



# Australian Farming in Brief

2000



LAND USE ON FARMS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

		1997	1998	1999
Number of establishments engaged in agricultural activity	'000	145.1	144.9	145.2
Total area of establishments	m ha	462.2	463.8	n.y.a.
Area of crops	m ha	21.1	21.5	n.y.a.
<b>Total area of Australia</b>	<b>m ha</b>	<b>769.2</b>	<b>769.2</b>	<b>769.2</b>

NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS WITH AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY, BY INDUSTRY, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

	1997	1998	1999
Plant nurseries	2 075	2 113	2 611
Cut flowers and flower seed growing	989	1 043	1 047
Vegetable growing	4 798	4 772	5 109
Grape growing	5 009	5 310	5 770
Apple and pear growing	1 270	1 279	1 320
Stonefruit growing	1 371	1 307	1 195
Kiwi fruit growing	39	*59	*50
Fruit growing n.e.c.	5 408	5 408	5 412
Grain growing	16 351	15 289	16 579
Grain-sheep/beef cattle farming	20 517	19 230	18 954
Sheep-beef cattle farming	9 620	8 966	8 674
Sheep farming	14 348	15 267	15 410
Beef cattle farming	32 819	31 786	33 163
Dairy cattle farming	13 975	14 010	13 963
Poultry farming (meat)	743	843	773
Poultry farming (eggs)	506	520	579
Pig farming	1 187	1 217	1 129
Horse farming	1 803	1 613	2 177
Deer farming	222	225	166
Livestock farming n.e.c.	1 759	669	1 373
Sugar cane growing	5 023	5 151	5 210
Cotton growing	966	1 112	1 232
Crop and plant growing n.e.c.	1 332	1 467	1 513
<i>Total agricultural industries</i>	<i>142 130</i>	<i>138 657</i>	<i>143 407</i>
<i>All other industries</i>	<i>2 960</i>	<i>6 206</i>	<i>1 818</i>
<b>Total all industries</b>	<b>145 090</b>	<b>144 863</b>	<b>145 226</b>

ESTABLISHMENTS WITH AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY, BY ESTIMATED VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

	1997	1998	1999
\$0–\$22,499	29 764	30 962	33 897
\$22,500–\$49,999	22 285	21 768	20 459
\$50,000–\$99,999	24 030	23 750	22 949
\$100,000–\$149,999	16 812	16 836	15 453
\$150,000–\$199,999	12 787	12 090	12 667
\$200,000–\$349,999	20 222	20 048	19 245
\$350,000–\$499,999	8 171	8 008	8 347
\$500,000–\$999,999	7 668	7 949	8 533
\$1,000,000–\$1,999,999	2 305	2 494	2 615
\$2,000,000 and more	1 046	958	1 061
<b>Total</b>	<b>145 090</b>	<b>144 863</b>	<b>145 226</b>

AGRICULTURE INDUSTRY, EMPLOYMENT, YEARS ENDED 30 JUNE

	1997	1998	1999
	'000	'000	'000
Proprietors and partners	189.1	183.4	187.2
Employees	116.6	117.4	123.9
<b>Total employment</b>	<b>305.7</b>	<b>300.9</b>	<b>311.1</b>

PRINCIPAL CROPS, PRODUCTION, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

			1997	1998	1999
<b>Cereals for grain</b>					
Wheat	Production	'000 t	22 925	19 227	21 465
	Area	'000 ha	10 936	10 441	11 543
Barley	Production	'000 t	6 696	6 482	5 987
	Area	'000 ha	3 366	3 521	3 167
Oats	Production	'000 t	1 653	1 634	1 798
	Area	'000 ha	1 052	937	909
Grain sorghum	Production	'000 t	1 425	1 081	1 891
	Area	'000 ha	544	507	587
Rice	Production	'000 t	1 255	1 324	1 362
	Area	'000 ha	152	147	148
<b>Legumes for grain</b>					
Lupins	Production	'000 t	1 522	1 561	1 696
	Area	'000 ha	1 260	1 425	1 406
Field peas	Production	'000 t	454	316	370
	Area	'000 ha	336	366	369
<b>Crops for hay</b>					
Cereals	Production	'000 t	1 220	1 567	1 827
	Area	'000 ha	326	401	425
Non-cereal crops for hay	Production	'000 t	109	170	126
	Area	'000 ha	36	59	45
<b>Oilseeds</b>					
Canola	Production	'000 t	623	855	1 690
	Area	'000 ha	408	698	1 247
<b>Other crops</b>					
Sugar cane for crushing	Production	'000 t	38 633	39 531	38 534
	Area	'000 ha	390	415	402
Cotton lint	Production	'000 t	560	564	634
	Area	'000 ha	378	381	446

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

	1997	1998	1999
	'000	'000	'000
Milk cattle	2 958	3 076	3 220
Meat cattle	23 736	23 776	23 358
Sheep and lambs	120 228	117 491	115 456
Pigs	2 555	2 768	2 626
Chickens for meat(a)	67 373	75 504	77 863
Chickens for eggs	14 059	14 036	13 609

(a) Excludes establishments in Tasmania.

