



1995-96

EMBARGOED UNTIL 11:30 AM 6 SEPTEMBER 1996

Principal Agricultural Commodities

**Tasmania
(Preliminary)**

ABS Catalogue No. 7111.6

NOTES

NATIONAL PUBLICATION

State totals in this publication may differ from those in the recently released national publication *Selected Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary, 1995-96* (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For further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Frank McCallum on Hobart (03) 6220 5939 or any ABS State office.

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

DENIS W. ROGERS
Deputy Commonwealth Statistician

CONTENTS

		Page
EDITORIAL	Summary of findings	4
	Crops	
TABLES	1 Area and production of cereals for grain by Statistical Division, year ended 31 March 1996p	6
	2 Area and production of legumes for grain by Statistical Division, year ended 31 March 1996p	6
	3 Area and production of canola by Statistical Division, year ended 31 March 1996p	7
	4 Cereals forecast for all purposes by Statistical Division, years ended 31 March 1996 and 1997	7
	Horticulture	
	5 Number of trees and production for pome fruit by Statistical Division, year ended 31 March 1996p	8
	6 Number of trees, area and production for stone and berry fruit by Statistical Division, year ended 31 March 1996p	8
	7 Area and production of selected vegetables for human consumption, years ended 31 March 1994 to 1996	9
	Livestock	
	8 Meat cattle numbers by Statistical Division, at 31 March 1996p	10
	9 Milk cattle numbers by Statistical Division, at 31 March 1996p	10
	10 Number of sheep and lambs by Statistical Division, at 31 March 1996p	11
	11 Lambing by Statistical Division, year ended 31 March 1996p	11
	12 Pig numbers by Statistical Division, at 31 March 1996p	11
EXPLANATORY NOTES		12
MAP	Statistical divisions of Tasmania	13

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

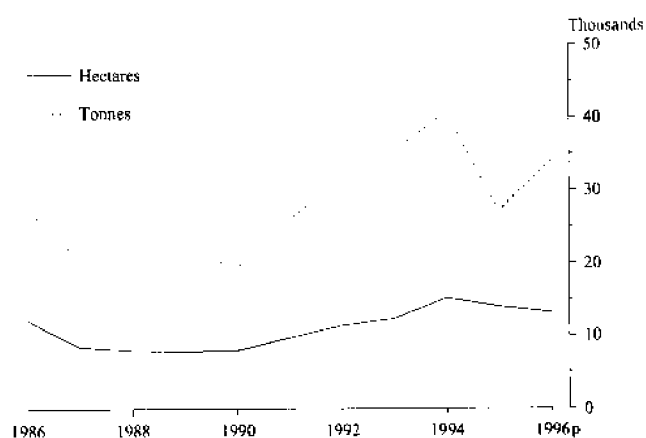
Preliminary results from the agricultural census for the 1995-96 season show:

CROPS

In terms of area, the two main cereal crops grown for grain were barley and oats. In the year ended 31 March 1996, the area sown to barley for grain decreased from 14,000 hectares to 13,100 hectares, a fall of 6.4%.

Production of barley rose by 26.2% from the previous season to 34,200 tonnes. Barley for grain was sown in all Statistical Divisions (SDs), the major contributor in terms of production being Northern SD which accounted for 65.5% of the State's production (see table 1).

BARLEY, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH



The area sown to oats for grain increased by 26.5% from the previous season to 10,500 hectares; production during the same period increased significantly by 72.6% to 19,500 tonnes. Oats for grain were sown in all SDs, the major contributor to production being Northern which accounted for 74.9% of the State's production (see table 1).

HORTICULTURE

During the 1995-96 season, the number of apple trees six years and over increased by 15.9% to 1.2 million. The major SDs in terms of tree numbers were Greater Hobart and Southern which together accounted for 82.9% of the State's trees (see table 5).

