

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA
AUSTRALIA.

3185/
14/67

A SUMMARY OF
THE WHEAT SITUATION,
AUSTRALIA.

NO. 84.

MARCH 1953.

STATISTICAL BULLETIN : THE WHEAT INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA

NO. 84 : MARCH, 1953

PREFACE

The previous issue of this Bulletin (Volume 8, No. 5) was released on 29th January, 1953. This is the eighty-fourth issue in the series and subsequent numbers will appear as circumstances require. In general, this Bulletin is issued at least twice each season, viz. (i) at any early stage during the harvest (December or early January) at which stage forecasts of the crop are available and (ii) after the harvest has been completed (March or April), when reliable estimates of the total crop can be made in the light of receivals by the Australian Wheat Board and sample surveys taken in some States.

In the compilation of this Bulletin I have drawn heavily upon statistical and other data supplied by State Statisticians, the Australian Wheat Board and the Commonwealth Department of Commerce and Agriculture. To each of these authorities I tender my thanks for their valuable assistance and co-operation.

S. R. CARVER

ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

MEEREA. A.C.T.

1ST APRIL, 1953

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

STATISTICAL BULLETIN : THE WHEAT INDUSTRY, AUSTRALIA

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1. WHEAT FOR GRAIN : ESTIMATE OF AREA SOWN

PRODUCTION AND AVERAGE YIELD, 1952-53

The area which was sown to wheat for grain in Australia in the 1952-53 season is now estimated at 10,107,000 acres, from which an estimated total crop of 193.0 million bushels of wheat has been harvested, representing an average yield of 19.1 bushels per acre.

The present estimate of the 1952-53 wheat crop is about 13.2 million bushels greater than the estimate appearing in the previous issue of this Bulletin, the revision being made in the light of fairly complete information now available concerning quantities of wheat received by the Australian Wheat Board.

The estimated area sown for grain in 1952-53, viz., 10,107,000 acres is the lowest for any peace-time year since 1923-24 and is 2,873,000 acres or 22 per cent less than the average sowings for the five years ended 1938-39. The estimated production of 193.0 million bushels is 27.1 million bushels (12 per cent) less than the record 1947-48 harvest, but 38.7 million bushels (25 per cent) greater than average production for the five years ended 1938-39. The estimated average yield of 19.1 bushels per acre is an all-time record for Australia (the previous record was 17.8 bushels per acre in 1949-50) and exceeds the average for the five years ended 1938-39 by 7.2 bushels per acre.

New South Wales, Victoria, Queensland and South Australia each had estimated average yields higher than in any previous season. The estimated yield for Western Australia, although lower than in any of the five preceeding years was higher than for the five years ended 1938-39.

Details of the estimates for each State are shown below:-

TABLE 1 : WHEAT FOR GRAIN : ESTIMATED AREA SOWN, PRODUCTION
AND AVERAGE YIELD, 1952-53

State	Estimated area sown		Estimated Production			
	Authority	Area ('000 acres)	Authority	Date	Pro-duction ('000 bus.)	Average Yield Per Acre (bus.)
N.S.W.	Govt. Statistician	2,660	Govt. Statistician	12.3.53	56,000	21.1
Vic.	Govt. Statist	2,275	Aust. Wheat Board	19.3.53	50,500	22.2
Q'ld.	Dept. of Agriculture	700	Govt. Statistician	16.3.53	17,100	24.4
S.A.	Govt. Statist	1,465	Govt. Statist	13.3.53	34,000	23.2
W.A.	Govt. Statistician	3,000	Govt. Statistician	13.3.53	35,200	11.7
Tas.	C'wealth Statistician	6	Dept. of Agriculture	19.3.53	161	26.8
A.C.T.	C'wealth Statistician	1	C'wealth Statistician	19.3.53	10	10.0
TOTAL:		10,107			192,971	19.1

2. WHEAT FOR GRAIN : AREA, PRODUCTION AND AVERAGE YIELD

Details of the area, production and average yield per acre are given in Table 2 following, for each of the four seasons ended 1951-52, in comparison with the average for the five seasons ended 1938-39. Details of the estimated area sown, production and average yield per acre for 1952-53 season are also shown.

TABLE 2 : WHEAT FOR GRAIN : AREA, PRODUCTION AND AVERAGE YIELD

Season	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	AUST.
AREA SOWN TO WHEAT FOR GRAIN ('000 Acres)								
Average five seasons ended 1938-39	4,168	2,522	312	3,096	2,864	16	2	12,980
1948-49 ..	4,038	2,996	608	2,063	2,867	7	4	12,583
1949-50 ..	4,012	2,828	600	1,896	2,894	6	4	12,240
1950-51 ..	3,329	2,735	559	1,848	3,185	5	2	11,663
1951-52 ..	2,753	2,464	455	1,613	3,094	4	1	10,384
1952-53(a) ..	2,660	2,275	700	1,465	3,000	6	1	10,107

(a) Estimated.

TABLE 2 : WHEAT FOR GRAIN (Cont'd.)

