

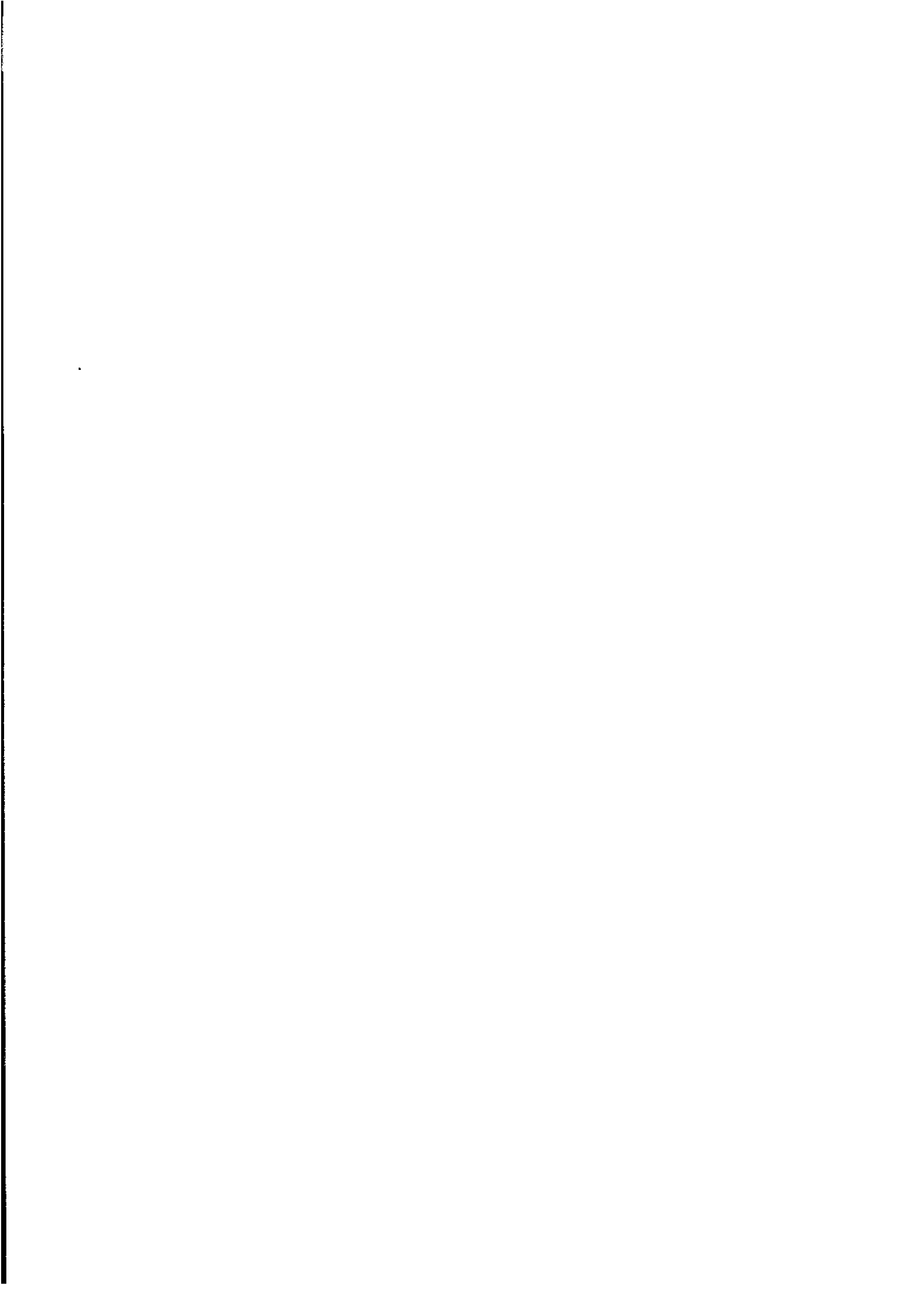


1994-95

# PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES NEW SOUTH WALES PRELIMINARY

Statistics

