

**SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES,
AUSTRALIA, 1995-96, PRELIMINARY**

SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

Preliminary results from the Agricultural Census for the 1995-96 season show:

Area of Crops

- The total area of wheat sown for grain in 1995-96 increased 23.2% over the 1994-95 season to 9.7 million hectares. The largest increases were in New South Wales and Queensland with 73.9% and 70.6% more area planted to wheat respectively, than in 1994-95.
- The total area of oats sown for grain rose 36.6% to 1.2 million hectares. New South Wales and South Australia increased plantings by 48.3% and 33.7% respectively.
- The total area of barley sown for grain increased 31.7% to 3.3 million hectares. All States reported substantial increases with Queensland planting 96.8% more barley for grain followed by New South Wales (53.7%) and Victoria (32.3%).
- Of the other major cereal crops, 47.1% more triticale was planted than in 1994-95. Grain sorghum and rice plantings each increased by about 18%.
- Other major crops to record an increase in area included sugar cane cut for crushing up 5.8% to

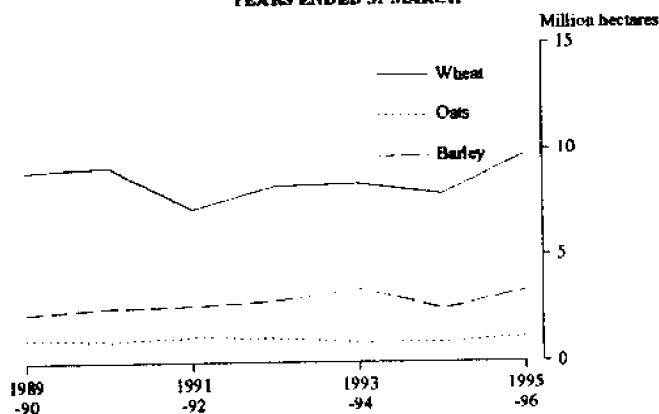
384,000 hectares and canola up 10.7% to 394,000 hectares.

- Area sown to lupins fell marginally to 1.37 million hectares of which 1.13 million hectares (82.9%) was sown in Western Australia.
- Total area of bananas increased by 8.0% to 10,590 hectares while production increased 5.1% to 218,700 tonnes.

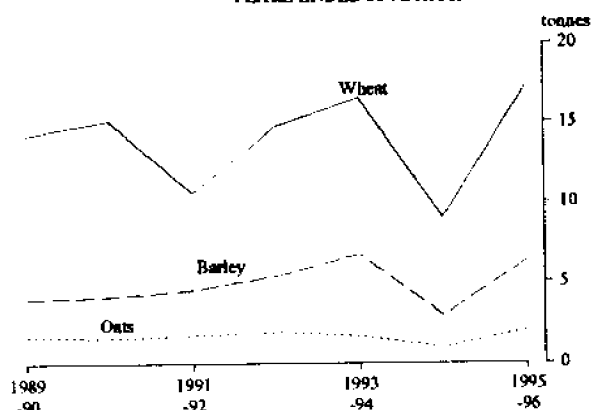
Production of Crops

- In 1995-96 all major crops with the exception of rice yielded more than in the 1994-95 season.
- Production of wheat for grain rose 91.7% to 17.2 million tonnes. Due to the breaking of the drought, New South Wales produced more than five times the amount of wheat produced in 1994-95. Production approximately doubled in Victoria, Queensland and South Australia and in Western Australia rose 30.9% to 7.1 million tonnes.
- Production of oats for grain more than doubled in 1995-96 to 2.0 million tonnes. A fourfold increase in New South Wales was accompanied by a doubling of production in Victoria, Queensland and