Season	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	AUST.
<u>PRODUCTION OF WHEAT</u> ('000 Bushels)								
Average five seasons ended 1938-39	53,634	34,505	4,223	32,578	28,984	359	42	154,324
1948-49 ..	64,704	49,064	14,317	26,136	36,250	156	76	190,703
1949-50 ..	81,939	57,434	11,778	28,351	38,500	127	92	218,221
1950-51 ..	43,273	51,236	8,785	30,936	49,900	95	19	184,244
1951-52 ..	39,689	45,995	6,632	27,301	40,000	94	14	159,725
1952-53 (a) ..	56,000	50,500	17,100	34,000	35,200	161	10	192,971

AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE
(Bushels)

Average five seasons ended 1938-39	12.87	13.68	13.54	10.52	10.12	22.64	23.44	11.89
1948-49 ..	16.02	16.38	23.56	12.67	12.64	22.69	18.23	15.15
1949-50 ..	20.42	20.31	19.63	14.95	13.30	23.26	20.55	17.83
1950-51 ..	13.00	18.73	15.72	16.74	15.67	17.84	10.10	15.80
1951-52 ..	14.42	18.67	14.59	16.92	12.93	26.10	13.97	15.38
1952-53 (a) ..	21.05	22.20	24.43	23.21	11.73	26.83	10.00	19.09

(a) Estimated.

3. FARMERS' INTENTIONS TO SOW WHEAT AND ACTUAL SOWINGS

At the annual census of rural production collected during April and May, farmers in certain of the wheat-growing States are asked to indicate their intentions to sow wheat for all purposes (grain, hay and green feed) subject to the reservation "Weather and other conditions permitting". In the following table a comparison is given between farmers' intentions to sow and areas actually sown for the years indicated.

TABLE 3 : WHEAT, ALL PURPOSES : AREA SOWN AND INTENTIONS TO SOW
('000 Acres)

Particulars	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	AUSTRALIA
<u>SEASON 1950-51</u>								
Area Sown -								
For Grain ..	3,329	2,735	559	1,848	3,185	5	2	11,663
For Hay ..	79	35	4	89	49	3	-	259
For Greenfeed ..	35	-	54	13	20	1	-	121
All Purposes	3,443	2,770	617	1,950	3,254	9	2	12,045
Area intended to be sown (all purposes) (a)	3,810	2,618	(b)	1,955	3,247	6	2	(c) 11,638
<u>SEASON 1951-52</u>								
Area Sown -								
For Grain ..	2,753	2,464	455	1,613	3,094	4	1	10,384
For Hay ..	121	35	7	63	49	2	-	271
For Greenfeed ..	56	-	90	11	19	1	-	171
All Purposes	2,930	2,499	552	1,687	3,162	7	1	10,836
Area intended to be sown (all purposes) (a)	3,027	(b)	(b)	1,601	3,169	5	1	(b)

For footnotes see next page.

TABLE 3 : WHEAT, ALL PURPOSES : AREA SOWN AND INTENTIONS TO SOW (Cont'd.)

('000 Acres)

Particulars	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	AUST.
SEASON 1952-53								
Area Sown (d) -								
For Grain ..	2,660	2,275	700	1,465	3,000	6	1	10,107
For Hay ..	77	35	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	-	(e)
For Greenfeed ..	53	-	(e)	(e)	(e)	(e)	-	(e)
All Purposes	2,790	2,310	750	1,530	(e)	(e)	1	(e)
Area intended to be sown (all purposes) (a) ..	3,173	(b)	(b)	1,530	3,104	11	2	(b)

(a) According to farmers' returns at or about time of sowing. (b) Not collected.
 (c) Excludes Queensland. (d) Estimated. (e) Not yet available.

4. VARIETIES OF WHEAT SOWN

Details of the principal varieties of wheat sown in 1951 in the five main wheat producing States of Australia and the proportion which each bears to the total area sown are shown in the following table. Details for Queensland were available for the first time in 1951.

TABLE 4 : WHEAT : PROPORTIONS OF PRINCIPAL VARIETIES SOWN FOR ALL PURPOSES, 1951

New South Wales		Victoria (a)		Queensland (b)	
Variety	Per-centage	Variety	Per-centage	Variety	Per-centage
Bencubbin	34.50	Quadrat	36.36	Charter	16.54
Gabo	13.00	Insignia	30.37	Gabo	14.67
Kendee	7.78	Pinnacle	15.79	Seafoam	8.30
Celebration	6.53	Bencubbin	4.67	Fuora	7.85
Ford	5.87	Magnet	3.99	Lawrence	7.30
Charter	5.39	Baldmin	1.78	Fuseas	4.25
Bordan	4.00	Gabo	1.52	Fuglu	3.95
Koala	2.36	Pindar	1.39	Fedweb	3.62
Quadrat	2.31	Diadem	0.98	Three Seas	3.19
Magnet	1.86	Ghurka	0.88	Funo	3.11
Eureka & Eureka 2	1.63	All Other (c)	2.27	Celebration	3.06
Warigo	1.56			Cailloux	2.02
Yalta	1.30			Kendee	2.76
All Other (c)	11.91			Warput	0.88
	100.00		100.00	All Other (c)	18.50
					100.00