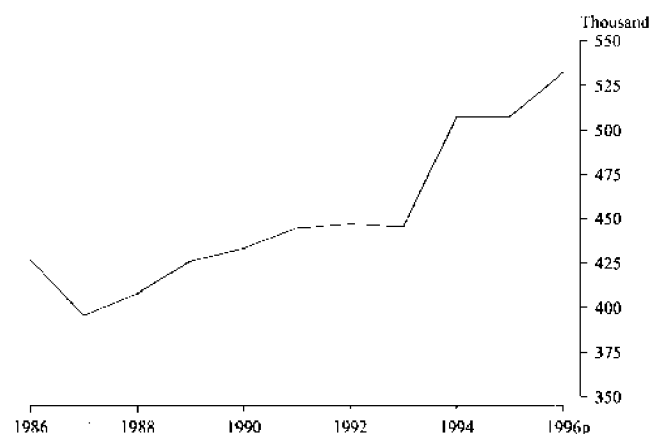
The total area planted to potatoes in the 1995-96 season was 5,400 hectares, a decrease of 11.2% from the previous season (see table 7). Production figures for apples and potatoes were not available at the time of release of this publication.

LIVESTOCK

The meat cattle herd was 532,000 at 31 March 1996, an increase of 4.9% from the previous season. The major SDs in terms of numbers were Mersey-Lyell and Northern with 41.9% and 41.6%, respectively, of the State's meat cattle (see table 8).

The milk cattle herd increased to 200,500 at 31 March 1996, a rise of 8.2% from the previous season. The major SD in terms of numbers was Mersey-Lyell which accounted for 61.8% of the State's milk cattle (see table 9).

MEAT CATTLE, AT 31 MARCH



Sheep and lamb numbers at 31 March 1996 were 4.0 million, an increase of 4.6% from the previous season (see table 10). The number of lambs marked increased by 7.4% to 1.3 million (see table 11).

SHEEP AND LAMBS, AT 31 MARCH



CROPS

1

AREA AND PRODUCTION OF CEREALS FOR GRAIN BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996p

Statistical division	<i>Barley</i>		<i>Oats</i>		<i>Triticale</i>	
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>
	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t	'000 ha	'000 t
Greater Hobart and Southern	3.5	8.2	2.8	4.5	0.2	0.6
Northern	8.6	22.4	7.6	14.6	1.1	4.3
Mersey-Lyell	1.0	3.6	0.2	0.4	0.2	1.4
Tasmania						
1996p	13.1	34.2	10.5	19.5	1.5	6.4
1995	14.0	27.1	8.3	11.3	1.5	4.9
1994	15.2	40.8	6.7	12.7	1.6	5.6

Statistical division	<i>Wheat</i>	
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>
	'000 ha	'000 t
Greater Hobart and Southern	0.4	1.0
Northern	0.5	2.0
Mersey-Lyell	0.1	0.9
Tasmania		
1996p	1.0	3.9
1995	1.3	2.8
1994	1.6	5.3

2

AREA AND PRODUCTION OF LEGUMES FOR GRAIN BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996p

Statistical division	<i>Faba beans</i>		<i>Field peas</i>		<i>Lupins</i>	
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>
	ha	tonnes	ha	tonnes	ha	tonnes
Greater Hobart and Southern	—	—	95.8	137.3	—	—
Northern	9.7	— ¹	269.8	457.5	203.3	152.0
Mersey-Lyell	—	—	26.3	75.7	35.0	87.8
Tasmania						
1996p	9.7	—¹	391.9	670.5	238.4	239.7
1995	13.6	47.5	381.8	573.4	526.4	335.5
1994	13.6	36.9	595.1	1 550.2	663.9	950.5

¹ Crop failed due to wet conditions.

3

AREA AND PRODUCTION OF CANOLA BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996p

<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>Canola</i>	
	<i>Area</i>	<i>Production</i>
	ha	tonnes
Greater Hobart and Southern	142.2	187.7
Northern	15.9	17.7
Mersey-Lyell	—	—
Tasmania		
1996p	158.1	205.4
1995	209.4	151.6
1994	149.9	193.6

4

CEREALS FORECAST FOR ALL PURPOSES BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1996 AND 1997

<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>Barley</i>			<i>Oats</i>		
	<i>Intended sowings 1996</i>	<i>Actual sowings 1996p</i>	<i>Intended sowings 1997p</i>	<i>Intended sowings 1996</i>	<i>Actual sowings 1996p</i>	<i>Intended sowings 1997p</i>
	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha
Greater Hobart and Southern	3.3	3.5	4.1	5.7	n.a.	4.2
Northern	7.9	8.6	9.1	10.7	n.a.	9.3
Mersey-Lyell	0.8	1.0	0.8	1.1	n.a.	0.8
Tasmania	12.0	13.1	14.0	17.4	n.a.	14.3