**AREA OF SELECTED CEREALS FOR GRAIN,
AUSTRALIA
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH**



**PRODUCTION OF SELECTED CEREALS FOR GRAIN,
AUSTRALIA
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH**



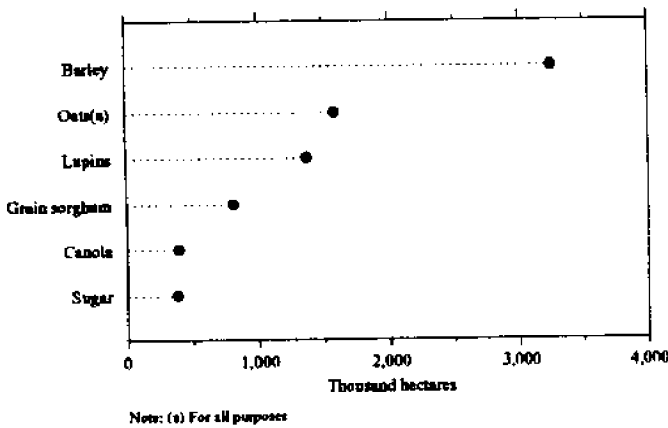
INQUIRIES

- for further information about statistics in this publication and the availability of related unpublished statistics, contact Bob Ward on Canberra (06) 252 7578 or any ABS State Office.
- for information about other ABS statistics and services please contact Information Services on Canberra (06) 252 6627, 252 6007 or any ABS State Office.

South Australia. Western Australia production increased by 47.5%.

- Barley production in 1995-96 was double the harvest of the previous year. South Australia again was the State with the highest production recording 2.0 million tonnes.
- Production of field peas increased by 127.9% to 547,000 tonnes, the majority in Victoria and South Australia.
- Canola increased by 118.9% to 578,000 tonnes. New South Wales, with 282,000 tonnes, was by far the most significant producer.
- Sugar cane cut for crushing increased by 10.7% to 36.5 million tonnes due to both an increase in area planted and also to an improved yield.

AREA OF SELECTED CROPS, AUSTRALIA
YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1996



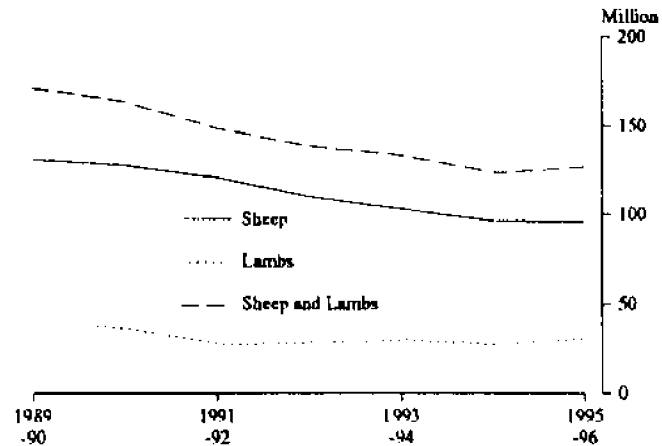
Fruit

- Despite a small increase (2.8%) in the number of orange trees, production of oranges declined by 15.7% in 1995-96. This reduction was due to a combination of extensive grubbing of valencias and poor fruit setting due to root stress, a legacy of the drought.
- Production of the major stone fruits generally increased, the notable exception being apricots which declined by 36.4% to 22,000 tonnes in 1995-96.

Livestock

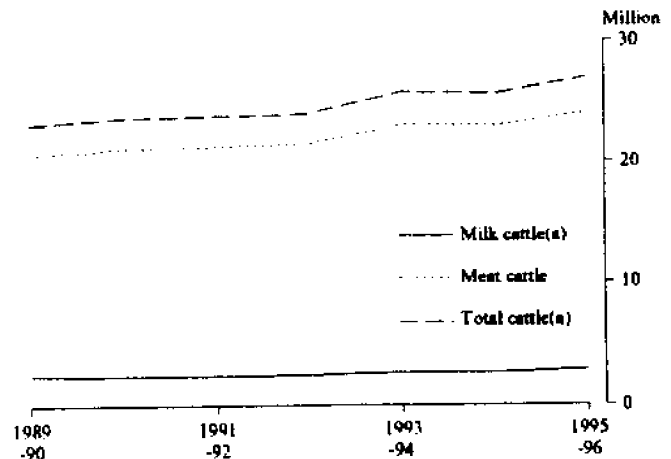
- The number of dairy cattle as at 31 March 1996 stood at 2.9 million head, up 7.0% on 1995.

SHEEP AND LAMBS, AUSTRALIA
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH



- Meat cattle numbers grew 4.7% to 24.1 million head at 31 March 1996. The Queensland meat cattle herd was the largest of any State with 10.2 million cattle and calves reported.
- The total sheep and lamb flock at 31 March 1996 increased 2.5% to 126.3 million. Although the number of sheep one year and over fell 0.6%, the number of lambs and hoggets under 1 year rose 13.6% to 31.0 million. The increase in the number of lambs marked during the year (8.9%) together with a decrease in the number of lambs slaughtered contributed to the increase in the lamb and hogget population.
- Pig numbers rose marginally to 2.7 million.