South Australia		Western Australia	
Variety	Per-centage	Variety	Per-centage
Gabo	20.58	Bungulla	27.92
Bencubbin	15.08	Bencubbin	23.98
Warigo	6.10	Glucub	11.09
Scimitar	4.93	Kondut	10.96
Dirk	4.00	Wongoondy	4.29
Quadrat	4.00	Eureka	3.26
Reldep	3.97	Koorda	3.22
Waratah	3.42	Ranee	1.99
Marathon	3.21	Gabo	1.74
Javelin	2.70	Regalia	1.26
Gluyas	2.69	Insignia	1.17
Sword	2.64	Blucub	0.95
Insignia	2.44	All Other (c)	8.17
Rapier	2.06		
Bungulla	1.99		
Glen Wari	1.95		
All Other (c)	18.24		
	100.00		100.00

Wheat sown for grain and hay only. (b) Wheat sown for grain only. (c) Incl.

5. WHEAT FARMS : NUMBER GROWING 20 ACRES OR MORE OF WHEAT FOR GRAIN

Particulars of the number of farms growing 20 acres or more of wheat for grain during the years 1938-39 and 1948-49 to 1951-52 are set out in the following table.

TABLE 5 : NUMBER OF FARMS GROWING 20 ACRES OR MORE OF WHEAT FOR GRAIN

State	1938-39	1948-49	1949-50	1950-51	1951-52
New South Wales ..	16,550	15,674	15,594	14,279	13,147
Victoria ..	12,305	12,105	11,491	11,203	10,076
Queensland ..	3,190	3,804	3,744	3,862	3,005
South Australia ..	11,842	9,405	9,346	8,416	8,345
Western Australia ..	8,989	7,779	7,808	7,814	7,766
Tasmania ..	146	123	58	79	51
TOTAL (a)	53,022	48,890	48,041	45,653	42,390

(a) Excludes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

6. WHEAT PRICES : AUSTRALIA

(i) Price of Wheat for Home Consumption - Australia

(a) For Human Consumption. From June, 1942 the monthly price of wheat sold for gristing into flour for home consumption averaged 3s.11½d. per bushel (Wheat Board price to millers, bulk basis) until 22nd December, 1947, when the price was increased to 4s.11½d. per bushel, bulk basis. This price remained operative only until 19th January, 1948. Details of the prices charged by the Wheat Board from 19th January, 1948 up to the present time for all wheat for human consumption (as flour or in other forms) in Australia are set out in the following table together with particulars of the dates on which they became operative.

TABLE 6 : PRICE OF WHEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION - AUSTRALIA

Date from which Price Became Effective	Price Charged by Wheat Board (bulk basis)
19th January, 1948	s. d.
1st December, 1948	6. 3.
" " 1949	(a) 6. 8.
8th " 1950	7. 10.
1st " 1951	10. 0.
" " 1952	11. 11.

(a) During the 1949-50 season the Commonwealth Government paid a subsidy of 5d. per bushel to provide growers with the agreed return of 7s.1d. per bushel (see section 14 (ii) following).

(b) For Stock Feed. The price charged by the Wheat Board for wheat sold for stock feed was 4s.11½d. per bushel (bulk basis) from early in 1947 to 19th January, 1948. On that date it was increased to 6s.3d. per bushel, and to the close of the 1950-51 season was fixed at the same levels as the price of wheat for human consumption (See (i) above).

All States, except Western Australia, by uniform legislation, fixed the price of stock-feed wheat for the 1951-52 season at 12s.0d. per bushel. In addition the Commonwealth Government, under the terms of the Wheat Bounty Act of 1951, agreed to pay a subsidy on wheat used by the dairy, pig and poultry industries during the 1951-52 and 1952-53 wheat seasons. The subsidy has been limited to 26 million bushels of wheat in respect of each season. The purpose of the subsidy is to bring the wheat-growers' return from the sale of such wheat to 16s.1d. per bushel.

For the 1951-52 season the rate of subsidy was 4s.1d. per bushel - i.e. the difference between 16s.1d. and 12s.0d. In the case of Western Australia the price of wheat for stock feed was fixed at 10s.0d. per bushel, and consequently the growers' return from the sale of stock feed wheat in that State was 14s.1d. per bushel. The Wheat Board was, however, required to pay interstate freight and handling costs of stock feed wheat amounting to an average of about 9d. per bushel on the maximum quantity of wheat on which the bounty was payable. As a result of the Wheat Board's subsequent refusal to pay these costs, the Queensland Government suspended its amending legislation on 10th May, 1952, and the price was reduced to 10s.0d. per bushel. The Commonwealth bounty was automatically suspended from that date throughout Australia. The dispute was settled when the Commonwealth Government agreed to pay these costs from the accumulated amount saved by the suspension of the bounty and the Queensland price was increased to 12s.0d. per bushel from 30th June, 1952.

For the 1952-53 season the rate of subsidy is 2s.2d. per bushel, equal to the difference between 16s.1d. and 13s.11d., the price ruling from 1st December, 1952 for stock feed wheat for use by the dairying, pig and poultry industries in States other than Western Australia.