<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>Wheat</i>		
	<i>Intended sowings 1996</i>	<i>Actual sowings 1996p</i>	<i>Intended sowings 1997p</i>
	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha
Greater Hobart and Southern	0.4	n.a.	0.5
Northern	0.8	n.a.	1.2
Mersey-Lyell	0.1	n.a.	0.2
Tasmania	1.3	n.a.	2.0

HORTICULTURE

5

NUMBER OF TREES AND PRODUCTION FOR POME FRUIT BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, YEAR ENDED
31 MARCH 1996p

Statistical division	Apples		Pears (excluding nashi)	
	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Trees 6 years and over	Production
	'000	'000 t	'000	'000 t
Greater Hobart and Southern	999.4	n.y.a.	12.7	n.y.a.
Northern	71.6	n.y.a.	3.5	n.y.a.
Mersey-Lyell	134.5	n.y.a.	2.2	n.y.a.
Tasmania				
1996p	1 205.5	n.y.a.	18.4	n.y.a.
1995	1 040.4	57.0	18.6	0.8
1994	963.3	55.0	18.8	0.8

6

NUMBER OF TREES, AREA AND PRODUCTION FOR STONE AND BERRY FRUIT BY STATISTICAL DIVISION,
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996p

Statistical division	Apricots		Nectarines		Peaches	
	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Trees 6 years and over	Production
	'000	tonnes	'000	tonnes	'000	tonnes
Greater Hobart and Southern	20.7	149.4	1.9	29.3	0.9	27.4
Northern	0.7	0.1	2.8	16.2	2.2	13.6
Mersey-Lyell	—	—	2.0	5.1	0.5	0.3
Tasmania						
1996p	21.4	149.5	6.8	50.6	3.6	41.3
1995	34.2	368.1	7.5	77.9	3.0	15.2
1994	30.7	228.7	7.9	110.2	3.1	35.1

Statistical division	Plums and prunes		Raspberries		Strawberries	
	Trees 6 years and over	Production	Area of bearing age	Production	Area of bearing age	Production
	'000	tonnes	ha	tonnes	ha	tonnes
Greater Hobart and Southern	1.0	6.9	28.2	64.2	9.8	95.1
Northern	0.2	0.3	14.9	37.7	5.7	12.6
Mersey-Lyell	0.1	2.8	10.5	27.0	3.7	25.9
Tasmania						
1996p	1.3	10.0	53.6	128.9	19.1	133.7
1995	0.9	9.7	46.0	136.7	24.7	153.9
1994	0.9	6.8	56.8	146.7	21.6	85.4

	Unit	1994	1995	1996p
Beans — French and runner				
Area	ha	1 324.0	1 219.3	1 815.1
Production	t	7 697.8	8 461.9	9 591.2
Broccoli				
Area	ha	320.9	403.3	606.1
Production	t	2 264.2	2 732.5	3 742.4
Cabbages				
Area	ha	89.9	83.6	106.0
Production	t	2 776.4	2 484.7	2 760.6
Carrots				
Area	ha	357.0	425.4	440.2
Production	t	19 422.0	21 539.8	20 049.2
Cauliflowers				
Area	ha	276.7	308.0	327.2
Production	t	4 559.9	4 928.4	4 764.7
Cucumbers				
Area	ha	2.0	2.0	1.6
Production	t	109.6	108.6	122.9
Green peas (pod weight)				
Area	ha	7 268.1	6 040.9	6 755.7
Production	t	77 855.4	37 946.0	72 144.7
Lettuces				
Area	ha	93.5	85.8	131.4
Production	t	1 336.2	1 697.2	2 138.1
Mushrooms				
Area	ha	1.9	1.6	2.0
Production	t	457.0	503.3	820.8
Onions — white and brown				
Area	ha	1 250.2	1 482.1	1 682.5
Production	t	70 709.1	73 536.9	90 556.0
Potatoes				
Area	ha	6 862.8	6 067.8	5 386.1
Production	t	291 422.7	255 737.8	n.y.a.
Pumpkins				
Area	ha	159.9	107.3	124.3
Production	t	2 405.7	2 164.6	1 935.0
Tomatoes				
Area	ha	22.0	14.0	18.4
Production	t	863.4	831.2	980.5

¹ Production figure for 1995 is not comparable with 1994 and 1996 data due to changes in questions asked.

