambs slaughtered in Victoria, even though some of such sheep were brought over from other States for slaughter.

Economic Wool Research.

A Wool Section of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics, whose activities are mentioned on page 60 of this issue of the *Year-Book*, has been developed in order to discharge the Bureau's responsibility for economic wool research under the *Wool Use Promotion Act* of 1945 and is financed from the Wool Research Trust Account. Briefly, under this Act, the proceeds from the wool tax of 2s. per bale are paid into the Wool Use Promotion Fund, which is available to the Wool Board for promoting the use of wool throughout the world. The Commonwealth Government pays a similar amount from Consolidated Revenue into the Wool Research Trust Account to be used in scientific, economic, and cost research and in the co-ordination and application of the results of such research. The C.S.I.R. is responsible for biological and textile research and the Bureau of Agricultural Economics for economic research. The two organizations work in co-operation in their wool research programme.

The work of the Wool Section falls into two main categories—Farm Production economics (dealing with the economics of wool growing and sheep station management) and Marketing economics (dealing with the economic aspects of wool marketing both within Australia and overseas).

Marketing of Wool.

The long established system of marketing wool by public auctions re-commenced in 1946–47. During the seasons 1939–40 to 1945–46 clip values were established on appraisement methods under an agreement between the British and the Australian Governments.

Upon the resumption of open auction sales an insatiable world-wide demand for wool, particularly in respect of the finer descriptions, was responsible for creating the most remarkable range of values in wool trade history and demonstrated the fact that the world's supply of the finer descriptions of the staple is considerably short of trade requirements. The results achieved were not secured on any promise of lessened production, but in the face of normal full-clip figures, plus heavy offerings of old wool, the legacy of war-time appraisement.

The highest prices obtained for greasy merino fleece wool sold in Victoria and in Australia during each season from 1927-28 to 1950-51 are shown hereunder. Average weighted prices for wool of Victorian production appear on page 87 of this issue of the *Year-Book*:—

Season.	Victoria.	Australia.	Season.	Victoria.	Australia.
	d.	d.		d.	d.
1927–28 ..	44¾	45½	1939–40 ..	31	33¼
1928–29 ..	47	47	1940–41 ..	33¼	33¼
1929–30 ..	37¼	37¼	1941–42 ..	33½	34½
1930–31 ..	31¼	31¼	1942–43 ..	39	39½
1931–32 ..	38¼	38¼	1943–44 ..	40¾	40¾
1932–33 ..	22½	28½	1944–45 ..	39	40¾
1933–34 ..	36¼	42	1945–46 ..	41¼	41¼
1934–35 ..	22¼	24½	1946–47 ..	121½	153
1935–36 ..	29¼	35½	1947–48 ..	135	138½
1936–37 ..	36¼	46¾	1948–49 ..	181	210
1937–38 ..	33½	33½	1949–50 ..	183	188
1938–39 ..	26¼	28	1950–51 ..	351	354¼

Prices of Wool.

The following information as to the average prices of wool per lb. which have prevailed during the last three seasons has been obtained from Victorian wool brokers. These prices are for wool auctioned in Victoria. Wool from the Riverina and the south-east of South Australia is included in Victorian sales.

PRICES OF WOOL IN VICTORIA, 1948-49 TO 1950-51.

Class of Wool.	Average Price per lb. in—		
	1948-49.	1949-50.	1950-51.
GREASY MERINO.	Pence.	Pence.	Pence.
Extra Super (Western District) ..	130 to 181	140 to 183	205 to 351
Super	110 to 129	120 to 139	198 to 290
Good	90 to 109	100 to 119	180 to 235
Average	46 to 86	72 to 96	140 to 210
Wasty and Inferior	25 to 45	46 to 66	115 to 170
Extra Super Lambs	85 to 110	150 to 202	192 to 427
Super Lambs	74 to 84	90 to 100	134 to 361
Good Lambs	40 to 73	56 to 80	100 to 220
Average Lambs	20 to 35	36 to 50	80 to 160
Inferior Lambs	15 to 19	25 to 35	50 to 150
GREASY CROSSBRED.			
Extra Super Comebacks	90 to 110	110 to 140	170 to 303
Super Comebacks	70 to 89	80 to 108	160 to 280
Fine Crossbred	40 to 68	66 to 90	150 to 270
Medium Crossbred	25 to 50	50 to 65	120 to 220
Coarse Crossbred and Lincoln ..	20 to 44	40 to 55	80 to 160
Super Fine Crossbred Lambs ..	40 to 54	60 to 80	120 to 250
Good Crossbred Lambs	24 to 38	38 to 56	100 to 220
Coarse and Lincoln Lambs	21 to 34	28 to 46	90 to 190
SCOURED.			
Extra Super Fleece	100 to 114	130 to 160	222 to 350
Super Fleece	90 to 100	100 to 120	200 to 280
Good Fleece	80 to 90	90 to 100	170 to 250
Average Fleece	60 to 79	78 to 88	150 to 200
RECORD PRICES FOR THE SEASON.			
Greasy Merino Fleece	181	183	351
„ Comeback Fleece	110	143¼	303
„ Merino Lambs	111½	202	427
„ Comeback Lambs	86	126	270
Scoured Fleece	114	185	350