(ii) Export Wheat Prices - Australia. Details of export wheat prices by months for the years ended July, 1939 and 1949 to 1952 and the months of August, 1952 to December, 1952 are shown in Table 7 following.

Owing to changes which have occurred in the manner of selling export wheat, it is not possible to quote prices on a strictly comparable basis throughout the period covered by the table. For 1938-39, the prices represent the "weighted average shippers' limits f.o.r. ports for growers' bagged and bulk lots, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide". Following the acquisition of the 1939-40 and later wheat crops by the Commonwealth Government, it was no longer possible to record prices on this basis. The prices in the following table for 1948-49 and later years are the basic export selling prices of the Australian Wheat Board. The quotations are more or less nominal, as the market is "broad" and wheat is sold at times above and below these basic prices, depending upon conditions of sale. Much of the wheat is sold at prices fixed under contract for delivery over lengthy periods.

As from August, 1949, under the terms of the International Wheat Agreement (see issue of this Bulletin, Vol. 7, No. 11), Australia has undertaken to sell, if required, 80.8 (subsequently increased to 88.7 but for the year 1951-52, because of the small harvest, reduced to 72.0) million bushels per year (August to July) to contracting importing countries. After commitments under the I.W.A. have been met, Australia is free to sell any additional wheat available at any price which may find a market. It has therefore become necessary since August, 1949, to distinguish between the prices applicable to wheat for sale within and without the agreement as follows:-

(a) Prices at which Australia is prepared to sell wheat under the terms of the I.W.A. - These are shown in terms of Australian currency under the heading "I.W.A. Quota Wheat" in the table below. Up to the latest available date (December, 1952) negotiations have been at the maximum price permitted by the Agreement. As the prices were fixed basically in terms of gold, the maximum prices expressed in terms of Australian currency rose from 11s.2d. prior to devaluation to 16s.1d. per bushel after devaluation (19th September, 1949). From 1st December, 1951 the f.o.b. price at which Australia will sell wheat under the I.W.A. was increased to 16s.6d. per bushel (bulk basis) by the addition of 5d. per bushel "carrying charge".

(b) Prices at which Australia is prepared to sell wheat outside the I.W.A. - These are shown in terms of Australian currency under the heading "Free Wheat" in the table below. The amount of wheat available for sale at these prices on the "free" market is that which is available after commitments under the I.W.A. have been met, and thus varies considerably from year to year.

Due to the fact that in recent years varying proportions of exportable wheat have been sold forward on contracts for delivery some months ahead at widely differing prices and because sales have been made on differential bases under the International Wheat Agreement since August, 1949, monthly prices recorded in the table below do not necessarily represent the prices actually received for wheat currently being shipped.

TABLE 7 : EXPORT WHEAT PRICES : AUSTRALIA
(Price per bushel)

Month	1938-39 (a)	1948-49 (b)	1949-50 (c)		1950-51 (c)		1951-52 (c)		1952-53 (c)	
			I.W.A. Quota Wheat	"Free" Wheat	I.W.A. Quota Wheat	"Free" Wheat	I.W.A. Quota Wheat	"Free" Wheat	I.W.A. Quota Wheat	"Free" Wheat
	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.	s.d.
August	3. 1	17. 4	11. 2	14. 0	16. 1	18. 6	16. 1	19. 0	16.6(d)	21. 6
September	2. 9	17. 4	13. 2	16. 2	16. 1	18. 6	16. 1	19. 0	16.6(d)	21. 6
October	2.10	16. 2	16. 1	20. 0	16. 1	18. 6	16. 1	19. 9	16.6(d)	21. 6
November	2. 6	15.10	16. 1	20. 0	16. 1	18. 6	16. 1	20. 1	16.6(d)	21. 6
December	2. 5	15.10	16. 1	19. 7	16. 1	18. 6	16.6(d)	21. 0	16.6(d)	21. 6
January	2. 5	15.10	16. 1	19. 0	16. 1	18. 6	16.6(d)	21. 2	16.6(d)	21. 6
February	2. 5	15. 7	16. 1	19. 0	16. 1	18. 6	16.6(d)	21. 6	16.6(d)	21. 6
March	2. 3	15. 4	16. 1	19. 0	16. 1	18.10	16.6(d)	21. 6		
April	2. 4	15. 4	16. 1	19. 0	16. 1	19. 0	16.6(d)	21. 6		
May	2. 6	14. 7	16. 1	19. 0	16. 1	19. 0	16.6(d)	21. 6		
June	2. 5	14. 5	16. 1	18. 7	16. 1	19. 0	16.6(d)	21. 6		
July	2. 2	14. 5	16. 1	18. 6	16. 1	19. 0	16.6(d)	21. 6		
Average	2. 5	15. 8	15. 5	18. 6	16. 1	18. 8	16.4	20. 9		

(a) Weighted average shippers' limits f.o.r. ports for growers' bagged and bulk lots, Sydney, Melbourne and Adelaide. (b) Basic export selling price of Australian Wheat Board (average for bulk and bagged wheat, f.o.r. ports basis). (c) Australian Wheat Board selling price for f.a.q. bulk wheat, f.o.b. basis. (d) Includes 5d. per bushel "carrying charge".

