



FINAL ISSUE

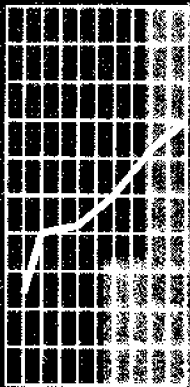
1996-97

EMBARGO: 11:30 AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 7 OCT 1997

# Principal Agricultural Commodities

## New South Wales

### Preliminary



## NOTES

### SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
EVAO	estimated value of agricultural operations
ha	hectares
n.c.	not collected
n.y.a.	not yet available
p	preliminary
r	figure or series revised since previous issue
RSE	relative standard error
t	tonnes
—	nil or rounded to zero

### REVISIONS TO FIGURES

State totals in this publication may differ from those in the recently released national publication *Selected Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary, 1996-97* (Cat. no. 7112.0). Differences in the totals are due to updated processing.

### INQUIRIES

For further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Helen Gardiner on Sydney (02) 9268 4562 or any ABS State office.

For information about other ABS statistics and services, please refer to the back of this publication.

Gregory W. Bray  
Regional Director

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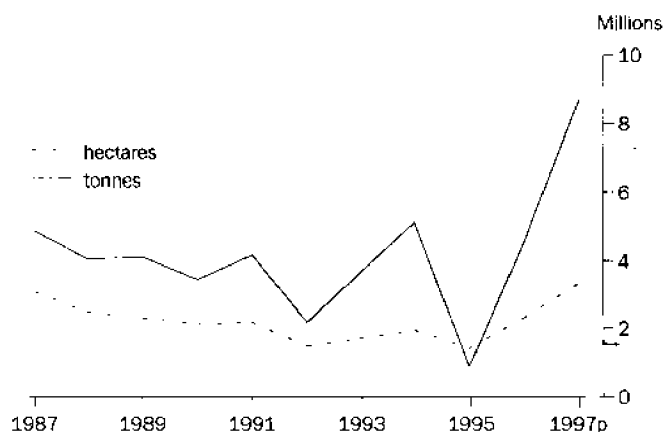
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## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### CROPS

The area sown to wheat for grain in 1996–97 was 3.3 million hectares, 42.4% more than in 1995–96. Production was 8.7 million tonnes, nearly double the 1995–96 crop. The North Western Statistical Division (SD) accounted for 30.2% of area and 26.0% of production. The other main wheat regions, in terms of production, were Northern SD (26.9%), Central West SD (18.5%) and Murrumbidgee SD (16.0%) (see table 1).

#### Wheat



The area sown to barley for grain increased 13.5% from the previous year to 673,100 hectares. Production increased 40.5% to just over 1.5 million tonnes. Barley for grain was sown in all SDs except Sydney. The major contributors to production were Northern, Central West and Murrumbidgee SDs which together accounted for 70.5% of the State's production (see table 1).

### HORTICULTURE

During 1996–97, there was an increase in orange production. The harvest of 233,700 tonnes was 31.5% more than in 1995–96. The number of trees six years and over increased 6.7% to 3.4 million. In terms of tree numbers, the two principal regions for oranges were Murrumbidgee SD (2.2 million trees six years and over) and Murray SD (783,900 trees six years and over). Murrumbidgee SD produced 68.7% of the orange crop and Murray SD produced 23.4% (see table 5).

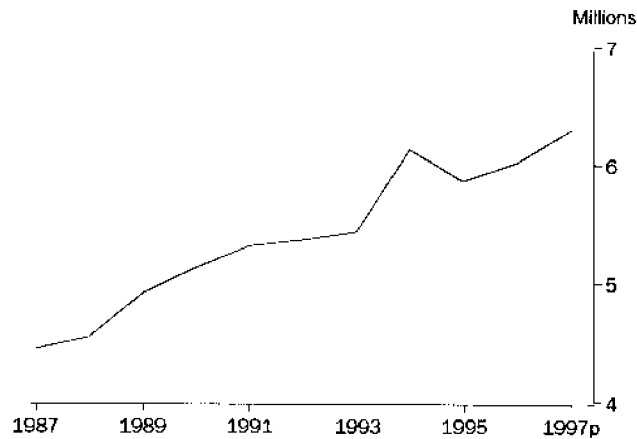
The number of apple trees six years and over at 31 March 1997 was 1.4 million, an increase of 5.7% from 31 March 1996. In terms of tree numbers six years and over, the major apple growing areas in NSW were Central West and Murrumbidgee. These SDs accounted for 86.6% of the State's trees (see table 5).