MILK AND MEAT CATTLE, AUSTRALIA
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH



Note: (a) Excludes house cows and heifers

TABLE 1. LAND USE, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p
(*000 hectares)

| | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | | | |
|-------------------------------------|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|--------------|---------------|-----------|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. | NT | ACT |
| Total area of establishments | 469,054 | 463,348 | 468,388 | 62,241 | 13,116 | 148,117 | 56,144 | 113,955 | 2,034 | 72,725 | 56 |

TABLE 2. AREA OF CROPS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p
(*000 hectares)

| | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | | |
|--|-----------|-------|-------|-------|------|------|-------|-------|------|--|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. | |
| Cereals for grain— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Barley | 3,424 | 2,470 | 3,253 | 630 | 651 | 183 | 1,017 | 760 | 13 | |
| Grain sorghum | 499 | 687 | 810 | 179 | 2 | 630 | n.c. | 1 | n.c. | |
| Oats | 947 | 897 | 1,225 | 556 | 196 | 13 | 127 | 322 | 10 | |
| Panicum and millet | 37 | 44 | 22 | 3 | 1 | 18 | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. | |
| Rice | 125 | 119 | 140 | 140 | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. | |
| Triticale | 129 | 153 | 225 | 77 | 56 | 5 | 68 | 17 | 2 | |
| Wheat | 8,383 | 7,891 | 9,719 | 2,477 | 896 | 684 | 1,614 | 4,049 | 1 | |
| Legumes for grain— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Chick peas | 147 | 209 | 231 | 36 | 122 | 28 | 13 | 32 | n.c. | |
| Field peas | 400 | 461 | 396 | 18 | 179 | n.c. | 160 | 39 | — | |
| Lupins | 1,150 | 1,407 | 1,371 | 97 | 52 | — | 83 | 1,137 | — | |
| Crops for hay— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Oats(a) | 233 | 252 | 363 | 81 | 69 | n.c. | 102 | 111 | n.c. | |
| Other cereals | 70 | 97 | 124 | 31 | 9 | 23 | 26 | 31 | 3 | |
| Oilseeds— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Canola | 177 | 356 | 394 | 180 | 79 | 1 | 32 | 102 | — | |
| Safflower | 54 | 30 | 41 | 10 | 27 | — | 4 | n.c. | n.c. | |
| Soybeans | 41 | 18 | 24 | 13 | — | 11 | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. | |
| Sunflower | 113 | 136 | 88 | 34 | 2 | 52 | — | n.c. | n.c. | |
| Vegetables for human consumption— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Onions, white and brown | 5 | 5 | 5 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 1 | 2 | |
| Potatoes | 40 | 38 | 36 | 6 | 9 | 5 | 7 | 3 | 5 | |
| Tomatoes | 9 | 9 | 8 | 2 | 3 | 4 | — | — | — | |
| Fruit— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Grapes | 67 | 73 | 83 | 17 | 24 | 1 | 36 | 4 | 1 | |
| Other crops— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cotton | 293 | 245 | 331 | 216 | n.c. | 115 | n.c. | — | n.c. | |
| Peanuts | 22 | 13 | 20 | — | n.c. | 20 | n.c. | n.a. | n.c. | |
| Sugar cane cut for crushing | 338 | 363 | 384 | 19 | n.c. | 365 | n.c. | — | n.c. | |
| Tobacco | 3 | 3 | 3 | — | 1 | 2 | n.c. | — | n.c. | |

(a) Oats for hay not collected separately in Queensland and Tasmania. Included in 'Other cereals' in those States.