7. POOL ADVANCES TO FARMERS ON WHEAT ACQUIRED

Details of the advances paid in respect of wheat acquired from the harvest of 1950-51 (No. 14 Pool), 1951-52 (No. 15 Pool) are shown in the table below.

TABLE 8 : WHEAT POOL ADVANCES : AUSTRALIA AS AT 17TH FEBRUARY, 1953

Advance	1950-51 Harvest			1951-52 Harvest		
	Pools Nos. 14, 14A & 14B (a)			No. 15 Pool		
	Date (b)	Bulk	Bagged	Date (b)	Bulk	Bagged
		s.d. per bus.	s.d. per bus.		s.d. per bus.	s.d. per bus.
First	4.12.50	(c) 6-7	(c) 7-3	10.12.51	(c) 7-10	(c) 9-0
Second	21. 8.51	1-0	1-0	25. 3.52	1- 7	1-7
Third	16.10.51	1-0	1-0	11.11.52	1- 0	1-0
Fourth	19. 2.52	(d) 2-0	(d) 2-6	17. 2.53	1- 6	1-9
Fifth	10. 6.52	0-7½	0-10			
Total Advances (c)		(e) 11-2½ (f) 10-8½	(e) 12-7 (f) 11-1		11-11	13-4
		'000 bushels			'000 bushels	
Net Quantity Acquired						
Bulk		115,946			110,304	
Bagged		54,160			35,716	
Total:		170,106			146,020	

(a) See note below regarding Pools Nos. 14A and 14B. (b) Date of Commencement of Payments in respect of each advance. (c) Less rail freight to terminals.

(d) The fourth advance was 1/6 per bushel (bulk and bagged) less for No. 14B Pool than that for Nos. 14 and 14A. (e) Pools 14 and 14A only. (f) Pool 14B only.

In addition to No. 14 Pool, two subsidiary pools were created to handle sub-standard wheat from the 1950-51 harvest. In the case of No. 14A Pool (wheat under 54 lb. per bushel) the Australian Wheat Board applied similar advances as those for No. 14 Pool, with appropriate dockages for light-weight or under-quality wheat. Regarding No. 14B Pool (wheat under 46 lb. per bushel) total receipts amounted to only 87,300 bushels. This wheat was sold on the local market and growers who delivered to this Pool were paid the realizations from the sale of the wheat, less the Board's administrative and handling expenses.

In respect of the 1952-53 harvest (No. 16 Pool) 12s.0d. bulk and 12s.9d. bagged per bushel has been paid as a first advance on delivery on wheat acquired by the Australian Wheat Board. The total quantity acquired to 14th March 1953 was 179,180,000 bushels.

Contributions to the Wheat Prices Stabilization Fund from the 1950-51 and 1951-52 harvests amounted to approximately 1/3½ per bushel and 1/3 per bushel respectively. No contributions are to be made to the Fund from the 1952-53 harvest.

8. OVERSEA SHIPPING FREIGHT RATES : AUSTRALIA.

The next table gives particulars of the overseas freight rates for wheat shipped to the United Kingdom and Continental ports for the quarters in each of the years 1948 to 1952. These rates are expressed in sterling and are subject to an adjustment of 25½ per cent. on account of exchange when freight is prepaid in Australia.

TABLE 9 : OVERSEA SHIPPING FREIGHT RATES PER TON WEIGHT ON WHEAT - AUSTRALIA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENTAL PORTS (Supplied by the Oversea Shipping Representatives Assn.) (s.d. stg. per long ton)

Quarter ended	1948		1949		1950		1951		1952	
	Bulk	Bagged	Bulk	Bagged	Bulk	Bagged	Bulk	Bagged	Bulk	Bagged
31st March	102- 6	110- 0	92- 6	102- 6	67- 6	75- 0	160- 0	167- 6	115- 0	122- 6
30th June	102- 6	110- 0	87- 6	97- 6	65- 0	72- 6	122- 6	130- 0	85- 0	92- 6
30th Sept.	102- 6	110- 0	62- 6	70- 0	67- 6	75- 0	122- 6	130- 0	107- 6	115- 0
31st Dec.	95- 0	105- 0	67- 6	75- 0	90- 0	97- 6	125- 0	132- 6	102- 6	110- 0

In practice the greater portion of the wheat exported from Australia is shipped on specially chartered vessels under the Austral Charter Party terms and conditions. The relevant charter rates for bulk wheat for shipment to the United Kingdom and India as at various dates to 11th March, 1953 were as follows:

TABLE 10 : CHARTER RATES ON BULK WHEAT FOR SHIPMENT TO UNITED KINGDOM AND INDIA

(Source : Australian Wheat Board)

(s.d. stg. per long ton)