Prices of Live Stock.

In the subjoined table will be found a statement of the average prices of live stock ruling in metropolitan saleyards at Newmarket during the five years 1945-46 to 1949-50. The averages stated are the mean of the monthly prices

realized. Prices of live stock vary each year under the influence of seasonal conditions, prices of wool, &c. During periods of dry weather, stock are hastened to market and consequently prices decline but, with the advent of relief rains, stock are withheld for fattening, breeding, &c., and prices rise : —

VICTORIA—PRICES OF LIVE STOCK, 1945-46 TO 1949-50.

Stock.	1945-46. Average.	1946-47. Average.	1947-48. Average.	1948-49. Average.	1949-50. Average.
Fat Cattle.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Bullocks—					
Extra prime	25 19 4	24 9 8	28 1 9	32 8 9	35 18 1
Prime	23 14 5	23 7 6	25 18 1	29 15 9	33 1 8
Good	21 8 6	20 19 9	23 12 10	27 0 5	30 1 0
Good light and handy weights	18 4 3	18 5 11	20 19 3	23 16 2	26 16 0
Second	15 5 3	14 17 7	Not available	Not available	Not available
Cows—					
Best	16 17 9	17 1 2	17 11 6	19 9 3	21 12 0
Others	10 4 3	9 17 1	11 10 10	12 16 5	17 17 6
Dairy Cattle					
Milkers (best)	23 4 4	22 3 6	24 5 0	23 19 1	24 19 3
Springers (best)	18 5 8	17 1 10	19 5 9	19 2 11	20 8 2
Fat Sheep.					
Crossbred Wethers—					
Extra prime	2 2 9	2 5 11	2 14 3	2 11 10	3 0 9
Prime	1 19 1	2 0 8	2 8 3	2 6 2	2 12 8
Good	1 14 7	1 15 3	2 1 11	2 0 4	2 4 0
Crossbred Ewes—					
Extra prime	1 11 11	1 13 11	2 1 0	1 16 4	2 4 4
Prime	1 8 0	1 8 6	1 15 2	1 10 7	1 16 3
Good	1 2 8	1 1 3	1 5 6	1 1 11	1 4 9
Merino Wethers—					
Extra prime	1 16 11	2 0 1	2 6 7	Not available	Not available
Prime	1 13 8	1 16 5	2 2 2		
Good	1 8 7	1 8 6	Not available		
Fat Lambs.					
Extra prime	1 19 11	2 5 0	2 11 5	2 9 3	3 1 0
Prime	1 15 6	1 19 1	2 4 9	2 3 2	2 12 5
Good	1 11 1	1 13 6	1 17 0	1 15 1	2 2 3
Pigs.					
Back Fatters—					
Extra heavy prime	14 16 3	16 14 2	19 11 6	19 2 8	26 11 1
Prime medium and weighty	12 7 3	13 8 5	15 7 5	15 1 4	20 16 6
Baconers—					
Medium and heavy	6 13 5	7 9 6	8 12 5	9 19 8	12 13 11
Light	5 9 0	6 1 2	7 0 5	8 1 3	10 4 10
Porkers	4 8 5	4 18 0	5 6 11	5 14 5	7 10 1

Stock Slaughtered. The following table shows the number of slaughtering establishments and of the stock slaughtered in the State during each of the five years, 1946-50 :—

VICTORIA—STOCK SLAUGHTERED, 1946 TO 1950.