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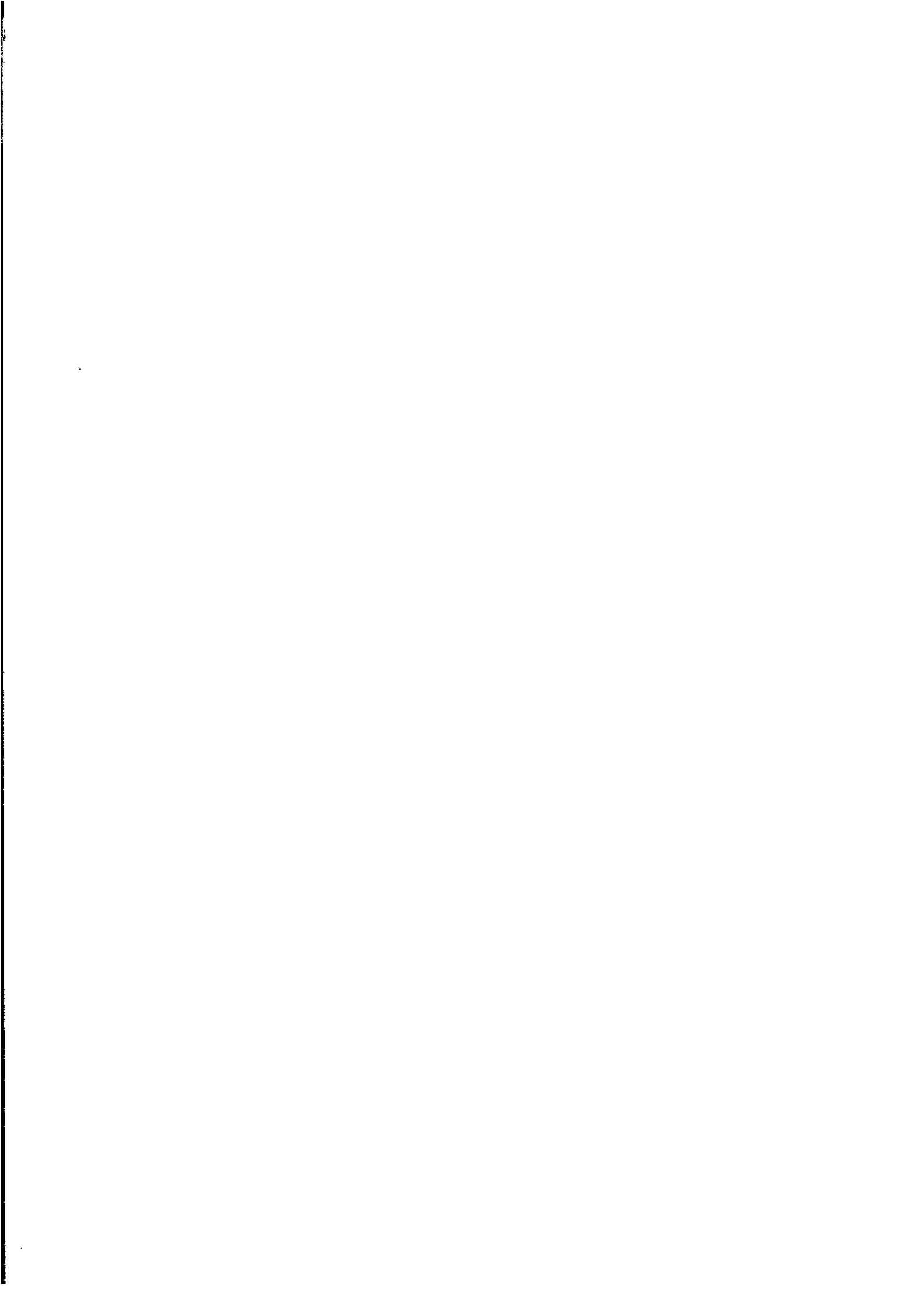
**PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES  
NEW SOUTH WALES  
PRELIMINARY  
1994-95**