Date	United Kingdom		India	
	Eastern States	Western Australia	Eastern States	Western Australia
24. 6.50	60- 0	55- 0	47- 6	42- 6
11. 7.51	140- 0	140- 0	(a)	(a)
6.12.51	120- 0	120- 0	70- 0	70- 0
14. 1.52	(130- 0	130- 0)	70- 0	70- 0
24. 3.52	(147- 6	147- 6)	(a)	(a)
26. 3.52	100- 0	100- 0	65- 0	65- 0
24. 7.52	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)
30. 7.52	(65- 0	65- 0)	45- 0	45- 0
29. 9.52	(80- 0	80- 0)	(a)	(a)
22.10.52	(a)	(a)	70- 0	60- 0
24.11.52	97- 6	85- 0	(a)	(a)
5.12.52	(a)	(a)	71- 3	61- 3
15. 1.53	95- 0	82- 6	(a)	(a)
17. 1.53	(a)	(a)	80- 0	67- 6
24. 2.53	95- 0	82- 6	(a)	(a)
11. 3.53	(a)	(a)	87- 6	77- 6

(a) Not quoted.

9. PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF WHEAT : AUSTRALIA

Details of the production and disposal of wheat in each of the cereal years ended 30th November, 1948 to 1953 compared with the average for the three years ended 30th November, 1939 are given in the following table.

TABLE 11 : PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF WHEAT : AUSTRALIA

(Million bushels)

Particulars	Average three years ended 30th November 1939	Year ended 30th November -					
		1948	1949	1950	1951	1952(a)	1953 (b)
Opening Stocks (incl. Flour as Wheat)	10.2	13.3	26.3	19.0	43.8	19.4	16.9
Production	164.7	220.1	190.7	218.2	184.2	159.7	193.0
Total available	174.9	233.4	217.0	237.2	228.0	179.1	209.9
Supplies:							
Exports - Wheat	75.0	86.9	82.5	82.8	85.9	45.6	(c) 111.5
Flour as Wheat	30.6	43.0	35.7	36.9	41.6	35.2	
Local Consumption -							
Flour as Wheat	30.9	33.6	34.5	35.5	37.6	39.0	(c) 38.5
Stock Feed Wheat Sales	9.3	20.7	22.6	23.5	27.4	23.9	(c) 20.0
Seed	14.6	12.5	12.2	11.6	10.5	10.2	13.8
Retained on Farm	(d)	3.9	4.2	4.7	4.2	3.5	
Breakfast Foods and other uses	(e)	4.2	4.2	3.0	4.3	3.8	(c) 4.2
Closing Stocks (incl. Flour as Wheat)	14.5	26.3	19.0	43.8	19.4	16.9	(c) 20.0
Total Disposals	174.9	231.1	214.9	241.8	230.9	178.1	208.0
Excess (+) or Deficiency (-) of Disposals in respect of total available supplies (f)	-	(-)2.3	(-)2.1	(+)4.6	(+)2.9	(-)1.0	(-)1.9

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Estimated.

(c) Allocations.

(d) Included with stock feed.

(e) Included with Flour.

(f) Includes allowance for unrecorded movements in stocks, gain or loss in outturn, etc.

10. STOCKS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR HELD

Details of the movement in stocks of wheat and flour as wheat held in Australia at Mills, Sidings, Ports and Depots as at 30th November, for each State for the years 1939 and 1948 to 1952, were included in the last issue of this Bulletin (Volume 8, No. 5).

11. PRODUCTION OF FLOUR

The following table shows details of the production of flour in each State for the years 1938-39 and 1947-48 to 1951-52, and the six monthly periods July to December, 1951 and 1952.

TABLE 12 : PRODUCTION OF FLOUR
(Tons of 2,000 lb.)

Period	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	TOTAL
1938-39	547,162	436,829	84,314	146,262	138,583	19,582	1,372,732
1947-48	552,784	501,325	108,022	215,155	197,104	23,753	1,598,143
1948-49	667,645	479,288	110,843	211,787	183,143	26,484	1,679,190
1949-50	597,491	447,784	112,995	162,259	161,251	27,243	1,509,023
1950-51	694,036	448,993	116,503	189,962	218,841	27,336	1,695,671
1951-52 (a)	557,607	545,652	124,423	206,570	224,973	27,940	1,687,165
July-December -							
1951 (a)	324,679	267,776	62,593	107,395	111,242	13,701	887,386
1952 (a)	207,827	303,211	66,456	105,795	119,763	14,067	817,119

(a) Subject to revision.

Particulars of the operations of flour mills and other grain mills in each State during 1950-51, together with available details for Australia for the years 1947-48 to 1951-52 were included in the last issue of this Bulletin (Volume 8, No. 5).

12. EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR

The following table furnishes details of the quantity of wheat and flour exported overseas by States for the years ended June, 1939 and 1945 to 1952 and the six-monthly periods July to December, 1951 and 1952.