TABLE 3. PRODUCTION OF PRINCIPAL CROPS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p
(*000 tonnes)

| | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | |
|--|-----------|--------|--------|-------|-------|--------|-------|-------|------|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. |
| Cereals for grain— | | | | | | | | | |
| Barley | 6,668 | 2,913 | 6,252 | 1,148 | 1,548 | 212 | 1,955 | 1,355 | 34 |
| Oats | 1,647 | 924 | 2,009 | 779 | 405 | 8 | 171 | 627 | 20 |
| Rice | 1,042 | 1,016 | 1,000 | 999 | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. |
| Triticale | 263 | 182 | 478 | 209 | 127 | 7 | 107 | 21 | 6 |
| Wheat | 16,479 | 8,972 | 17,196 | 4,660 | 1,962 | 563 | 2,887 | 7,120 | 4 |
| Legumes for grain— | | | | | | | | | |
| Field peas | 558 | 240 | 547 | 19 | 267 | n.c. | 226 | 35 | 1 |
| Lupins | 1,480 | 1,076 | 1,626 | 121 | 63 | — | 95 | 1,346 | — |
| Crops for hay— | | | | | | | | | |
| Oats | 931 | 745 | 1,447 | 309 | 287 | n.c. | 382 | 469 | n.c. |
| Oilseeds— | | | | | | | | | |
| Canola | 305 | 264 | 578 | 282 | 125 | — | 50 | 120 | — |
| Safflower | 45 | 15 | 26 | 5 | 18 | — | 3 | n.c. | n.c. |
| Vegetables for human consumption— | | | | | | | | | |
| Onions, white and brown | 213 | 200 | 246 | 14 | 17 | 31 | 62 | 31 | 91 |
| Tomatoes | 327 | 340 | 425 | 76 | 151 | 185 | 5 | 7 | 1 |
| Other crops— | | | | | | | | | |
| Sugar cane cut for crushing | 31,312 | 32,971 | 36,487 | 2,090 | n.c. | 34,384 | n.c. | n.a. | n.c. |

TABLE 4. AREA INTENDED TO BE SOWN TO CEREAL CROPS FOR ALL PURPOSES
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p
(*000 Hectares)

| | | 1995 | | 1996 | | 1997p |
|-----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|--------|----------|
| | | Intended | Actual | Intended | Actual | Intended |
| NSW | Wheat | 1,910 | 1,460 | 1,979 | 2,500 | 3,037 |
| | Oats | 572 | 426 | 696 | 637 | 586 |
| | Barley | 542 | 410 | 569 | 630 | 676 |
| Vic | Wheat | 828 | 822 | 826 | 896 | 997 |
| | Oats | 182 | 190 | 239 | 265 | 223 |
| | Barley | 464 | 492 | 615 | 651 | 621 |
| Qld | Wheat | (a)386 | 401 | (a)762 | 684 | (a)995 |
| | Oats | n.a. | 14 | n.a. | 13 | n.a. |
| | Barley | (a)90 | 93 | (a)163 | 183 | (a)185 |
| SA | Wheat | 1,418 | 1,395 | 1,453 | 1,614 | 1,655 |
| | Oats | 200 | 162 | 217 | 229 | 208 |
| | Barley | 920 | 882 | 960 | 1,017 | 1,082 |
| WA | Wheat | 3,884 | 3,848 | 3,770 | 4,049 | 4,435 |
| | Oats | 355 | 348 | 390 | 433 | 426 |
| | Barley | 612 | 579 | 713 | 760 | 949 |
| Australia | Wheat | 8,427 | 7,927 | 8,791 | 9,743 | 11,122 |
| | Oats | (b)1,323 | 1,148 | (b)1,560 | 1,588 | (b)1,458 |
| | Barley | 2,641 | 2,470 | 3,033 | 3,253 | 3,527 |

(a) For grain only. Source: Queensland Department of Primary Industries. (b) Excludes Queensland.

**TABLE 5. AREA AND PRODUCTION OF HAY, FROM PASTURES AND GRASSES,
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p**

| | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|------------|------------|------------|------------|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. |
| AREA ('000 hectares) | | | | | | | | | |
| Cut for hay— | | | | | | | | | |
| Lucerne(a) | 176 | 177 | 231 | 122 | 56 | 25 | 23 | n.c. | 4 |
| Other(a) | 687 | 622 | 884 | 152 | 551 | 33 | 86 | n.c. | 61 |
| Total(b) | 977 | 915 | 1,235 | 274 | 608 | 58 | 110 | 119 | 65 |
| PRODUCTION ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| Cut for hay— | | | | | | | | | |
| Lucerne(a) | 943 | 822 | 1,123 | 515 | 310 | 188 | 90 | n.c. | 20 |
| Other(a) | 2,595 | 2,115 | 3,250 | 500 | 2,111 | 113 | 264 | n.c. | 262 |
| Total(b) | 3,979 | 3,352 | 4,818 | 1,015 | 2,421 | 301 | 354 | 436 | 282 |

(a) Excludes WA, NT and ACT where items are not collected separately. (b) Includes WA, NT and ACT.