**W. McLennan  
Australian Statistician**

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**CATALOGUE NO. 7111.1**

**August 1995**



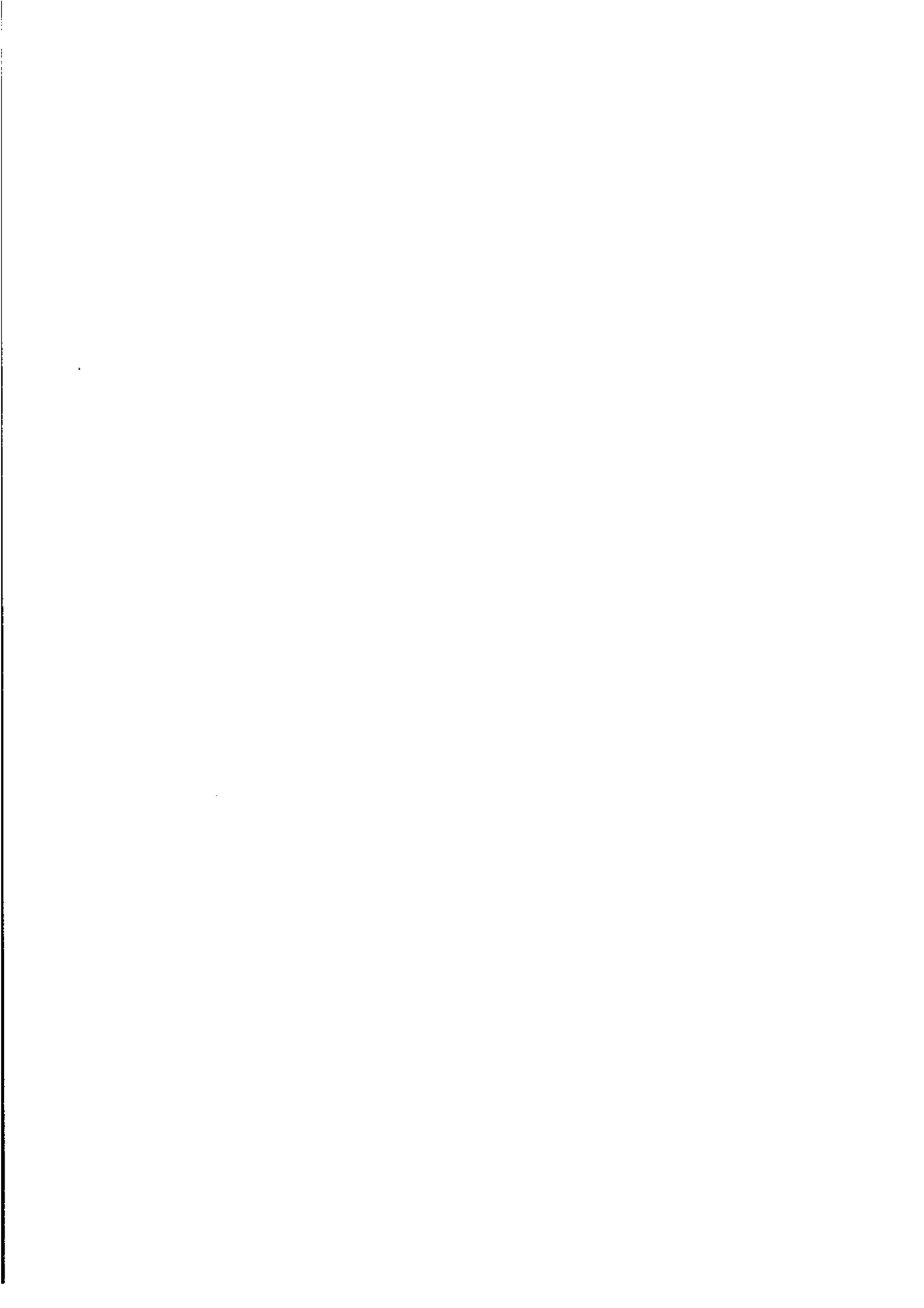
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### INQUIRIES