TABLE 13 : EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR

Period	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	TOTAL
WHEAT							
('000 Bushels)							
1938-39	15,031	5,233	1,766	18,486	22,613	-	63,129
1948-49	35,322	9,695	3,380	16,236	18,397	-	83,030
1949-50	28,003	16,860	2,207	9,856	21,500	-	78,426
1950-51	13,171	26,734	1,179	15,197	30,501	-	86,782
1951-52	3,700	15,883	-	16,524	26,814	-	62,921
July-December -							
1951	3,696	10,272	-	9,024	14,942	-	37,934
1952	7	4,994	2	4,769	11,970	-	21,742

FLOUR

(Tons of 2,000 lb.)

Period	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	TOTAL
1938-39 (a)	293,168	256,231	4	86,678	88,981	3	725,065
1948-49	300,815	272,887	5,381	150,590	130,905	-	860,578
1949-50	272,162	291,271	4,796	92,020	115,250	-	775,499
1950-51	361,297	233,389	4,006	128,822	159,019	-	886,533
1951-52	197,367	309,962	1,894	121,253	160,976	18	791,470
July-December -							
1951	141,797	145,003	814	59,742	79,999	-	427,355
1952	46,179	189,792	933	73,196	101,358	-	411,478

(a) Excludes Wheatmeal for Baking.

Details of the total production of flour in each State and the flour exported overseas during the financial year 1938-39 and each year from 1948-49 to 1951-52, together with details of the quantity and value of wheat and flour for the same years according to the countries of destination were included in the last issue of this Bulletin (Volume 8, No. 5).

13. IMPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

During 1952, total imports of wheat and flour into the United Kingdom, expressed in terms of wheat, amounted to 171.7 million bushels, which represented a decrease of 6.3 million bushels (3.5 per cent) from the figure recorded in the previous year, and a decrease of 45.3 million bushels (20.9 per cent) from the corresponding total for 1939.

Details of imports of wheat, flour, and the total in terms of wheat, into the United Kingdom according to country of origin, for the years 1939 and 1949 to 1952 are shown in the following table.

TABLE 14(i) : WHEAT IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM (Bush)

(Source : Accounts relating to Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom)

Country of Origin	1939	1949	1950	1951	1952
Australia	25,132,542	30,465,659	11,180,379	21,165,280	16,688,935
Canada	65,626,828	136,601,423	91,870,929	83,975,069	103,377,071
Other British Countries	105	9	2	17	32
<u>Total from British Countries:</u>	90,759,475	167,067,091	103,051,310	105,140,366	120,066,038
Argentine Republic	46,596,400	-	-	(a)	(a)
France	17,583,373	639,195	1,832,572	1,198,594	796,529
U.S. of America	25,313,542	10,356,933	16,715,707	39,678,819	16,944,247
Soviet Union	-	(a)	75	-	7,315,353
Other Foreign Countries	17,752,746	544,106	343,825	5,284,130	679,978
<u>Total from Foreign Countries:</u>	107,246,061	11,540,234	18,892,179	46,161,543	25,736,107
TOTAL:	198,005,536	178,607,325	121,943,489	151,301,909	145,802,145

(a) Separate details not available : included with "Other Foreign Countries".

TABLE 14(ii) : WHEATEN FLOUR IMPORTED INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

(Source : Accounts relating to the Trade and Navigation of the United Kingdom)

(Flour - Tons of 2,000 lb.)

Country of Origin	1939	1949	1950	1951	1952
	tons	tons	tons	tons	tons
Australia	87,525	139,964	43,690	102,462	102,106
Canada	250,520	445,327	397,203	472,041	457,344
Other British Countries	185	19	165	47	30
<u>Total from British Countries:</u>	338,230	585,310	441,058	574,550	559,480
France	38,887	(a)	(a)	(a)	1
U.S. of America	7,399	74,518	41,430	-	
Argentine Republic	18,947	(a)	(a)	(a)	
Other Foreign Countries	7,190	1	4	1,383	
<u>Total from Foreign Countries:</u>	72,423	74,519	41,434	1,383	1
TOTAL:	410,653	659,829	482,492	575,933	559,481
	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels	Bushels
Total in Terms of Wheat (b)	19,013,234	30,550,083	22,339,380	26,665,698	25,903,970
<u>Grand Total</u>					
Imports of Wheat and Flour in Terms of Wheat (b)	217,018,770	209,157,408	144,282,869	177,967,607	171,706,115

(a) Separate details not available; included in "Other Foreign Countries". (b) One ton of flour taken as equivalent to 46.3 bushels of wheat.

14. MARKETING OF WHEAT IN AUSTRALIA

(i) Wheat Industry Stabilization Board: Details of the war-time Wheat Industry Stabilization Plan administered by the Wheat Industry Stabilization Board were given in Vol. 7, No. 10. and previous issues of the Bulletin. This has since been superseded by the permanent Stabilization Plan, referred to in (ii) following.

(ii) Post-war Wheat Stabilization Plan: Full details of the post-war Wheat Stabilization Plan which was established in 1948 under joint Commonwealth and State legislation, were given in Vol. 7, No. 10 of this Bulletin. The current plan will operate until the 1952-53 season, but the Australian Agricultural Council has agreed in principle to a continuation of a stabilization plan for the wheat industry, subject to the International Wheat Agreement price and other conditions being satisfactory to the Governments and growers concerned.