TABLE 6. NUMBER OF TREES AND PRODUCTION OF ORCHARD FRUIT, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p

| | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | |
|-------------------------------|-----------|-------|-------|-------|-------|-----|-------|-------|-------|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. |
| TREES 6 YEARS AND OVER ('000) | | | | | | | | | |
| Citrus— | | | | | | | | | |
| Oranges | 6,587 | 6,297 | 6,583 | 3,233 | 1,124 | 182 | 1,889 | 154 | n.c. |
| Lemons and limes | 367 | 383 | 400 | 138 | 81 | 64 | 104 | 13 | n.c. |
| Mandarins | 601 | 729 | 887 | 105 | 101 | 491 | 148 | 42 | n.c. |
| Pome— | | | | | | | | | |
| Apples | 5,033 | 5,101 | 5,230 | 1,334 | 1,326 | 439 | 365 | 558 | 1,206 |
| Pears (incl. Nashi) | 1,797 | 1,766 | 1,703 | 72 | 1,349 | 26 | 101 | 135 | 20 |
| Stone— | | | | | | | | | |
| Apricots | 646 | 642 | 629 | 25 | 203 | 27 | 341 | 12 | 21 |
| Nectarines | 561 | 660 | 832 | 329 | 216 | 145 | 31 | 105 | 8 |
| Peaches | 1,353 | 1,245 | 1,436 | 477 | 559 | 193 | 121 | 83 | 4 |
| Plums and prunes | 863 | 907 | 912 | 378 | 149 | 140 | 96 | 148 | 1 |
| TOTAL NUMBER OF TREES ('000) | | | | | | | | | |
| Citrus— | | | | | | | | | |
| Oranges | 8,062 | 7,684 | 7,896 | 3,752 | 1,384 | 330 | 2,226 | 205 | n.c. |
| Lemons and limes | 525 | 546 | 576 | 179 | 109 | 132 | 137 | 18 | n.c. |
| Mandarins | 1,279 | 1,416 | 1,477 | 152 | 141 | 863 | 237 | 84 | n.c. |
| Pome— | | | | | | | | | |
| Apples | 7,777 | 7,989 | 8,413 | 2,009 | 2,112 | 775 | 700 | 1,057 | 1,756 |
| Pears (incl. Nashi) | 2,133 | 2,032 | 1,929 | 85 | 1,446 | 40 | 143 | 190 | 23 |
| Stone— | | | | | | | | | |
| Apricots | 977 | 923 | 898 | 51 | 277 | 47 | 467 | 24 | 33 |
| Nectarines | 1,307 | 1,431 | 1,876 | 734 | 479 | 304 | 81 | 258 | 19 |
| Peaches | 2,503 | 2,386 | 2,814 | 918 | 1,064 | 428 | 199 | 196 | 10 |
| Plums and prunes | 1,469 | 1,510 | 1,580 | 601 | 298 | 223 | 148 | 304 | 5 |
| PRODUCTION ('000 tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| Citrus— | | | | | | | | | |
| Oranges | 582 | 517 | 436 | 173 | 75 | 15 | 167 | 5 | n.c. |
| Lemons and limes | 34 | 34 | 33 | 5 | 7 | 5 | 15 | 1 | n.c. |
| Mandarins | 58 | 59 | 70 | 4 | 4 | 48 | 12 | 1 | n.c. |
| Stone— | | | | | | | | | |
| Apricots | 21 | 30 | 22 | 1 | 7 | — | 14 | — | — |
| Nectarines | 17 | 17 | 19 | 7 | 7 | 1 | 1 | 3 | — |
| Peaches | 59 | 58 | 65 | 16 | 37 | 3 | 7 | 2 | — |
| Plums and prunes | 26 | 22 | 24 | 9 | 4 | 1 | 5 | 4 | — |