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## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Preliminary New South Wales estimates from the 1994-95 Agricultural Census show:

## CROPS

## Wheat

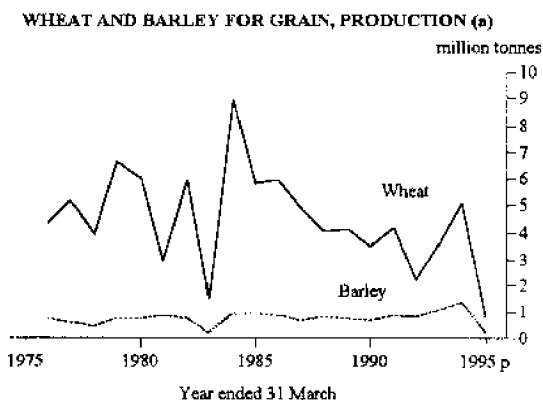
The area of wheat planted for grain during the 1994-95 season was 1,492 thousand hectares. This was down by nearly one quarter on the 1,978 thousand hectares planted during the previous year.

Wheat production of 764 thousand tonnes for 1994-95 was down 85 per cent on the 5,086 thousand tonnes harvested in 1993-94.

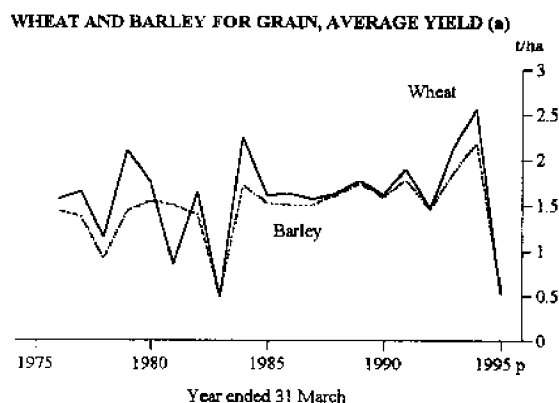
The average yield of wheat at 0.5 tonnes per hectare was the lowest since 1983 when a similar level was recorded. The yield for 1993-94 was 2.6 tonnes per hectare.

## Barley

The area of barley planted in 1994-95 was down by nearly one third from 623 thousand hectares in 1993-94 to 421 thousand hectares. Production dropped 82 per cent from 1,357 thousand tonnes to 241 thousand tonnes. The yield averaged only 0.6 tonnes per hectare in 1994-95 compared with 2.2 tonnes per hectare in 1993-94.



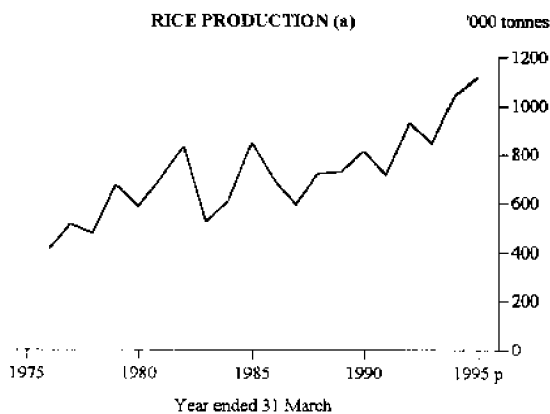
(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.



(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

## Rice

Rice planting increased slightly, from 125 thousand hectares in 1993-94 to 127 thousand hectares in 1994-95. Production from this area was 7 per cent higher in 1994-95 at 1,117 thousand tonnes. The average yield increased from 8.4 tonnes per hectare to 8.8 tonnes per hectare.