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS** *continued*

**LIVESTOCK**

At 31 March 1997, the meat cattle herd was 6.3 million, 4.1% above the 31 March 1996 figure. The Northern SD accounted for 28.7% of the total meat cattle herd and the North Western SD accounted for 13.7% (see table 8).

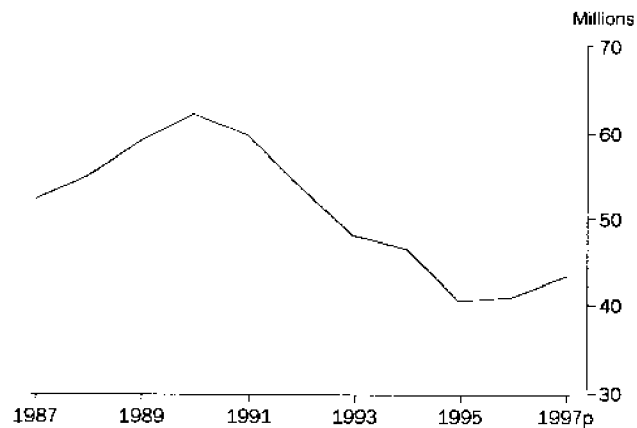
**Meat Cattle**



The milk cattle herd increased to 402,000 at 31 March 1997, a rise of 8.3% from the previous year. The major SDs, in terms of numbers, were Mid-North Coast and Hunter which together accounted for 35.2% of the State's milk cattle (see table 9).

Sheep and lamb numbers increased 5.7% to 43.4 million at 31 March 1997. The major SDs, in terms of numbers, were North Western and Central West which together accounted for 36.8% of the State's flock (see table 10). The number of lambs marked increased 13.9% to 15.5 million (see table 11).

**Sheep and lambs**



# 1

## CEREALS FOR GRAIN—Year ended 31 March 1997p

Statistical division	BARLEY.....		GRAIN SORGHUM .....		OATS .....	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t
Sydney	—	—	—	n.y.a.	0.2	0.4
Hunter	5.2	17.3	11.1	n.y.a.	3.8	4.8
Illawarra	0.1	0.2	—	n.y.a.	0.3	0.3
Richmond-Tweed	2.0	4.0	—	n.y.a.	0.1	0.2
Mid-North Coast	0.5	1.1	0.1	n.y.a.	0.1	0.1
Northern	185.3	491.5	106.0	n.y.a.	40.4	48.9
North Western	109.0	227.7	7.6	n.y.a.	98.0	131.5
Central West	143.2	311.8	0.3	n.y.a.	134.9	216.0
South Eastern	2.4	4.5	—	n.y.a.	24.2	42.2
Murrumbidgee	124.5	260.7	0.7	n.y.a.	58.5	101.2
Murray	98.1	180.5	0.6	n.y.a.	34.9	64.0
Far West	2.8	9.5	—	n.y.a.	0.1	0.1
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	<b>673.1</b>	<b>1 508.8</b>	<b>126.4</b>	<b>n.y.a.</b>	<b>395.5</b>	<b>609.7</b>
1996	<b>593.2</b>	<b>1 073.6</b>	<b>170.7</b>	<b>471.6</b>	<b>505.1</b>	<b>711.2</b>
1995	<b>409.8</b>	<b>291.5</b>	<b>160.7</b>	<b>346.6</b>	<b>375.5</b>	<b>197.3</b>

Statistical division	RICE .....		TRITICALE .....		WHEAT .....	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t
Sydney	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hunter	—	—	0.1	0.3	23.9	81.3
Illawarra	—	—	0.1	0.5	0.1	0.2
Richmond-Tweed	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mid-North Coast	—	—	—	0.1	—	—
Northern	—	—	0.9	2.8	805.0	2 332.9
North Western	—	—	3.5	6.9	1 000.4	2 252.4
Central West	—	—	12.9	37.1	608.4	1 603.1
South Eastern	—	—	21.2	56.3	66.3	224.7
Murrumbidgee	75.6	635.2	54.1	140.2	479.5	1 387.0
Murray	87.1	708.8	31.8	90.8	328.6	783.5
Far West	—	—	—	—	4.0	11.8
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	<b>162.8</b>	<b>1 343.9</b>	<b>124.6</b>	<b>334.9</b>	<b>3 316.1</b>	<b>8 676.9</b>
1996	<b>136.3</b>	<b>965.1</b>	<b>75.3</b>	<b>208.8</b>	<b>2 328.2</b>	<b>4 508.4</b>
1995	<b>118.8</b>	<b>1 015.8</b>	<b>48.8</b>	<b>54.0</b>	<b>1 423.8</b>	<b>874.6</b>

