

PROPOSAL NO. 5 OF 2016

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED 2015-16

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information to report on the Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced (VACP) for the 2015-16 financial year.

The 2015-16 VACP collection will use agricultural commodity production (quantity) data from the 2015-16 Agricultural Census, combined with price data from the 2015-16 VACP Price Survey, ABS Livestock collections and other non-ABS sources, including market reports and industry information to estimate values of agricultural commodity production. The VACP Price Survey will be conducted from July 2015, from a sample of approximately 400 Agricultural businesses across Australia, by self-enumeration using a paper form collection.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- value, and quantity purchased, of a range of broad-acre crops, fruit and vegetables, grain crops and dried fruit
- marketing costs for transport, container prices and storage prices for agricultural commodities
- marketing costs of egg production and purchase of shell eggs for human consumption and
- the value of various crops purchased or handled(e.g. Stored).

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation/analysis of the Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced. The VACP contributes to the compilation of National Accounts figures and is published at a national, state and regional level.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available in early 2017.

The principal users of the information the ABS produces are:

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

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 and uses what existing information is available;
- has used its consultation with a range of stakeholders with regard to their agricultural data needs to develop the VACP collection
- uses the same survey collection method, as in previous years, which have been found to work effectively in collecting data and minimising respondent burden;
- will be required to seek approval from the Statistical Clearing House in July 2016.

This collection was last conducted in July 2015 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal No. 6 of 2013.

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