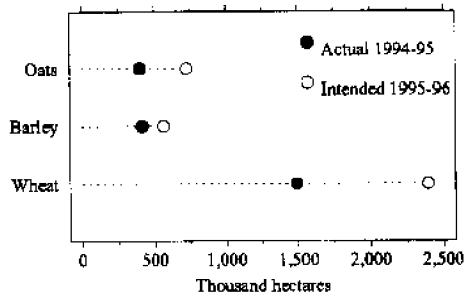
(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

**Intended sowings**

Growers have reported that their intended sowings for 1995-96 for the main cereal crops (for all purposes) are all higher than for 1994-95.

The area intended to be sown for wheat is 2,403 thousand hectares, up 26 per cent on intentions for the previous year and 56 per cent higher than the actual plantings in 1994-95. For oats, growers intend to sow 726 thousand hectares in 1995-96, up 27 per cent on their intended sowings for 1994-95, and 58 per cent higher than their actual sowings in 1994-95. The area of barley intended to be sown for the 1995-96 season is 569 thousand hectares, up 5 per cent on 1994-95 intended sowings, and 35 per cent higher than the actual plantings in 1994-95.

**ACTUAL SOWINGS FOR 1994-95 AND INTENDED SOWINGS FOR 1995-96 FOR ALL PURPOSES**

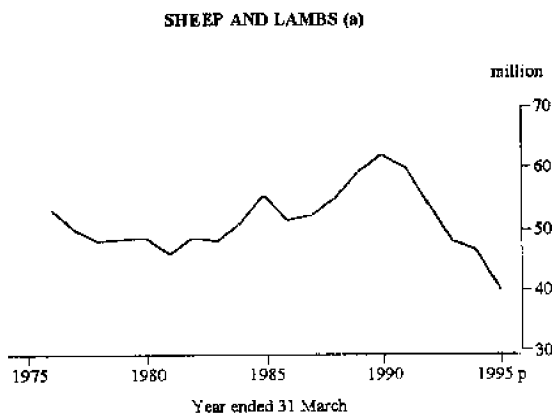


**LIVESTOCK**

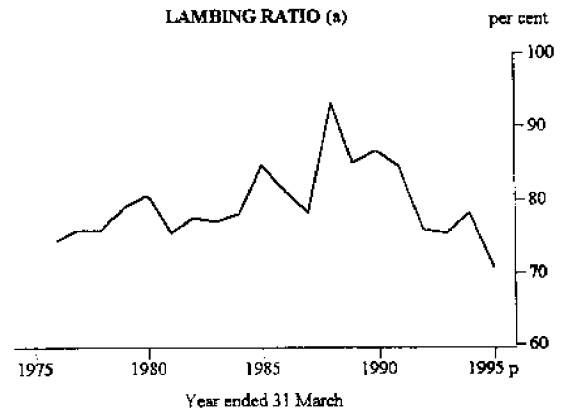
**Sheep and lambs**

The preliminary estimate for the total flock of sheep and lambs at 31 March 1995 was 39.8 million. This was 15 per cent down on the 1994 figure. There were 19 per cent fewer lambs and hoggets aged under one year and 13 per cent fewer other sheep.

There were 19.0 million sheep mated during the year ended 31 March 1995. From these matings 13.5 million lambs were marked. While matings fell by only 2 per cent the number of lambs marked fell by 12 per cent. For the 1993-94 season, 78 per cent of matings resulted in lambs being marked. This fell to 71 per cent for 1994-95.



(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

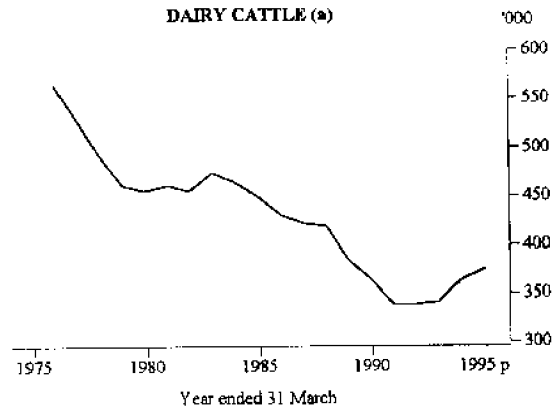


(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.