LIVESTOCK

8

MEAT CATTLE NUMBERS BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, AT 31 MARCH 1996p

	<i>Bulls and bull calves intended for service</i>	<i>Cows and heifers one year and over</i>	<i>Heifers and other calves under one year</i>	<i>Other cattle one year and over</i>	<i>Total meat cattle</i>	<i>Percentage of total meat cattle herd</i>
<i>Statistical division</i>	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	%
Greater Hobart and Southern	2.4	46.4	31.0	7.7	87.5	16.4
Northern	5.6	105.7	67.6	42.6	221.5	41.6
Mersey-Lyell	4.3	86.4	63.1	69.4	223.2	41.9
Tasmania						
1996p	12.4	238.5	161.6	119.7	532.2	100.0
1995	11.5	223.7	161.1	111.1	507.4	100.0
1994	11.6	244.5	156.7	94.5	507.3	100.0

9

MILK CATTLE NUMBERS BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, AT 31 MARCH 1996p

	<i>Cows in milk and dry</i>	<i>Other milk cattle</i>	<i>Total milk cattle¹</i>	<i>Percentage of total milk cattle herd</i>
<i>Statistical division</i>	'000	'000	'000	%
Greater Hobart and Southern	3.9	1.8	5.7	2.8
Northern	45.5	25.4	70.9	35.4
Mersey-Lyell	81.7	42.2	123.9	61.8
Tasmania				
1996p	131.1	69.4	200.5	100.0
1995	118.9	66.4	185.3	100.0
1994	112.5	59.1	171.6	100.0

¹ Excludes house cows and heifers.

10

NUMBER OF SHEEP AND LAMBS BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, AT 31 MARCH 1996p

<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>Sheep¹ (1 year and over)</i>	<i>Lambs and hoggets (under 1 year)</i>	<i>Total sheep and lambs</i>	<i>Percentage of total sheep flock</i>
	'000	'000	'000	%
Greater Hobart and Southern	1 322.6	481.4	1 804.0	44.7
Northern	1 530.4	511.4	2 041.8	50.6
Mersey-Lyell	128.9	56.4	185.3	4.6
Tasmania				
1996p	2 982.0	1 049.3	4 031.3	100.0
1995	2 915.8	937.1	3 852.9	100.0
1994	3 224.5	1 099.4	4 323.9	100.0

¹ Sheep 1 year and over including rams, ewes and wethers.

11

LAMBING BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996p

<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>Ewes mated¹</i>	<i>Lambs marked</i>	<i>Lamb marking ratio²</i>	<i>Lambing expectations year ended 31 March 1997³</i>		
				<i>Joined to merino rams</i>	<i>Joined to other rams</i>	<i>Total</i>
	'000	'000	%	'000	'000	'000
Greater Hobart and Southern	656.4	572.2	87.2	453.4	258.5	711.9
Northern	788.1	666.9	84.6	501.0	335.4	836.4
Mersey-Lyell	83.3	85.4	102.5	20.2	66.0	86.2
Tasmania						
1996p	1 527.8	1 324.6	86.7	974.7	659.9	1 634.6
1995	1 535.0	1 233.6	80.4	917.1	542.8	1 459.9
1994	1 636.4	1 402.2	85.7	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

¹ Ewes mated to produce lambs marked in the season shown.

² Lambs marked as a proportion of ewes mated to produce lambs.

³ Forecast made at the end of the 1995-96 season.

12

PIG NUMBERS¹ BY STATISTICAL DIVISION, AT 31 MARCH 1996p

<i>Statistical division</i>	<i>Total pigs</i>	<i>Percentage of total pigs</i>
	'000	%
Greater Hobart and Southern	2.3	6.7
Northern	26.7	78.3
Mersey-Lyell	5.1	15.0
Tasmania		
1996p	34.1	100.0
1995	38.1	100.0
1994	45.5	100.0

¹ Includes suckers, weaners, growers etc.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

INTRODUCTION

1 This publication contains preliminary agricultural estimates for the 1995-96 season and comparative data for earlier years. Final figures for the 1995-96 season will be published early in 1997 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 Tasmania, from the agricultural census conducted throughout Australia for the year ended 31 March 1996.

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 (7507.0)
Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia (7503.0)

OTHER FORMS OF RELEASE

7 The ABS has more detailed agricultural statistics on floppy disk and CD. AgStats on floppy disk or CD offers a wider range of data aggregated at smaller geographic areas than those generally available in printed publications, together with an easy-to-use interrogation facility.