Kind of Stock.	Stock Slaughtered in Establishments and on Farms and Stations.				
	Year Ended June—				
	1946.	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.*
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Sheep	2,861,651	2,896,162	2,642,377	3,223,509	4,059,490
Lambs	2,195,031	3,409,202	3,599,560	3,468,126	4,315,223
Bullocks	122,864	160,023	179,604	194,897	} 567,940
Cows	176,326	205,012	227,070	253,118	
Young cattle	43,418	48,162	55,914	79,185	
Calves	230,844	265,373	285,804	322,833	333,161
Pigs	316,300	359,346	377,366	375,825	299,753
Number of Slaughterhouses ..	521	500	509	477	449

* Average dressed weights per carcass during 1949-50 were; Sheep 43·76 lb.; Lambs 34·64 lb.; Bullocks, Cows and Young Cattle 454·26 lb.; Calves 63·19 lb.; Pigs 155·79 lb.

Frozen Mutton and Lamb Exported. The importance of the mutton and lamb export trade to sheep owners is indicated by the export figures for the years 1944 to 1951 as shown in the statement hereunder :—

FROZEN MUTTON AND LAMB EXPORTED FROM VICTORIAN PORTS.

(Exports from all Australian ports are shown in parentheses.)

Year Ended 30th June.	Carcasses Exported (*exclusive of certain service requirements consumed outside Australia*).			
	Mutton.		Lamb.	
	Number.	Average Weight.	Number.	Average Weight.
		lb.		lb.
1944	287,331 (609,767)	43 (43)	2,382,018 (4,162,862)	32 (32)
1945	353,557 (728,514)	41 (41)	2,004,964 (3,480,887)	31 (31)
1946	127,579 (322,354)	44 (42)	561,578 (1,197,419)	34 (34)
1947	623,151 (1,063,095)	53 (49)	1,948,097 (2,801,618)	39 (38)
1948	283,934 (483,151)	50 (48)	1,628,867 (2,544,966)	38 (38)
1949	258,110 (567,115)	49 (48)	1,154,564 (2,281,531)	38 (37)
1950	881,724 (1,313,086)	54 (53)	2,217,789 (3,331,843)	37 (37)
1951	58,770	53	710,575	38

Cattle. Cattle-raising has always been one of the more important primary industries in this State, despite the gradual increase in the areas devoted to dairy farming, sheep-raising, and cultivation. This has been due mainly to the considerable improvement in methods of pasture management, including the practice of top-dressing. Vigilant inspection of stock and the rigid quarantine of stock imported from overseas have kept herds in Victoria free from many forms of contagious diseases and animal pests with which stock in other countries are afflicted. The numbers of live stock in each county of the State will be found on pages 102 to 105 of this issue.

Silage. Ensilage, an economical and safe method of conserving fodder in a succulent form, is relished by stock during dry periods. Expensive precautions against damage by fire, rodents and stock, required for other fodders, are not necessary in the case of silage.

The following table gives particulars of the silage made in Victoria during the seasons 1946–47 to 1950–51 :—

SILAGE IN VICTORIA, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Season ended March.	Farms on which Silage Made.	Silage Made.	Districts in which Made.							
			Central.	North Central.	Western.	Wimmera.	Mallee.	Northern.	North Eastern.	Gippsland
	No.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.	Tons.
1947	504	24,644	7,190	899	1,766	526	72	496	3,774	9,921
1948	449	21,873	6,072	654	1,897	274	135	1,286	5,244	6,311
1949	443	20,945	6,102	642	2,267	250	20	658	2,261	8,745
1950	596	25,687	6,523	826	1,704	604	614	1,248	2,873	11,295
1951	590	26,105	6,481	576	2,191	932	354	1,990	2,985	10,596

Apiculture.

Prior to the season 1936, the statistics of honey and beeswax were based on returns received from apiarists who were permanent occupiers of holdings of one acre and upwards. As a consequence, production was understated because of the exclusion of (*a*) hives on areas of less than one acre, and (*b*) travelling beekeepers who were not occupiers of rural holdings. Commencing with the season 1935–36, all beekeepers have been required to furnish returns. Particulars relating to apiculture for the five years 1947–51 are given in the following table :—

VICTORIA—BEE-HIVES, HONEY, AND BEESWAX, 1946–47 TO 1950–51.