**Dairy cattle**

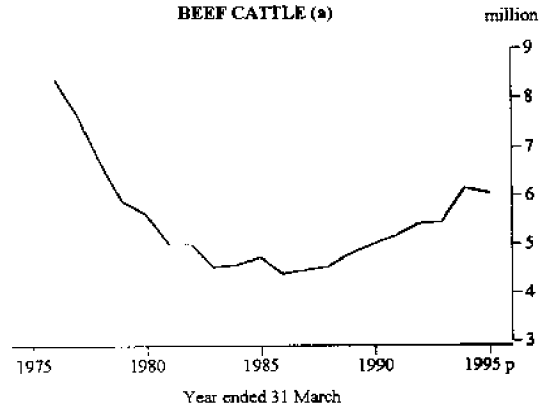
The New South Wales dairy cattle herd increased from 364 thousand at 31 March 1994 to 375 thousand at 31 March 1995. This was an increase of 3 per cent.



(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

**Beef cattle**

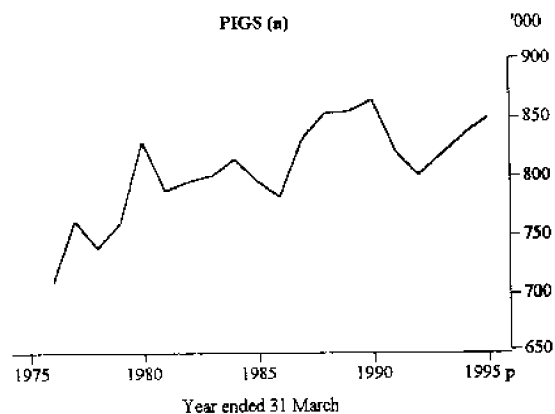
The number of beef cattle fell slightly (2%) during the year ended 31 March 1995 to 6.0 million. Bulls and bull calves for service rose 6 per cent during the period, while other calves rose by 2 per cent. Cows and heifers aged over one year fell by 11 per cent during the period. This is the first decline in the beef cattle herd since 1986.



(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

**Pigs**

The number of pigs recorded at 31 March 1995 showed an increase of 2 per cent to 850 thousand.



(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

## PRINCIPAL CROPS

**TABLE 1. AREA INTENDED TO BE SOWN TO CEREAL CROPS FOR ALL PURPOSES (a), YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1995 TO 1996**

	<i>Intended sowings 1995</i>	<i>Actual sowings 1995p</i>	<i>Intended sowings 1996p</i>	<i>Change 1996p over 1995 (%) (b)</i>	<i>Standard error (%) (c)</i>
<i>'000 hectares</i>					
Barley	541.8	420.6	568.9	5.0	2.5
Oats	571.9	460.0	726.3	27.0	1.6
Wheat	1,910.2	1,538.0	2,403.2	25.8	1.4

(a) The area intended to be sown during 1996 is presented as a possible basis for forecasting the total area to be sown for that season. But, because of the possibility of later changes in intention caused by unforeseen circumstances such as adverse climatic or economic conditions, this estimate may not necessarily be the area actually sown during the current season.

(b) Percentage change of 1996 intended sowings over 1995 intended sowings.

(c) Standard errors are calculated on 1996 preliminary estimates for intended sowings.