HORTICULTURE PRODUCTION, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

			1997	1998	1999
Citrus					
Oranges	Production	t	522 622	499 784	445 840
	Trees(a) '000		6 736	6 667	6 400
Mandarins	Production	t	72 937	62 568	78 258
	Trees(a) '000		1 074	1 090	1 175
Pome					
Apples	Production	t	353 069	308 856	334 353
	Trees(a) '000		5 656	5 845	5 969
Pears (excl nashi)	Production	t	167 562	152 877	156 714
	Trees(a) '000		1 416	1 381	1 401
Stone fruit					
Peaches	Production	t	72 099	64 807	66 036
	Trees(a) '000		1 475	1 498	1 509
Apricots	Production	t	25 920	19 881	21 483
	Trees(a) '000		629	569	565
Nectarines	Production	t	21 887	22 757	27 423
	Trees(a) '000		850	915	963
Other orchard					
Mangoes	Production	t	32 403	36 567	26 372
	Trees(a) '000		671	815	850
Avocados	Production	t	20 072	20 174	24 311
	Trees(a) '000		440	458	522
Berry and tropical					
Bananas	Production	t	199 581	222 957	225 167
	Bearing area	ha	9 589	10 478	11 405
Pineapples	Production	t	122 981	123 004	131 383
	Bearing area	ha	2 668	2 762	2 821
Strawberries	Production	t	11 242	13 434	14 201
	Bearing area	ha	701	720	701
Nuts					
Macadamia	Production	t	16 053	20 336	18 949
	Trees(a) '000		1 846	2 441	2 455
Grapes	Production	t	943 113	1 112 170	1 265 536
	Bearing area	ha	72 119	78 090	95 301
Vegetables					
Potatoes	Production	t	1 286 130	1 371 606	1 326 765
	Area	ha	41 083	42 558	41 298
Tomatoes	Production	t	393 117	380 130	394 371
	Area	ha	8 830	8 023	8 549
Carrots	Production	t	257 405	266 531	256 608
	Area	ha	7 046	7 152	6 514
Onions, white and brown	Production	t	196 491	218 895	223 989
	Area	ha	4 756	5 634	5 351

(a) Number of trees six years and over.

LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS, YEARS ENDED 30 JUNE

		1997	1998	1999
Meat production (carcass weight)				
Beef	'000 t	1 772	1 911	1 973
Veal	'000 t	38	44	38
Mutton	'000 t	296	333	302
Lamb	'000 t	270	284	312
Pigmeat	'000 t	336	358	370
Chicken meat (dressed weight)(a)	'000 t	488	544	564
Wool receivals	'000 t	685	641	640
Whole milk factory intake	m litres	9 024	9 438	10 175
Eggs(b)	'000 dozen	177 409	190 135	189 432

(a) Excludes Tasmania, Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

(b) Years ended 31 March.

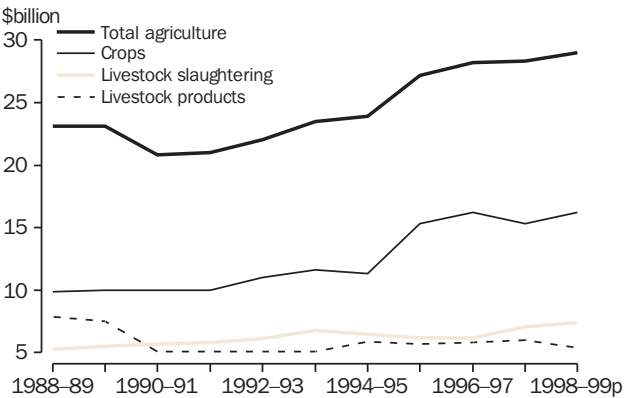
GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99p
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Cattle and calves	3 390.1	3 789.5	4 125.3
Wheat for grain	4 877.9	3 801.5	3 860.0
Milk	2 810.6	2 817.0	2 897.3
Wool	2 621.2	2 753.9	2 139.1
Vegetables	1 662.3	1 812.7	2 009.6
Fruit and nuts (excluding grapes)	1 667.8	1 582.4	1 778.6
Cotton lint and cotton seed	1 342.4	1 227.8	1 352.8
Poultry	(a)1 053.3	1 122.2	1 174.3
Grapes	721.4	998.2	1 115.6
Sheep and lambs	1 038.9	1 066.2	1 045.5
Sugar cane for crushing	1 186.4	1 247.7	1 044.1
Barley for grain	1 308.0	1 057.2	885.1
Pasture and grasses	496.9	613.4	712.8
Pigs	(a)692.9	709.8	689.7
Legumes for grain	593.9	543.3	506.3
Total agriculture	(b)28 156.1	28 347.4	28 990.2

(a) Excludes pigs and poultry slaughterings in Tasmania and Northern Territory.