Season Ended May—	Bee-keepers.*	Hives.	Production.		Gross Value.	
			Honey.	Beeswax.	Honey.	Beeswax.
	No.	No.	lb.	lb.	£	£
1947	1,600	95,195	9,031,407	95,524	282,231	11,941
1948	1,603	108,896	6,934,219	70,851	216,694	8,856
1949	1,628	117,560	8,729,527	90,778	272,799	11,347
1950	1,584	114,676	7,743,866	78,124	258,129	11,719
1951	1,562	115,976	8,087,654	90,605	286,438	27,182

* Apiarists with 20 hives and over numbered 838 in 1947, 919 in 1948, 928 in 1949, 950 in 1950 and 943 in 1951.

Poultry Census.

A table showing the number of poultry owners and of poultry in Victoria, as at the date of the Census in each of the years 1881, 1891, 1901, 1911, and 1933 was published on page 488 of the 1938–39 issue of the *Year-Book*.

Establishment of Marketing Boards.

A summary of the principal legislative provisions of the *Marketing of Primary Products Act* 1935 was published on pages 446 to 448 of the *Victorian Year-Book* for 1934–35.

Pursuant to such Act, Marketing Boards have been constituted for onions, chicory, maize, eggs and egg pulp, and potatoes. The Potato Marketing Board was constituted on 17th November, 1948.

Wholesale Prices of Principal Products.

The following table gives the monthly average of the Melbourne wholesale prices of the principal agricultural, dairying, and pastoral food products for the year ended June, 1950 :—

MELBOURNE—WHOLESALE PRICES—YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1950.

	1949.						1950.					
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.
Agriculture—												
Wheat .. per bushel	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8
Barley—												
English .. ,,	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½
Cape .. ,,	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½
Oats, Milling .. ,,	5 10½	6 0	6 3	6 3½	6 2	6 4	6 4½	6 7	6 11	6 11	6 11	6 10
Maize .. .. ,,	10 5	11 3	11 3	11 9	11 9	11 9	11 9	11 9	11 9	10 9	10 9	12 0
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Bran .. .. per ton	11 5 0	11 5 0	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 3 7½
Pollard .. ,,	11 5 0	11 5 0	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 1 6	11 3 7½
Flour (first quality) ,,	17 11 9	17 11 9	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 8 5	17 11 2¾
Chaff .. .. ,,	10 15 0	10 15 0	11 0 0	11 15 0	11 15 0	11 12 6	11 10 0	11 10 0	11 7 6	11 10 0	11 10 0	11 10 0
Potatoes .. ,,	20 12 6	21 2 6	21 2 6	21 2 6	26 2 6	26 2 6	22 10 0	22 10 0	21 0 0	21 0 0	19 0 0	19 0 0
Onions.. .. ,,	11 12 6	11 12 6	11 12 6	11 12 6	11 12 6	11 12 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6
Dairy and Farmyard Produce—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Butter .. per lb.	1 11½	1 11½	1 11½	1 11½	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾
Bacon .. .. ,,	1 10	1 10	1 11	1 11	2 0	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2
Ham .. .. ,,	2 4	2 4	2 4	2 4	2 5¾	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9
Cheese (matured) ,,	1 5½	1 5½	1 5½	1 5½	1 6	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7
Honey .. ,,	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½
Eggs .. .. per doz.	2 6	2 5	2 5	2 5	2 5	2 6	2 6	2 7¼	2 11¼	3 1	3 2¾	3 3
Butchers' Meat—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beef, prime ..per 100 lb.	3 7 2¼	3 7 2¼	3 7 2¼	3 7 2¼	3 7 2¼	3 17 4½	3 12 4¼	3 12 4¼	3 12 4½	4 18 3	4 11 10½	4 15 10½
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Mutton .. per lb.	6·05	6·49	6·49	6·49	6·49	6·49	6·49	6·49	6·49	10·09	10·49	10·49
Veal .. .. ,,	7·01	7·01	7·01	6·62	7·00	7·37	7·00	7·00	8·75	8·75	8·75	8·75
Pork .. .. ,,	17·50	19·50	20·00	21·58	22·00	23·50	20·25	20·50	21·50	21·00	21·25	21·25
Lamb .. .. ,,	10·55	11·81	11·81	12·50	12·50	12·50	13·25	14·50	16·00	17·75	14·50	17·50

Wholesale Prices of Principal Products.

