

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

PROPOSAL NO. 6 OF 2012

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LAND MANAGEMENT PRACTICES SURVEY 2011-12

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to conduct a Land Management Practices Survey for the 2011-12 reference period.

The survey will be conducted from July 2012.

The survey will be conducted using both a paper form and an Internet based form, from a sample of approximately 50,000 agricultural businesses across Australia.

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

- pasture and crop cultivation;
- crop management;
- crop stubble and trash management;
- livestock management;
- pasture management;
- vegetation management;
- fertiliser use;
- soil management;
- animal waste management;
- feral animal management; and
- water use.

Data will be disseminated at the national, state and agro-climate region level.

The primary purpose of the survey is to gather information on current on-farm management practices to identify and establish benchmarks for land management practices in the agriculture sector that have abatement potential under the Carbon Farming Initiative.

The survey has been developed in consultation with the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry and the Department of Climate Change and Energy Efficiency. Results from the survey will be used by these departments and the Domestic Offset Integrity Committee to define common practices consistent with the Carbon Farming Initiative legislation.

The survey has been extensively field tested to ensure that the required data are readily available. No significant adverse respondent reaction is expected.

Final results from the 2011-12 survey are expected to be published in mid 2013.

The ABS expects to conduct further surveys on this topic in the future.

Brian Pink
Australian Statistician

May 2012