(b) Includes pigs and poultry slaughterings in Tasmania and Northern Territory.

GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED



FINANCIAL STATISTICS OF FARM BUSINESSES

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Sales from crops	13 581.2	13 493.1	13 564.3
Sales from livestock	5 964.7	5 922.0	6 373.4
Sales from livestock products	5 403.3	5 556.5	4 986.5
Turnover	27 122.3	27 300.1	27 606.6
Purchases and selected expenses	15 692.3	15 472.4	15 908.7
Value added(a)	10 797.4	12 034.4	12 181.4
Adjusted value added(a)	9 103.2	10 145.0	10 191.0
Gross operating surplus(a)	6 588.3	7 608.1	7 359.1
Interest paid	1 719.9	1 595.1	1 645.3
Cash operating surplus(b)	5 906.3	6 091.7	5 529.1
Total net capital expenditure	2 480.7	2 624.7	2 573.1
Gross indebtedness	20 464.2	21 630.8	24 295.4
(a) Includes an estimate for the change in value of livestock.			
(b) Excludes an estimate for the change in value of livestock.			

TURNOVER OF FARM BUSINESSES BY INDUSTRY

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Fruit	2 015.6	2 144.6	2 588.5
Vegetables	1 610.8	1 613.4	1 749.2
Grain	5 768.3	5 171.5	4 517.7
Grain-sheep/beef	4 276.9	4 390.0	4 340.7
Sheep-beef cattle	1 075.3	1 135.9	1 134.9
Sheep	1 577.4	1 563.8	1 526.6
Beef cattle	2 570.1	2 573.4	2 980.9
Dairy cattle	3 069.5	3 136.8	3 268.1
Pigs	706.8	624.0	705.2
Sugar	1 264.9	1 262.2	1 267.9
Cotton	1 466.0	1 658.7	1 633.4
Poultry for eggs	n.p.	476.8	328.3
Other agriculture	1 720.8	1 549.0	1 565.4
All agricultural industries	27 122.3	27 300.1	27 606.6

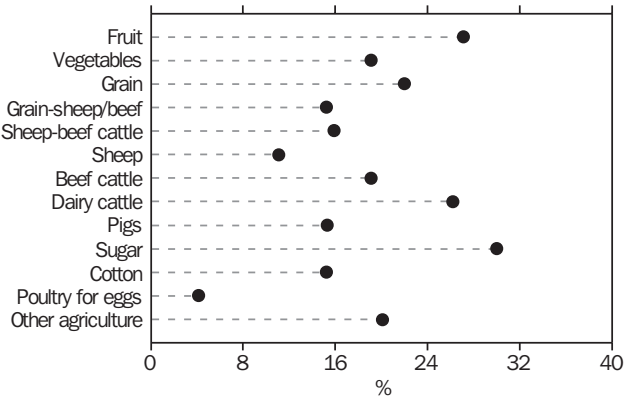
AVERAGE GROSS INDEBTEDNESS BY INDUSTRY

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Fruit	101.4	134.5	196.1
Vegetables	228.0	217.4	186.1
Grain	291.2	302.1	279.9
Grain-sheep/beef	155.5	190.1	246.8
Sheep-beef cattle	147.9	185.2	185.0
Sheep	128.0	130.0	146.6
Beef cattle	216.8	214.8	220.6
Dairy cattle	193.8	193.1	194.8
Pigs	248.8	270.2	296.0
Sugar	182.1	169.9	316.9
Cotton	1 754.2	1 453.5	1 941.7
Poultry for eggs	n.p.	454.4	477.5
Other agriculture	133.9	170.4	187.5
All agricultural industries	192.8	207.5	237.0

AVERAGE CASH OPERATING SURPLUS BY INDUSTRY

	1996-97	1997-98	1998-99
	\$'000	\$'000	\$'000
Fruit	43.4	50.8	69.6
Vegetables	85.3	61.7	88.6
Grain	123.9	129.5	71.7
Grain-sheep/beef	45.0	49.9	36.0
Sheep-beef cattle	24.8	28.7	26.5
Sheep	27.2	24.7	15.1
Beef cattle	19.8	19.6	41.7
Dairy cattle	53.1	60.3	68.1
Pigs	124.2	40.4	114.0
Sugar	79.2	88.7	83.6
Cotton	289.9	423.2	248.9
Poultry for eggs	n.p.	138.3	32.8
Other agriculture	57.0	53.4	59.2
All agricultural industries	55.6	58.4	53.9

INDUSTRY PROFIT MARGINS—1998-99



SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

ha	hectares	*	relative standard error between 25% and 50%
m ha	million hectares		
\$m	million dollars	p	preliminary
m	million	n.p.	not published
t	tonnes	n.y.a.	not yet available
'000	thousands	n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
		\$'000	thousand dollars

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