The following table gives the monthly average of the Melbourne wholesale prices of the principal agricultural, dairying, and pastoral food products for the year ended June, 1951 :—

MELBOURNE—WHOLESALE PRICES—YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1951.

	1950.						1951.					
	July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.
Agriculture—												
Wheat .. per bushel	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 6 8	s. d. 7 10	s. d. 7 10	d. s. 7 10	s. d. 7 10	s. d. 7 10	s. d. 7 10	s. d. 7 10
Barley—												
English .. ,,	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 3½	7 8	7 8	7 8	7 8	7 8	7 8
Cape .. ,,	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	6 6½	7 4½	7 4½	7 4½	7 4½	7 4½	7 4½
Oats, Milling .. ,,	6 10	6 9	7 0	7 3	7 1	7 2	8 1½	8 7	9 6	10 6	10 11	11 0
Maize .. .. ,,	12 0	13 0	12 6	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	13 9	17 3	21 9
	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Bran .. .. per ton	11 6 6	11 6 6	11 6 6	11 6 6	11 6 6	12 5 11	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0
Pollard .. ,,	11 6 6	11 6 6	11 6 6	11 6 6	11 6 6	12 5 11	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0	12 17 0
Flour (first quality) ,,	17 15 1	17 15 1	17 15 1	17 15 1	17 15 1	19 8 4	20 7 4	20 7 4	20 7 4	20 7 4	20 7 4	20 7 4
Chaff .. ,,	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 0 0	12 15 0	13 0 0	13 15 0	13 15 0	14 0 0	15 5 0	17 10 0	18 10 0	20 0 0
Potatoes .. ,,	22 0 0	22 0 0	25 0 0	27 0 0	28 10 0	25 0 0	25 0 0	24 0 0	24 0 0	24 0 0	28 0 0	28 0 0
Onions .. ,,	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	21 17 6	33 15 0	33 15 0	33 15 0	33 15 0	33 15 0	33 15 0
Dairy and Farmyard Produce—	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.	s. d.
Butter .. per lb.	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾	1 11¾
Bacon .. ,,	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2	2 2½	2 6
Ham .. .. ,,	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9	2 9½	3 3
Cheese (matured) ,,	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7	1 7
Honey .. ,,	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 7½	0 9	0 9
Eggs .. .. per doz.	3 3	2 10¾	2 9	2 9	2 9½	3 1¾	3 4	3 6¼	3 8	3 11¾	4 0	4 0
Butchers' Meat—	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.	£ s. d.
Beef, prime .. per 100 lb.	4 11 8	4 14 10½	4 19 8	5 2 10½	5 5 5½	4 17 4	4 14 4½	4 16 0	5 18 0	5 10 10	5 8 0	6 4 2
	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.	d.
Mutton .. per lb.	10·29	10·49	10·49	10·29	9·36	8·97	8·87	9·88	12·75	12·75	15·13	22·25
Veal .. ,,	9·25	8·75	8·12	8·25	11·50	12·50	11·83	14·00	14·67	15·00	13·67	15·67
Pork .. ,,	20·50	23·00	24·75	24·25	25·50	27·20	25·75	26·50	25·75	25·75	25·13	28·75
Lamb .. ,,	15·25	19·50	17·25	15·00	15·50	16·13	16·16	17·00	21·00	21·50	24·00	30·50

Retail Prices.

The following table gives the monthly average of the Melbourne retail prices of certain items of groceries, &c., for the year ended June, 1950 :—

MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICES—YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1950.