Statistical division	CHICK PEAS .....		FABA BEANS .....		FIELD PEAS .....	
	Area '000 ha	Production '000 t	Area '000 ha	Production '000 t	Area '000 ha	Production '000 t
Sydney	—	—	—	—	—	—
Hunter	—	—	—	—	—	—
Illawarra	—	—	—	—	—	—
Richmond-Tweed	—	—	—	—	—	—
Mid-North Coast	—	—	—	—	—	—
Northern	19.2	30.6	6.4	14.0	1.7	1.7
North Western	12.5	9.6	1.0	1.4	1.0	1.3
Central West	1.0	1.3	0.2	0.5	1.1	1.9
South Eastern	—	—	—	—	—	—
Murrumbidgee	0.6	0.6	1.0	2.5	6.3	8.0
Murray	1.0	1.0	1.0	1.8	5.2	5.7
Far West	—	—	—	—	—	—
<b>New South Wales</b>						
<b>1997p</b>	<b>34.3</b>	<b>43.1</b>	<b>9.7</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>15.4</b>	<b>18.6</b>
<b>1996</b>	<b>31.4</b>	<b>30.6</b>	<b>10.2</b>	<b>10.1</b>	<b>20.1</b>	<b>21.9</b>
<b>1995</b>	<b>20.2</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>7.6</b>	<b>6.6</b>	<b>27.3</b>	<b>5.3</b>

Statistical division	LUPINS .....	
	Area '000 ha	Production '000 t
Sydney	—	—
Hunter	0.1	0.1
Illawarra	0.1	0.1
Richmond-Tweed	—	—
Mid-North Coast	—	—
Northern	0.4	0.3
North Western	3.2	3.9
Central West	10.0	14.9
South Eastern	4.7	10.0
Murrumbidgee	28.3	40.7
Murray	16.1	25.3
Far West	—	—
<b>New South Wales</b>		
<b>1997p</b>	<b>62.9</b>	<b>95.3</b>
<b>1996</b>	<b>91.7</b>	<b>116.5</b>
<b>1995</b>	<b>107.0</b>	<b>14.3</b>

# 3

## OILSEEDS—Year ended 31 March 1997p

Statistical division	CANOLA .....		SAFFLOWER .....		SUNFLOWER .....	
	Area	Production	Area	Production	Area	Production
	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t
Sydney	—	—	—	—	—	n.y.a.
Hunter	0.2	0.5	—	—	2.6	n.y.a.
Illawarra	—	—	—	—	—	n.y.a.
Richmond-Tweed	—	—	—	—	—	n.y.a.
Mid-North Coast	—	—	—	—	—	n.y.a.
Northern	0.6	1.2	1.1	1.0	30.7	n.y.a.
North Western	7.9	14.0	0.4	0.2	5.4	n.y.a.
Central West	41.2	79.9	0.1	—	0.4	n.y.a.
South Eastern	18.3	36.4	—	—	—	n.y.a.
Murrumbidgee	82.0	158.3	4.6	3.1	1.6	n.y.a.
Murray	28.9	50.0	4.3	3.7	1.6	n.y.a.
Far West	—	—	1.0	0.8	1.2	n.y.a.
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	179.1	340.3	11.4	8.7	43.5	n.y.a.
1996	170.2	272.3	10.3	6.3	34.4	38.7
1995	152.9	73.2	4.5	2.3	49.9	53.9