**TABLE 2. AREA AND PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1992 TO 1995 (a)**

	<i>1992</i>	<i>1993</i>	<i>1994</i>	<i>1995p</i>	<i>Change 1995p over 1994 (%) (b)</i>	<i>Standard error (%) (b)</i>
<i>Area ('000 hectares)</i>						
<b>Cereals for grain</b>						
Barley	517.5	559.7	623.0	420.6	-32.5	2.5
Oats	456.7	447.6	369.0	405.1	9.8	2.5
Wheat	1,499.3	1,694.0	1,977.7	1,492.3	-24.5	1.8
Rice	109.2	104.6	124.6	126.9	1.8	2.0
<b>Other crops</b>						
Canola/Rapeseed	101.0	70.5	100.6	180.8	79.7	3.6
Sugar cane	15.1	15.5	14.9	16.1	8.1	2.4
<i>Production ('000 tonnes)</i>						
<b>Cereals for grain</b>						
Barley	748.8	1,043.8	1,357.0	241.4	-82.2	3.9
Oats	578.8	761.4	617.8	166.9	-73.0	3.1
Wheat	2,183.0	3,582.7	5,086.1	763.8	-85.0	2.8
Rice	928.5	845.9	1,042.1	1,116.8	7.2	2.0
<b>Other crops</b>						
Canola/Rapeseed	117.7	133.0	192.6	84.5	-56.1	5.6
Sugar cane	1,415.7	1,666.6	1,674.2	1,753.8	4.8	2.6
<i>Yield (tonnes per hectare)</i>						
<b>Cereals for grain</b>						
Barley	1.5	1.9	2.2	0.6	-72.7	n.a.
Oats	1.3	1.7	1.7	0.4	-76.5	n.a.
Wheat	1.5	2.1	2.6	0.5	-80.8	n.a.
Rice	8.5	8.1	8.4	8.8	7.8	n.a.
<b>Other crops</b>						
Canola/Rapeseed	1.2	1.9	1.9	0.5	-73.7	n.a.
Sugar cane	93.8	107.5	112.4	108.9	-3.1	n.a.

(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Standard errors are calculated on the 1995 preliminary estimates for area and production of principal crops.

## LIVESTOCK

TABLE 3. SHEEP, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1992 TO 1995 (a)

	1992	1993	1994	1995p	Change	Standard
					1995p over 1994 (%)	error (%) (b)
	(000)					
Lambs and hoggets under one year	10,643.4	10,022.1	10,836.2	8,767.9	-19.1	1.1
Other sheep	42,968.6	38,087.1	35,695.3	31,011.5	-13.1	0.6
<b>Total</b>	<b>53,612.0</b>	<b>48,109.2</b>	<b>46,531.5</b>	<b>39,779.4</b>	<b>-14.5</b>	<b>1.7</b>

(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Standard errors are calculated on the 1995 preliminary estimate of sheep numbers.

TABLE 4. MATINGS AND LAMBINGS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1993 TO 1996 (a)

	1993	1994	1995	1996p	Standard
					error (%) (b)
	(000)				
Farmers' forecast of intended matings of ewes for lambing					
To merino rams	14,376.4	14,957.4	13,470.6	12,603.1	0.8
To rams of other breeds	8,007.0	6,773.4	6,753.9	5,280.8	1.4
Total intended matings	22,383.4	21,730.8	20,224.4	17,883.9	2.2
Actual matings	19,718.1	19,393.2	18,999.9p	n.y.a.	n.a.
Lambs marked	14,858.4	15,164.1	13,415.5p	n.y.a.	n.a.
	Per cent				
Actual matings as a percentage of Intended matings	88.1	89.2	93.9p	n.a.	n.a.
Lambs marked as a percentage of Actual matings	75.4	78.2	70.6p	n.a.	n.a.

(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Standard errors are calculated on the 1996 preliminary estimates for intended matings.