TABLE 7. AREA AND PRODUCTION OF TROPICAL AND OTHER FRUIT, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p

| | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | |
|---|-----------|---------|---------|--------|-------|---------|-------|--------|------|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. |
| BEARING AREA (hectares) | | | | | | | | | |
| Tropical— | | | | | | | | | |
| Bananas | 8,756 | 8,281 | 8,835 | 3,191 | n.c. | 5,185 | n.c. | 391 | n.c. |
| Pawpaws | 399 | 320 | 319 | 9 | n.c. | 283 | n.c. | 26 | n.c. |
| Pineapples | 3,668 | 3,209 | 3,077 | 7 | n.c. | 3,070 | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. |
| Other— | | | | | | | | | |
| Raspberries | 191 | 164 | 182 | 32 | 82 | n.c. | 15 | n.c. | 54 |
| Strawberries | 656 | 585 | 754 | 47 | 224 | 315 | 68 | 75 | 19 |
| TOTAL AREA (BEARING AND NOT BEARING) (hectares) | | | | | | | | | |
| Tropical— | | | | | | | | | |
| Bananas | 10,687 | 9,807 | 10,590 | 3,586 | n.c. | 6,405 | n.c. | 526 | n.c. |
| Pawpaws | 624 | 521 | 488 | 12 | n.c. | 441 | n.c. | 33 | n.c. |
| Pineapples | 5,870 | 5,226 | 5,137 | 7 | n.c. | 5,126 | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. |
| Other— | | | | | | | | | |
| Raspberries | 219 | 205 | 218 | 34 | 96 | n.c. | 21 | n.c. | 67 |
| Strawberries | 872 | 724 | 996 | 64 | 278 | 454 | 80 | 94 | 20 |
| PRODUCTION (tonnes) | | | | | | | | | |
| Tropical— | | | | | | | | | |
| Bananas | 219,222 | 208,102 | 218,700 | 43,396 | n.c. | 161,694 | n.c. | 12,256 | n.c. |
| Pawpaws | 6,201 | 6,225 | 4,894 | 40 | n.c. | 4,623 | n.c. | 225 | n.c. |
| Pineapples | 157,439 | 138,504 | 134,362 | 129 | n.c. | 134,233 | n.c. | n.c. | n.c. |
| Other— | | | | | | | | | |
| Raspberries | 459 | 396 | 391 | 54 | 200 | n.c. | 8 | n.c. | 129 |
| Strawberries | 9,375 | 8,532 | 10,957 | 249 | 3,505 | 3,652 | 1,350 | 2,064 | 134 |

TABLE 8. LIVESTOCK NUMBERS AT 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p
(⁰⁰⁰)

| | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | | |
|--|----------------|----------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|
| | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. | NT |
| Cattle(a)--- | | | | | | | | | | |
| Milk(b)--- | | | | | | | | | | |
| Cows in milk and dry | 1,786 | 1,822 | 1,961 | 250 | 1,202 | 200 | 104 | 74 | 131 | n.a. |
| Other milk cattle | 891 | 919 | 972 | 147 | 546 | 102 | 56 | 52 | 69 | n.a. |
| Total(b) | 2,678 | 2,741 | 2,933 | 397 | 1,748 | 302 | 160 | 126 | 201 | n.a. |
| Meat--- | | | | | | | | | | |
| Bulls and bull calves intended for service | 557 | 555 | 565 | 128 | 73 | 233 | 28 | 43 | 12 | 49 |
| Cows and heifers 1 year and over | 12,076 | 11,215 | 11,908 | 3,064 | 1,346 | 4,883 | 520 | 880 | 239 | 968 |
| Heifer and other calves under 1 year | 5,388 | 5,806 | 5,959 | 1,787 | 781 | 2,252 | 282 | 426 | 162 | 265 |
| Other cattle 1 year and over | 5,058 | 5,419 | 5,646 | 1,286 | 630 | 2,812 | 217 | 343 | 120 | 237 |
| Total | 23,080 | 22,995 | 24,079 | 6,264 | 2,831 | 10,181 | 1,046 | 1,691 | 532 | 1,518 |
| Total cattle and calves(b) | 25,758 | 25,736 | 27,012 | 6,661 | 4,579 | 10,483 | 1,206 | 1,817 | 733 | n.a. |
| Sheep 1 year and over | 102,831 | 95,926 | 95,315 | 32,907 | 17,607 | 8,610 | 10,312 | 22,826 | 2,982 | n.c. |
| Lambs and hoggets under 1 year | 29,739 | 27,284 | 31,005 | 10,902 | 5,005 | 2,180 | 3,639 | 8,213 | 1,049 | n.c. |
| Total sheep and lambs | 132,569 | 123,210 | 126,320 | 43,809 | 22,612 | 10,789 | 13,951 | 31,039 | 4,031 | n.c. |
| Pigs | 2,775 | 2,653 | 2,663 | 747 | 463 | 670 | 415 | 330 | 34 | 4 |

(a) Excludes domesticated buffaloes in the Northern Territory which at 31 March 1995 were estimated to be 10,900. (b) Excludes house cows and heifers.