# 4

## SUGAR CANE—Year ended 31 March 1997p

Statistical division	SUGAR CANE .....	
	Area	Production
	'000 ha	'000 t
Sydney	—	—
Hunter	—	—
Illawarra	—	—
Richmond-Tweed	13.3	1 609.0
Mid-North Coast	5.5	735.1
Northern	—	—
North Western	—	—
Central West	—	—
South Eastern	—	—
Murrumbidgee	—	—
Murray	—	—
Far West	—	—
<b>New South Wales</b>		
1997p	18.9	2 344.2
1996	17.9	1 922.7
1995	16.5	1 825.4



## 5

## CITRUS AND POME FRUIT—Year ended 31 March 1997p

Statistical division	LEMONS AND LIMES .....		MANDARINS .....		ORANGES .....	
	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Trees 6 years and over	Production
	'000	t	'000	t	'000	t
Sydney	71.4	2 966.6	14.7	436.1	318.3	12 285.9
Hunter	0.3	8.2	6.9	189.7	10.6	364.7
Illawarra	0.1	3.4	—	—	0.1	7.9
Richmond-Tweed	3.6	89.5	16.5	241.5	1.0	14.0
Mid-North Coast	1.5	35.4	2.7	24.5	13.9	667.2
Northern	—	—	2.9	126.2	2.2	151.3
North Western	11.7	221.1	15.9	327.8	52.3	4 765.9
Central West	—	—	—	—	2.6	98.9
South Eastern	—	0.2	0.1	1.7	—	0.3
Murrumbidgee	11.0	837.9	13.5	1 079.6	2 212.8	160 526.7
Murray	13.4	1 023.0	87.4	3 510.0	783.9	54 676.9
Far West	—	—	0.2	3.8	0.5	134.2
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	113.0	5 185.3	160.7	5 941.0	3 398.2	233 693.8
1996	131.2	5 524.8	104.9	4 400.5	3 183.9	177 700.1
1995	136.0	6 228.9	95.5	4 238.5	3 018.3	209 959.7

Statistical division	APPLES .....		NASHI .....		PEARS (EXCLUDING NASHI) ..	
	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Trees 6 years and over	Production
	'000	t	'000	t	'000	t
Sydney	62.1	n.y.a.	2.4	n.y.a.	1.7	n.y.a.
Hunter	2.0	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.	0.1	n.y.a.
Illawarra	10.7	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.	0.8	n.y.a.
Richmond-Tweed	—	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.
Mid-North Coast	—	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.
Northern	34.1	n.y.a.	0.1	n.y.a.	2.2	n.y.a.
North Western	4.0	n.y.a.	0.1	n.y.a.	0.2	n.y.a.
Central West	585.9	n.y.a.	0.2	n.y.a.	37.5	n.y.a.
South Eastern	17.1	n.y.a.	16.0	n.y.a.	0.6	n.y.a.
Murrumbidgee	584.4	n.y.a.	0.2	n.y.a.	7.8	n.y.a.
Murray	50.5	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.	0.7	n.y.a.
Far West	—	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.	—	n.y.a.
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	1 350.9	n.y.a.	19.1	n.y.a.	51.6	n.y.a.
1996	1 278.4	61 364.0	23.1	302.1	54.5	2 418.9
1995	1 266.5	79 069.0	8.8	391.1	54.4	2 774.1

Statistical division	APRICOTS .....		NECTARINES .....		PEACHES .....	
	<i>Trees 6 years and over</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Trees 6 years and over</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Trees 6 years and over</i>	<i>Production</i>
	'000	t	'000	t	'000	t
Sydney	1.3	7.5	66.5	1 850.6	112.4	2 670.4
Hunter	0.1	0.4	3.6	55.9	8.6	144.9
Illawarra	—	0.1	1.5	40.0	8.3	300.1
Richmond-Tweed	—	0.8	33.3	801.8	25.5	653.8
Mid-North Coast	—	—	3.1	49.3	1.1	86.6
Northern	0.6	9.7	3.9	44.9	5.8	61.7
North Western	2.7	28.5	1.6	46.4	8.9	138.1
Central West	1.2	16.7	56.0	1 437.5	74.5	1 874.9
South Eastern	3.3	47.0	21.7	624.9	39.1	1 561.8
Murrumbidgee	15.8	668.6	147.9	3 139.8	183.2	7 310.8
Murray	5.9	118.4	3.9	219.8	9.9	434.1
Far West	0.5	5.1	—	—	—	—
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	<b>31.5</b>	<b>902.6</b>	<b>342.9</b>	<b>8 310.9</b>	<b>477.3</b>	<b>15 237.2</b>
1996	<b>28.2</b>	<b>506.5</b>	<b>294.9</b>	<b>6 278.4</b>	<b>403.1</b>	<b>12 909.4</b>
1995	<b>28.9</b>	<b>793.5</b>	<b>251.1</b>	<b>5 700.2</b>	<b>394.0</b>	<b>11 907.8</b>