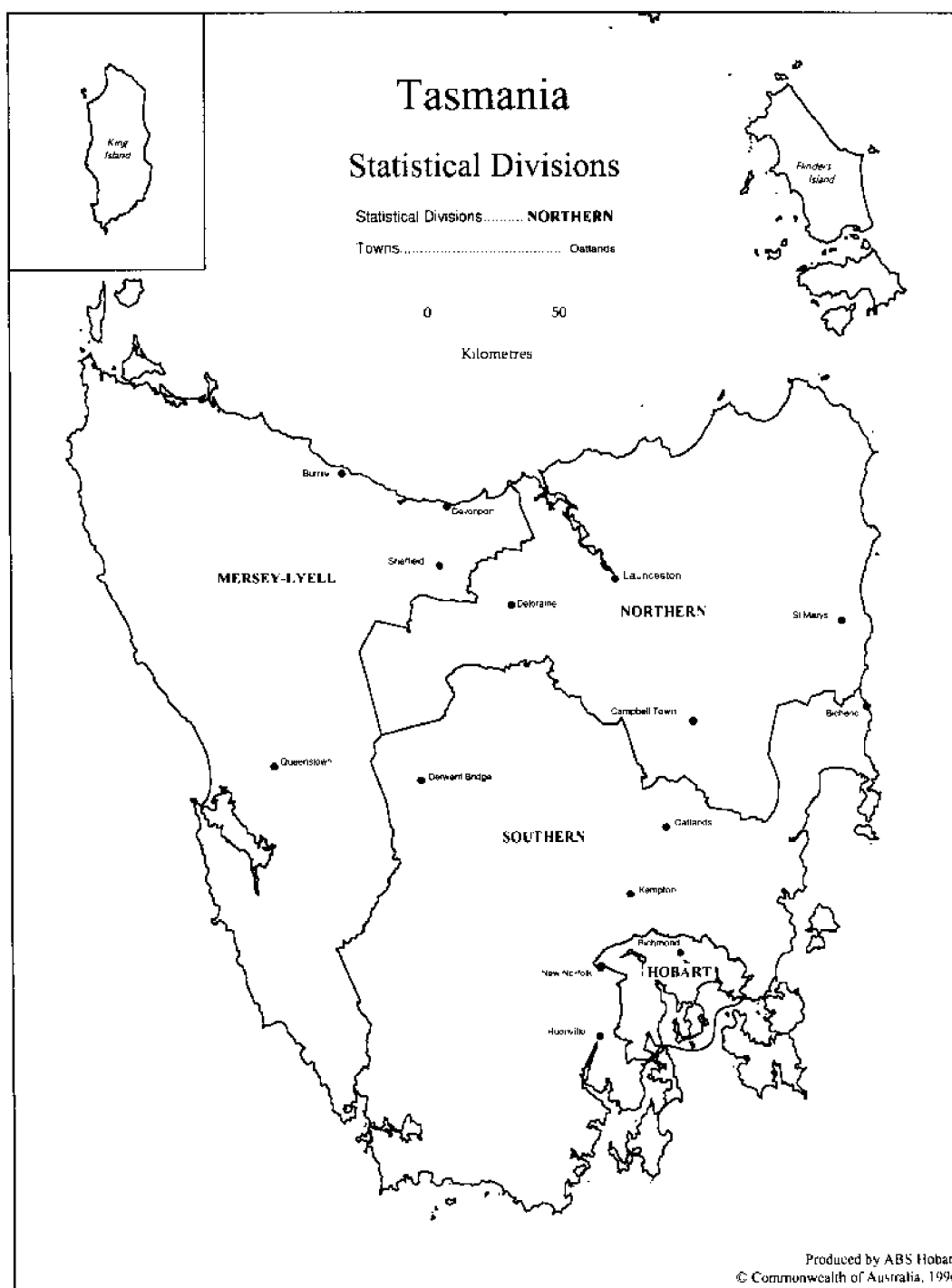
8 Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Release Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the following few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

SYMBOLS AND OTHER USAGES

- | | |
|--------|------------------------|
| — | nil or rounded to zero |
| ha | hectares |
| t | tonnes |
| n.a. | not available |
| n.y.a. | not yet available |
| p | preliminary |

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

STATISTICAL DIVISIONS OF TASMANIA



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