Article.	Unit.	1949.						1950.					
		July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—													
Bread	2 lb.	8·00	8·00	8·00	8·00	8·00	8·00	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50
Flour, self-raising	,,	9·50	9·50	9·50	9·50	9·50	9·95	9·95	9·95	9·95	9·95	9·95	9·95
Tea	lb.	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00
Sugar	,,	4·50	4·50	4·50	4·50	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	16·00	15·95	15·95	15·85	15·85	15·95	16·05	16·00	16·00	16·80	16·85	16·90
Oats, flaked	lb.	5·28	5·46	5·54	5·47	5·61	5·69	5·69	5·81	6·13	6·46	6·46	6·66
Raisins, seeded	,,	16·25	16·72	16·78	16·78	16·78	17·11	17·25	17·25	17·35	18·39	18·39	18·67
Currants	,,	12·56	12·79	12·81	13·00	12·94	13·22	13·56	13·33	13·44	14·50	15·14	15·57
Apricots, dried	,,	26·00	25·50	25·50	25·00	25·00	25·00	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17
Peaches, canned	30 oz.	18·00	17·85	18·50	18·55	18·65	18·55	18·50	18·50	19·56	20·57	20·71	20·56
Pears, canned	,,	19·10	19·10	19·65	19·70	19·75	19·70	19·60	19·70	20·83	21·78	22·06	21·94
Potatoes	7 lb.	21·00	21·00	21·00	21·00	22·25	21·69	21·00	21·00	21·00	21·00	21·52	21·43
Onions, brown	lb.	2·88	2·94	2·94	3·25	4·08	3·58	3·67	3·58	3·71	3·86	3·86	3·70
Dairy Produce—													
Butter, factory	lb.	26·30	26·30	26·30	26·30	26·30	26·30	26·30	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35
Eggs, new laid	doz.	34·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·00	33·90	33·90	34·00	40·00	43·00	44·00	44·10
Bacon, rashers	lb.	34·33	36·25	37·63	38·38	40·38	40·38	40·63	44·13	44·25	44·25	44·25	44·25
Milk, fresh	quart	10·90	10·18	10·18	10·18	10·18	10·18	10·18	11·53	11·68	11·68	11·68	11·68
Meat—													
Beef, sirloin	lb.	17·60	17·80	17·80	17·90	17·90	19·50	19·50	19·60	19·60	19·80	20·20	20·30
,, rib	,,	14·50	14·70	14·70	14·70	14·70	16·45	16·30	16·40	16·50	17·17	17·15	17·20
,, steak, rump	,,	26·55	26·65	26·75	26·65	26·65	28·20	28·60	28·60	28·60	29·20	29·50	29·50
,, ,, chuck	,,	12·10	12·30	12·30	12·30	12·30	13·70	13·90	13·90	14·60	14·80	14·60	14·60
,, sausages	,,	10·90	10·90	11·00	10·90	11·00	12·30	12·30	12·20	12·80	12·90	13·28	13·28
,, corned silvers'de	,,	16·40	16·60	16·60	16·70	16·70	18·40	18·65	18·60	18·80	19·45	19·25	19·25
,, ,, brisket	,,	10·78	11·11	11·11	11·22	11·22	12·78	13·00	13·00	13·11	13·44	13·33	13·33
Mutton, leg	,,	13·50	13·88	13·88	13·88	13·88	13·88	13·88	13·81	14·13	14·25	14·38	14·38
,, forequarter	,,	6·94	7·56	7·50	7·50	7·50	7·50	7·63	7·50	7·94	8·56	8·69	8·56
,, loin	,,	11·71	12·14	12·29	12·29	12·29	12·29	12·14	12·29	12·71	13·25	13·50	13·50
,, chops, loin	,,	12·38	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·75	12·75	13·00	13·00	13·50	14·50	14·63	14·75
,, ,, leg	,,	13·88	13·94	13·94	13·94	13·94	13·94	13·81	13·81	14·19	14·94	15·06	15·19
Pork, leg	,,	24·75	26·29	26·71	27·71	30·14	32·14	32·57	32·14	32·00	32·43	31·75	31·50
,, chops	,,	26·13	28·00	28·86	30·14	32·00	33·29	33·71	33·29	34·83	34·71	33·25	33·50

Retail Prices.

The following table gives the monthly average of the Melbourne retail prices of certain items of groceries, &c., for the year ended June, 1951 :—

MELBOURNE—RETAIL PRICES—YEAR ENDED JUNE, 1951.