Statistical division	PLUMS AND PRUNES .....		BANANAS .....		STRAWBERRIES .....	
	<i>Trees 6 years and over</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Area of bearing age</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Area of bearing age</i>	<i>Production</i>
	'000	t	ha	t	ha	t
Sydney	28.2	584.6	—	—	16.8	111.6
Hunter	1.4	19.1	—	—	1.6	7.6
Illawarra	0.2	4.0	—	—	5.2	10.9
Richmond-Tweed	0.6	6.7	1 527.8	16 272.7	5.2	30.7
Mid-North Coast	0.1	2.0	1 676.0	23 855.4	1.0	12.4
Northern	4.0	19.9	—	—	5.1	50.5
North Western	10.6	63.0	—	—	1.3	5.3
Central West	30.8	520.1	—	—	1.6	18.2
South Eastern	211.1	4 710.7	—	—	0.8	2.3
Murrumbidgee	92.5	5 068.2	—	—	—	—
Murray	5.8	75.9	—	—	0.4	2.2
Far West	—	1.1	—	—	—	—
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	<b>385.1</b>	<b>11 075.3</b>	<b>3 203.8</b>	<b>40 128.1</b>	<b>38.9</b>	<b>251.7</b>
1996	<b>364.5</b>	<b>8 605.9</b>	<b>3 107.5</b>	<b>38 707.8</b>	<b>39.7</b>	<b>217.4</b>
1995	<b>371.5</b>	<b>8 152.3</b>	<b>2 860.0</b>	<b>41 906.2</b>	<b>32.0</b>	<b>191.1</b>

## 7

## VEGETABLES FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION—Years ended 31 March

	Units	1995	1996	1997p
<b>Beans — French and runner</b>				
area	ha	414.9	604.4	880.0
production	t	1 245.3	1 871.4	2 481.1
<b>Broccoli</b>				
area	ha	408.4	775.6	810.5
production	t	2 159.0	3 973.8	3 911.2
<b>Cabbages</b>				
area	ha	431.1	432.6	481.7
production	t	12 534.6	10 042.3	12 744.7
<b>Carrots</b>				
area	ha	1 448.2	1 306.8	738.0
production	t	26 137.4	22 756.7	16 724.6
<b>Cauliflower</b>				
area	ha	535.2	565.1	765.1
production	t	10 524.2	10 743.0	17 081.1
<b>Green peas (pod weight)(a)</b>				
area	ha	r823.0	1 020.4	1 286.7
production	t	r5223.0	8 828.6	11 420.4
<b>Melons — rock and cantaloupe</b>				
area	ha	538.9	582.1	672.1
production	t	11 640.9	10 126.4	13 276.5
<b>Melons — water</b>				
area	ha	329.3	345.0	369.9
production	t	5 147.9	4 929.3	7 339.6
<b>Mushrooms</b>				
area	ha	57.9	58.8	50.5
production	t	12 508.3	12 371.9	12 465.2
<b>Onions — white and brown</b>				
area	ha	750.7	749.4	875.6
production	t	12 010.0	14 059.7	16 045.4
<b>Potatoes</b>				
area	ha	6 274.0	7 167.8	7 240.3
production	t	126 812.0	162 456.2	n.y.a.
<b>Tomatoes</b>				
area	ha	2 053.4	1 818.6	2 350.9
production	t	85 323.2	92 515.0	117 595.8

(a) Data for 1995 are not comparable to 1996 and 1997 data due to changes in the question asked.

