

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)

PROPOSAL NO. 3 OF 2016

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES SURVEY 2015-16

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information for the purpose of providing information on land management practices undertaken by agricultural business.

The information will be collected:

- from June to September 2016;
- from businesses identified from the ABS Business Register;
- as a sample of approximately 40,000 agricultural businesses;
- by self-enumeration (electronic form or mail-out/mail-back paper form) or telephone interview; and
- across all States and Territories of Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of land management practices including:

- pasture management
- soil management
- cattle and sheep management
- ground cover maintenance
- animal waste management
- vegetation management
- crop management

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of *Land Management and Farming in Australia, 2016* (cat. no. 4627.0).

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available from the first half of 2017.

The principal users of these data are:

- the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources (including the Australian Bureau of Agriculture and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES));
- the Department of the Environment;
- state and territory government departments of primary industry; and
- industry bodies.

The data will contribute to informed decision-making in relation to the agriculture industry and to environmental issues associated with the production of agricultural commodities.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden consistent with the Government's Regulator Performance Framework, the ABS:

- has considered what existing information is available;
- has consulted with principal users of the data (as listed above) as to their data requirements;
- has conducted field testing to ensure the required data are readily available and that provider load will be minimised;
- has improved online reporting instruments to be more streamlined and easier to navigate, improving the provider experience and reducing burden; and
- will be required to clear the collection through the Statistical Clearing House.

This collection was last conducted in 2012-13 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal 6 of 2012.

Luise McCulloch
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