Article.	Unit.	1950.						1951.					
		July.	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April.	May.	June.
		d.	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*	*d.*
Groceries, &c.—													
Bread	2 lb.	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50	8·50	9·50	9·50	9·50	10·00	10·00	10·00
Flour, self-raising	,,	10·00	10·00	10·00	10·00	10·00	10·05	11·40	12·00	12·10	12·10	12·10	12·00
Tea	lb.	40·00	40·00	40·00	40·00	40·00	40·00	46·00	45·75	46·05	46·00	46·00	46·00
Sugar	,,	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00
Jam, plum	1½ lb.	16·85	16·90	16·90	16·90	17·00	17·00	17·00	18·55	19·05	19·35	19·35	19·45
Oats, flaked	lb.	6·84	6·47	6·41	6·47	6·47	6·53	6·61	6·79	7·08	7·92	8·07	9·42
Raisins, seeded	,,	18·67	19·71	20·00	20·25	19·83	19·80	20·40	22·40	27·33	27·71	27·86	27·86
Currants	,,	15·57	15·50	15·50	15·50	15·38	15·29	15·29	16·81	16·75	18·75	19·81	19·81
Apricots, dried	,,	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17	25·17	33·46	39·21	46·00	47·00
Peaches, canned	30 oz.	20·69	20·78	20·78	20·89	20·72	20·72	20·70	20·75	21·06	22·58	26·00	26·00
Pears, canned	,,	22·00	22·10	22·15	22·20	22·06	21·94	22·00	21·95	22·07	23·42	26·00	26·00
Potatoes	7 lb.	25·73	23·36	26·00	28·00	28·00	30·92	26·50	27·50	26·83	28·00	28·00	28·00
Onions, brown	lb.	3·67	3·58	3·58	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·00	5·25	5·10	5·00	5·00	5·00
Dairy Produce—													
Butter, factory	lb.	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35	26·35
Eggs, new laid	doz.	44·00	37·90	37·80	37·80	37·80	41·00	45·10	47·00	48·80	53·80	53·90	53·90
Bacon, rashers	lb.	44·25	44·25	44·38	44·63	44·75	44·75	44·63	48·88	49·38	49·75	50·00	50·00
Milk, fresh	quart	11·68	11·68	11·40	11·39	11·42	11·42	11·40	13·25	13·25	13·25	14·25	14·25
Meat—		September Quarter			December Quarter			March Quarter			June Quarter		
Beef	lb.	21·17			24·28			25·37			28·06		
,, rib	,,	17·97			21·29			22·73			24·91		
,, steak, rump	,,	30·23			34·25			36·15			39·09		
,, ,, chuck	,,	15·13			17·99			19·27			22·37		
,, sausages	,,	13·37			14·94			16·08			17·61		
,, corned silverside	,,	20·17			23·33			25·05			27·41		
,, ,, brisket	,,	14·22			17·40			18·21			20·54		
Mutton, leg	,,	15·40			17·95			19·38			23·58		
,, forequarter	,,	9·48			11·79			12·34			16·40		
,, loin	,,	14·54			16·56			19·33			25·45		
,, chops, loin	,,	15·28			17·42			19·52			24·45		
,, ,, leg	,,	15·93			18·21			20·32			24·64		
Pork, leg	,,	33·33			36·88			37·57			37·97		
,, chops	,,	34·67			38·05			38·88			39·71		

FORESTRY.

Administration. The forests of the State comprise both reserved and protected areas and are controlled by a Commission appointed in 1919.

Forest Area. At the 30th June, 1950, the area of reserved forest was 4,975,056 acres, much of which can be classed only as protection forest and is not strictly speaking timber producing. It is estimated that there are 10,000,000 acres of Crown lands in the State carrying merchantable timber.

Protected Forests. In addition to the 4,975,056 acres aforementioned, there were 164,609 acres reserved as Timber Reserves under the Land Acts. Including these reserves, but excluding areas reserved as sites for Gardens, Parks and Recreation Purposes, all remaining Crown lands have been proclaimed " Protected Forests ". It should not be assumed, however, that all of these lands are " forests " as the term is generally understood, as over 6,000,000 acres comprise roads, water frontages, beds of rivers and lakes, and unsold land in cities, towns, and boroughs. In addition, on the area of more than 8,000,000 acres in occupation under grazing and other leases, much of the timber is of little or no commercial value because of remoteness, inaccessibility, or other causes.

Forests Output. The output of sawn timber from State Forests in 1949–50 was 27,423,976 cubic feet. In addition 34,304,640 cubic feet of fuel timber and 7,026,525 cubic feet of miscellaneous timber were produced.

Particulars of sawn timber and firewood, from all sources, will be found in part " Factories " etc., of the *Year Book*.

Softwood Plantations. The area planted during the 1949 planting season was 2,780 acres, comprising restocking cut-over areas, 8 acres; new planting 2,404 acres; and renewals 303 acres. The effective plantation area at 30th June, 1950, was 52,096 acres.

Plantation Output.