## 8

## MEAT CATTLE NUMBERS—At 31 March 1997p

Statistical division	Bulls and bull calves intended for service	Cows and heifers one year and over	Heifers and other calves under one year	Other cattle one year and over	Total meat cattle	Percentage of total meat cattle herd
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
Sydney	0.9	20.6	10.9	7.7	40.1	0.6
Hunter	10.9	264.5	156.6	108.9	540.9	8.6
Illawarra	1.9	35.0	22.0	11.4	70.4	1.1
Richmond-Tweed	7.0	180.6	78.2	27.0	292.8	4.7
Mid-North Coast	7.6	187.8	99.3	69.5	364.3	5.8
Northern	35.7	864.1	535.1	362.7	1 797.6	28.7
North Western	15.6	414.9	250.7	174.8	856.0	13.7
Central West	11.5	281.3	196.9	108.7	598.4	9.6
South Eastern	11.5	268.7	171.2	57.9	509.3	8.1
Murrumbidgee	10.4	268.6	165.4	138.1	582.5	9.3
Murray	10.5	261.5	161.1	84.0	517.0	8.3
Far West	1.4	48.2	24.6	20.1	94.3	1.5
<b>New South Wales</b>						
1997p	124.8	3 095.9	1 872.1	1 170.7	6 263.6	100.0
1996	122.0	2 962.8	1 679.9	1 254.5	6 019.1	100.0
1995	127.2	2 909.7	1 727.6	1 102.3	5 866.8	100.0

## 9

## MILK CATTLE NUMBERS—At 31 March 1997p

Statistical division	Cows in milk and dry	Other milk cattle	Total milk cattle(a)	Percentage of total milk cattle herd
	'000	'000	'000	%
Sydney	11.1	6.9	18.0	4.5
Hunter	43.6	24.7	69.3	17.2
Illawarra	29.3	19.7	49.1	12.2
Richmond-Tweed	28.0	14.6	42.3	10.5
Mid-North Coast	46.6	25.4	72.2	18.0
Northern	5.3	4.6	12.7	3.2
North Western	3.2	2.9	6.5	1.6
Central West	5.6	7.6	13.3	3.3
South Eastern	30.4	17.5	48.3	12.0
Murrumbidgee	4.8	4.1	9.6	2.4
Murray	36.5	23.5	60.7	15.1
Far West	—	—	—	—
<b>New South Wales</b>				
1997p	244.6	151.6	402.0	100.0
1996	235.3	135.9	371.2	100.0
1995	230.5	139.1	369.6	100.0

(a) Excludes house cows.

# 10

## SHEEP AND LAMB NUMBERS—At 31 March 1997p

Statistical division	Breeding ewes	Lambs and hoggets	All other	Total sheep	Percentage of
	(1 year and over)	(under 1 year)	sheep	and lambs	total sheep flock
	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
Sydney	7.5	2.2	2.7	12.4	—
Hunter	197.5	114.9	210.1	522.5	1.2
Illawarra	4.9	2.5	3.4	10.9	—
Richmond-Tweed	0.6	0.2	9.3	10.1	—
Mid-North Coast	3.6	1.9	3.4	8.9	—
Northern	3 019.8	1 809.5	2 298.1	7 127.4	16.4
North Western	4 301.1	2 363.1	1 692.9	8 357.1	19.2
Central West	3 698.1	2 030.4	1 901.2	7 629.7	17.6
South Eastern	2 885.5	1 627.5	2 516.8	7 029.8	16.2
Murrumbidgee	3 099.6	1 656.5	1 242.1	5 998.2	13.8
Murray	2 560.5	1 372.7	751.0	4 684.2	10.8
Far West	1 168.8	594.1	279.2	2 042.1	4.7
<b>New South Wales</b>					
1997p	<b>20 947.4</b>	<b>11 575.7</b>	<b>10 910.3</b>	<b>43 433.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1996	<b>20 194.5</b>	<b>10 133.7</b>	<b>10 761.9</b>	<b>41 090.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1995	n.c.	<b>9 135.4</b>	n.c.	<b>40 514.2</b>	<b>100.0</b>