TABLE 9. MATINGS AND LAMBINGS, YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH 1994 TO 1996p

| | Unit | Australia | | | 1996p | | | | | |
|--|----------------|-----------|--------|--------|--------|-------|-------|-------|--------|-------|
| | | 1994 | 1995 | 1996p | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. |
| Mating intentions at start of season | " | 55,520 | 56,832 | 51,900 | 17,865 | 8,677 | 4,186 | 6,225 | 13,459 | 1,460 |
| Actual matings | " | 53,731 | 52,528 | 53,171 | 18,772 | 8,726 | 4,101 | 6,434 | 13,579 | 1,528 |
| Percentage of actual matings to intended matings | % | 96.8 | 92.4 | 102.4 | 105.1 | 100.6 | 98.0 | 103.4 | 100.9 | 104.7 |
| Lambs marked | ⁰⁰⁰ | 41,464 | 37,943 | 41,301 | 14,650 | 7,291 | 2,414 | 5,390 | 10,208 | 1,325 |
| Percentage of lambs marked to— | | | | | | | | | | |
| Actual matings | % | 77.2 | 72.2 | 77.7 | 78.0 | 83.6 | 58.9 | 83.8 | 75.2 | 86.7 |

(a) Includes the Australian Capital Territory but not the Northern Territory where lambing information is not collected.

TABLE 10. INTENDED EWE MATINGS, YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH 1997p

| | Unit | Aust.(a) | NSW | Vic. | Qld | SA | WA | Tas. |
|---|----------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|---------------|--------------|
| Number of ewes mated or intended to be mated to | | | | | | | | |
| Merino rams(b) | ⁰⁰⁰ | 35,759 | 13,646 | 5,083 | n.c. | 4,534 | 11,492 | 975 |
| Other breeds(b) | " | 16,246 | 6,344 | 4,574 | n.c. | 2,149 | 2,511 | 660 |
| Total(c) | " | 55,834 | 19,990 | 9,657 | 3,828 | 6,683 | 14,003 | 1,635 |
| Percentage of total ewes mated to— | | | | | | | | |
| Merino rams | % | n.a. | 68.3 | 52.6 | n.a. | 67.8 | 82.1 | 59.6 |
| Other breeds | " | n.a. | 31.7 | 47.4 | n.a. | 32.2 | 17.9 | 40.4 |

(a) Includes the Australian Capital Territory but not the Northern Territory where lambing information is not collected. (b) Figures for Queensland for all rams are not collected separately. (c) Includes Queensland.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains preliminary estimates of selected agricultural commodities for the year ended 31 March 1996, together with comparative information for previous years. Final and more detailed statistics will be made available in publications to be released during the early part of 1997.

Scope and coverage

2. The ABS excludes from the Census those establishments which make only a small contribution to overall agricultural production. From 1993-94 the scope of the Census was establishments undertaking agricultural activity having an Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations (EVAO) of \$5,000 or more. The scope of previous Agricultural Censuses varied over the years. Details are available on request.

General

3. Final figures will be published early in 1997 when all Agricultural Census returns have been fully processed.

4. The ABS also has more detailed agricultural statistics on floppy disk, compact disk and magnetic tape. AgStats on floppy and compact disks offers a wider range of data aggregated at smaller geographic areas than those generally available in printed publications, together with an easy-to-use, menu-driven interrogation facility.

5. Current publications and other standard products and services 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 next few days. The Catalogue and Release Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

| | |
|------|--|
| p | preliminary - figure or series subject to revision |
| — | nil or rounded to zero |
| n.c. | not collected |
| n.a. | not available |

6. The figures shown in these tables have been revised where necessary and as a consequence may not agree with similar data shown in previous publications.

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

8. Unless indicated otherwise, Australian totals include data for all States and both Territories.

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