The output of plantation-grown softwood timber amounted to 12,156,328 superficial feet. The corresponding total for 1948–49 was 13,215,834 superficial feet.

Other Commercial Softwood Plantations.

There are not many private commercial plantations of softwoods in Victoria. The largest is at Dartmoor, near the South Australian border, where a company holds 11,361 acres. Of this area 9,000 acres are in Victoria and approximately 6,000 acres thereof have been planted. The same company holds 1,200 acres at Rosebud (650 acres planted).

The Ballarat Water Commission has an area of approximately 3,500 acres available for afforestation, of which 1,100 acres are planted with conifers. Its present planting programme provides for 50,000 trees (100 acres) per annum.

Trees and forest thinnings, down to a diameter of about five inches, are utilized in the Commission's case-making plant, the value of the output of which amounts approximately to £55,000 per annum. Smaller diameter thinnings are disposed of for paper pulping purposes.

Severe damage to the plantations was caused by the bush fires of 1939, about 240,000 trees being destroyed. This area has now been re-afforested. The number of effective conifers growing on the Commission's Reserves is 643,000.

Timber salvage from burnt-out areas.

Following upon the disastrous bush fires of 1939 (references to which appeared on pages 5, 286, 494, and 495 of the 1938–39 issue of the *Year-Book*) it was estimated that of the 2,000,000,000 superficial feet of fire-killed timber, 916,000,000 superficial feet could be recovered. This target was attained by May, 1945. Under the provisions of the *State Forests (Timber Salvage) Loan and Application Act* 1939, salvage of Mountain Ash and Alpine Ash timber is still proceeding at a satisfactory rate and up to 30th June, 1950, 1,334,226,146 superficial feet of serviceable timber had been recovered.

Nurseries. To encourage the growth of softwoods or conifers in both State and private plantations, three large nurseries have been established at Creswick, Macedon, and Broadford. In addition to providing trees for the plantations, the nurseries supply considerable numbers of plants at low rates to State schools, public bodies, and private applicants. This has proved of great benefit to the community by fostering an interest in tree planting generally, and especially by encouraging farmers to plant trees to afford protection to their homesteads and to provide shade and shelter for their flocks and herds.

Forestry Fund. Particulars in respect of this fund (established in 1918) will be found on page 355 of the 1943–44 issue of the *Year-Book*.

Revenue and Expenditure. The revenue derived from forest sources during the financial year 1949–50 was £1,130,307, and the expenditure £2,574,197—£757,906 of which was paid out of the Consolidated Revenue, £1,554,021 out of loan funds, and the balance (£262,270) from the Forestry Fund.

Silviculture of Indigenous Forests. The various types of silvicultural operations in the indigenous forests over the period 1946–47 to 1949–50 are indicated in the following table :—

VICTORIA—SILVICULTURAL OPERATIONS IN STATE FORESTS, 1946–47 TO 1949–50.

Nature of Work.	Year ended 30th June—			
	1947.	1948.	1949.	1950.
	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.	Acres.
First thinning	5,330	7,903	6,870	5,392
Second or subsequent thinning ..	1,515	1,826	2,540	2,310
Regeneration or liberation treatment by ring-barking	486	4,326	5,286	3,236
Removal of surplus coppice ..	7,120	15,157	15,273	16,079
Total area treated ..	14,451	29,212	29,969	27,017

The Wood-Pulp Agreement Act. The *Wood-Pulp Agreement Act* 1936 (No. 4451) passed on 27th December, 1936, is "an Act to ratify validate approve and otherwise give effect to an agreement between the Minister of Forests, the Forests Commission, and Australian Paper Manufacturers Limited with respect to the establishment of the wood-pulp industry". Details of the agreement will be found in previous issues of the *Year-Book*.

Production of wood-pulp.

The first manufacturing unit—the Pilot Mill—erected in accordance with the abovementioned agreement came into production in January, 1938, with a capacity production of 3,000 tons of air-dried pulp per annum. The main mill, which commenced production in October, 1939, has a capacity output of approximately 30,000 tons of kraft pulp per annum.

Supply of pulp-wood from State forests.

Consignment of pulp-wood from the State forests to the mill at Maryvale commenced in October, 1937. During the year 1949–50, the quantities of pulp-wood obtained from the State forests totalled 3,334,459 cubic feet as compared with 3,373,704 cubic feet in 1948–49.