TABLE 5. CATTLE, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1992 TO 1995 (a)

	1992	1993	1994	1995p	Change	Standard
					1995p over 1994 (%)	error (%) (b)
	(000)					
Dairy cattle						
Cows, in milk and dry	220.6	221.0	231.6	249.7	7.8	1.3
Bulls and bull calves for service	4.4	3.5	4.5	124.8	-5.7	1.7
Heifers and heifer calves	112.8	116.6	127.8			
Total dairy cattle	337.8	341.1	363.9	374.5	2.9	3.0
Beef cattle						
Bulls and bull calves for service	121.8	119.7	135.2	143.3	6.0	1.6
Other calves one year and under	1,542.3	1,515.6	1,688.8	1,725.4	2.2	1.0
Cows and heifers, one year and over						
For beef and herd replacement	2,731.5	2,888.7	2,643.0	2,901.3	-10.5	1.9
Other			599.6			
Other cattle	963.5	916.0	1,060.5	1,264.5	19.2	3.8
Total beef cattle	5,359.1	5,440.0	6,127.1	6,034.5	-1.5	8.3
<b>Total all cattle</b>	<b>5,697.0</b>	<b>5,781.0</b>	<b>6,419.0</b>	<b>6,409.0</b>	<b>-1.3</b>	<b>11.3</b>

(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Standard errors are calculated on the 1995 preliminary estimates for cattle numbers.

TABLE 6. PIGS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1992 TO 1995 (a)

	1992	1993	1994	1995p	Change 1995p over 1994 (%)	Standard error (%) (b)
		(000)				
Total pigs	798.9	817.6	834.1	849.9	1.9	7.2

(a) See paragraph 4 of the Explanatory Notes.

(b) Standard errors are calculated on 1995 preliminary estimates for pig numbers.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### Introduction

1. This publication contains preliminary agricultural estimates for the 1994-95 season, together with estimates of intended sowings of principal crops and intended ewe matings for the forthcoming season. Comparative data for the three previous years is also included.

### Scope and coverage

2. From 1986-87 to 1990-91 the scope of the Census included those establishments undertaking agricultural activity and having an estimated value of agricultural operations (EVAO) of \$20,000 or more. Prior to 1986-87 the EVAO cut-off was \$2,500 or more. From 1991-92 to 1992-93, only those establishments with an EVAO of \$22,500 or more were included.

3. From 1993-94 the census is based on a scope of \$5,000 or more EVAO.

4. The figures shown in tables in this publication for 1993-94 and 1994-95 are based on the \$5,000 EVAO cut-off. The figures for 1991-92 and 1992-93 have not been adjusted to a \$5,000 EVAO basis and therefore are not comparable with later years. The data presented in the graphs are based on the scope of the collection which applied at the time.

### Reliability of estimates

5. Since the estimates are based on a proportion (approximately 40%) of agricultural establishments selected for survey in 1994-95, they are subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all units had been included.

6. One measure of the likely difference is given by the *standard error*, which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied because only a sample of units was included. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one standard error from the figure that would have been obtained if all units had been included and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two standard errors.

7. In this publication, sampling variability is measured by the relative standard error which is obtained by expressing the standard error as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. The relative standard error is a useful measure, in that it provides an immediate indication of the percentage errors likely to have occurred due to sampling. It avoids the need to refer also to the size of the estimate.

8. As an example of the above, if a sample gives an estimate of 1,000 hectares and the relative standard error is five per cent then there would be two chances in three that, if all units were included, a figure within the range of 950 to 1,050 hectares would have been obtained. There would also be nineteen chances in twenty that the figure would lie within the range 900 to 1,100 hectares.

### Symbols

kg	kilograms
n.a.	not available
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary - figure or series
t	tonnes
t/ha	tonnes per hectare

### General

9. Revised estimates will be available in mid September this year when most of the Agricultural Census returns have been processed. Final results will be published early in 1996.

10. The ABS has a more detailed agricultural statistics on MS-DOS compatible floppy disk, compact disk, microfiche and magnetic tape. AgStats on floppy disk and compact disk offers a wider range of data aggregated at a smaller geographical areas than those generally available in printed publications. Both systems come complete with an easy-to-use, menu-driven interrogation facility.

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