# 11

## LAMBING—Years ended 31 March

Statistical division	1997p			EWES TO BE MATED YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1998(c)			Total
	Ewes mated(a)	Lambs marked	Lamb marking ratio(b)	Joined to merino rams	Joined to short wool rams	Joined to other rams	
	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	'000	'000
Sydney	4.0	2.0	50.1	2.3	0.9	0.5	3.7
Hunter	168.7	143.9	85.3	124.4	39.2	15.1	178.7
Illawarra	5.4	4.6	85.2	2.0	1.7	0.8	4.5
Richmond-Tweed	0.3	0.3	81.7	—	0.2	0.2	0.4
Mid-North Coast	2.3	1.7	76.7	1.6	1.6	0.2	3.4
Northern	2 611.4	2 186.0	83.7	1 897.3	642.0	340.7	2 880.0
North Western	3 711.2	3 058.5	82.4	2 934.6	608.9	498.0	4 041.6
Central West	3 337.4	2 827.5	84.7	1 944.5	1 087.5	510.0	3 542.1
South Eastern	2 599.8	2 086.3	80.3	1 954.9	514.9	286.5	2 756.3
Murrumbidgee	2 906.5	2 498.3	86.0	1 522.2	897.3	567.8	2 987.3
Murray	2 424.6	2 003.7	82.6	1 673.2	488.9	334.1	2 496.1
Far West	1 036.2	669.4	64.6	1 048.0	5.8	17.9	1 071.7
<b>New South Wales</b>							
1997p	<b>18 807.8</b>	<b>15 482.2</b>	<b>82.3</b>	<b>13 105.1</b>	<b>4 288.8</b>	<b>2 571.8</b>	<b>19 965.8</b>
1996	<b>17 547.4</b>	<b>13 596.2</b>	<b>77.5</b>	<b>12 740.6</b>	n.c.	<b>5 859.7</b>	<b>18 600.3</b>
1995	<b>18 617.1</b>	<b>13 233.2</b>	<b>71.1</b>	<b>12 624.6</b>	n.c.	<b>5 240.8</b>	<b>17 865.3</b>

(a) Ewes mated to produce lambs marked in the season shown.

(b) Lambs marked as a proportion of ewes mated to produce lambs.

(c) Forecast made at the end of the 1996-97 season.

Statistical division	Total pigs	Percentage of total pigs
	'000	%
Sydney	55.3	6.9
Hunter	16.8	2.1
Illawarra	10.3	1.3
Richmond-Tweed	77.1	9.7
Mid-North Coast	12.1	1.5
Northern	73.4	9.2
North Western	38.5	4.8
Central West	78.2	9.8
South Eastern	57.7	7.2
Murrumbidgee	85.4	10.7
Murray	293.6	36.8
Far West	—	—
<b>New South Wales</b>		
1997p	<b>798.4</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1996	<b>710.3</b>	<b>100.0</b>
1995	<b>790.5</b>	<b>100.0</b>

# EXPLANATORY NOTES

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## INTRODUCTION

**1** This publication contains preliminary agricultural estimates for 1996–97 and comparative data for earlier years. Final figures for 1996–97 will be published early in 1998 when all agricultural census returns have been fully processed.

## SCOPE AND COVERAGE

**2** Estimates are based on information obtained from a substantial proportion of farms in NSW, from the agricultural census conducted throughout Australia for the year ended 31 March 1997.

**3** Establishments which make only a small contribution to overall agricultural production are excluded from the scope of the census. Information is collected from establishments when their estimated value of agricultural operations (EVAO) is above a certain level. These levels have varied in past agricultural censuses, as follows:

- 1993–94 to present                    EVAO \$5,000 and over;
- 1991–92 to 1992–93                EVAO \$22,500 and over;
- 1986–87 to 1990–91                EVAO \$20,000 and over; and
- before 1986–87                    EVAO \$2,500 and over.

## RELIABILITY OF ESTIMATES

**4** Preliminary estimates are based on forms received and processed at the point of estimation (approximately 75%) and are subject to sampling error.

**5** Sampling error is the variation occurring because information has not been collected from all the relevant units. This is often described in terms of relative standard error (RSE) which makes certain assumptions about the distribution of the units used in estimation. In particular, these units are assumed to have been drawn from the population randomly and are therefore representative of those units for which there is no information (late returns). If there is a bias associated with these units (e.g. units faring poorly may reply later and thus may not be included in preliminary estimates), this assumption is no longer valid. However, the RSE measures should still be regarded as a good guide to the reliability of the estimates, and are available on request.

## RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**6** Users may also wish to refer to the following priced publications which are available on request:

*Agricultural Industries, Financial Statistics, Australia* (Cat. no. 7507.0)

*Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia* (Cat. no. 7503.0)

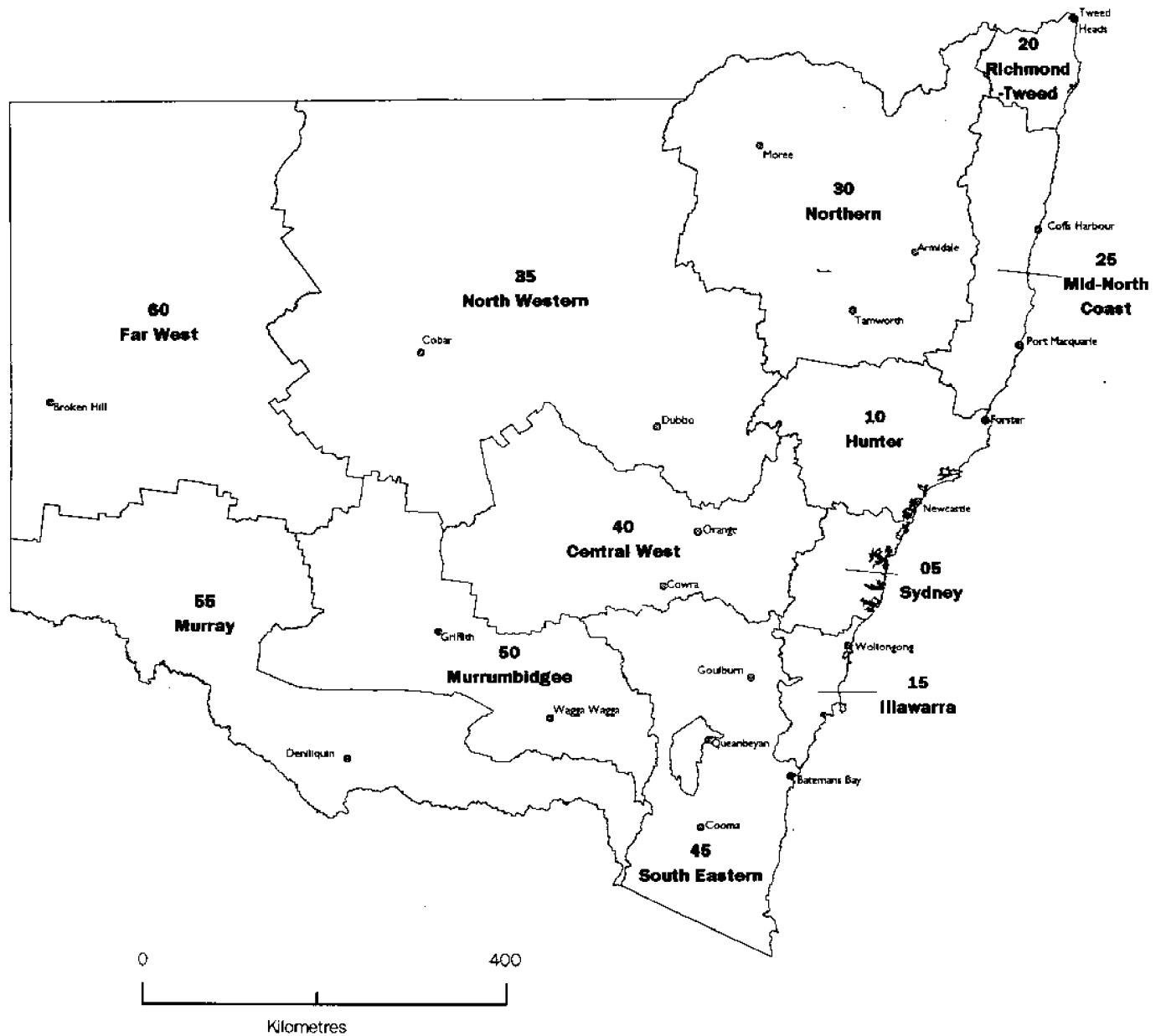
## OTHER FORMS OF RELEASE

**7** The ABS has more detailed agricultural statistics on floppy disk. AgStats on floppy disk offer a wide range of data aggregated at smaller geographic areas than those generally available in printed publications, together with an easy-to-use interrogation facility. A smaller range of commodities are available on the CD-ROM product the Integrated Regional Data Base (IRDB).

**8** Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (Cat. no. 1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (Cat. no. 1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

**9** Where the figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between the sums of the component items and totals.

**STATISTICAL DIVISIONS OF NEW SOUTH WALES** *from 1 July 1996*







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