The price guaranteed by the Commonwealth Government under the plan was 6s.3d. per bushel, f.o.r. ports, bulk basis for the 1947-48 season, subject to variation in accordance with changes in the cost of producing wheat in subsequent seasons. Following seasonal reviews of wheat production costs, the guaranteed price was increased to 6s.8d. per bushel for the 1948-49 season, to 7s.1d. per bushel for the 1949-50 season, to 7s.10d. per bushel for the 1950-51 season, to 10s.0d. per bushel for the 1951-52 season and to 11s.11d. for the 1952-53 season.

Amounts contributed to the Wheat Prices Stabilization Fund in respect of the 1945-46, 1946-47, 1947-48, 1948-49 and 1949-50 harvests have been refunded to growers. Contributions to the Fund from 1950-51 harvest amounted to about £11.0 million and those from the 1951-52 harvest were approximately £8.4 million. No contributions are to be made to the Fund from the 1952-53 harvest.

(iii) F.A.Q. Standard of Wheat: The following table sets out the f.a.q. weight of a bushel of wheat in each of the four main wheat producing States for the seasons 1938-39 and 1945-46 to 1952-53. These data are calculated on the basis of the Schopper 1 litre scale chondrometer.

TABLE 14 : F.A.Q. STANDARD WEIGHT OF A BUSHEL OF WHEAT IN THE
MAIN WHEAT-PRODUCING STATES OF AUSTRALIA

(1b.)

Season	New South Wales	Victoria	South Australia	Western Australia
1938-39	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	63 $\frac{3}{4}$
1945-46	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	63 $\frac{1}{2}$
1946-47	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	63
1947-48	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	60 $\frac{1}{2}$	61	64 $\frac{1}{2}$
1948-49	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	63	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	63 $\frac{1}{2}$
1949-50	63	64	62	64 $\frac{1}{2}$
1950-51	61 $\frac{1}{2}$	62 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{1}{2}$
1951-52	63	64	63	62 $\frac{1}{2}$
1952-53	64	64 $\frac{3}{4}$	63 $\frac{1}{2}$	64 $\frac{3}{4}$

15. WORLD WHEAT STATISTICS

(i) General: Details of the production, domestic utilization and exportable surpluses of the four chief exporting countries viz., Australia, Argentina, Canada and the United States of America, compiled from statistics published by the Dominion Bureau of Statistics, Ottawa, the United States Department of Agriculture, the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations and from other official sources are given in the following table for the years 1938-39 and 1947-48 to 1952-53.

TABLE 15 : WHEAT SUPPLIES AND DISPOSITION IN FOUR CHIEF EXPORTING COUNTRIES

(Million Bushels)

Year	Supplies			Domestic Use (incl. Food, Seed, Feed, etc.)	Surplus over Domestic Utilization	Net Exports	Year end Stocks
	Initial Stocks	Crop	Total				
<u>UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (JULY TO JUNE)</u>							
1938-39 ..	153	920	1,073	714	359	109	250
1947-48 ..	84	1,367	1,451	775	676	480	196
1948-49 ..	196	1,314	1,510	701	809	501	308
1949-50 ..	308	1,141	1,449	726	723	296	427
1950-51 (a) ..	427	1,027	1,454	705	749	353	396
1951-52 (a) ..	396	981	1,377	676	701	444	257
1952-53 (b) ..	257	1,291	1,548	690	858	(c)	(c)
<u>CANADA (AUGUST TO JULY)</u>							
1938-39 ..	25	360	385	124	261	158	103
1947-48 ..	87	342	429	156	273	195	78
1948-49 ..	78	386	464	130	334	232	102
1949-50 ..	102	371	473	136	337	225	112
1950-51 ..	112	462	574	144	430	241	189
1951-52 (a) ..	189	553	742	173	569	356	213
1952-53 (b) ..	213	688	901	160	741	(c)	(c)
<u>ARGENTINA (DECEMBER TO NOVEMBER)</u>							
1938-39 (d) ..	72	379	451	99	352	122	230
1947-48 ..	12	245	257	103	154	79	75
1948-49 ..	75	190	265	147	118	74	44
1949-50 ..	44	189	233	125	108	101	7
1950-51 ..	7	213	220	107	113	95	18
1951-52 (a) ..	18	76	94	98	(e)(-)4	(-)4	-
1952-53 (b) ..	-	257	257	(c)	(c)	(c)	(c)
<u>AUSTRALIA (DECEMBER TO NOVEMBER)</u>							
1938-39 ..	14	155	169	58	111	90	21
1947-48 ..	13	220	233	77	156	130	26
1948-49 ..	26	191	217	80	137	118	19
1949-50 ..	19	218	237	73	164	120	44
1950-51 ..	44	184	228	81	147	128	19
1951-52 (a) ..	19	160	179	81	98	81	17
1952-53 (b) ..	17	193	210	77	133	113	20

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Estimated.

(c) Not yet available.

(d) August to July.

(e) Imports amounted to 8 million bushels.

Table 16 sets out details of the estimated world production of wheat by continents for 1950, 1951 and 1952 compared with the average of five years ended 1939.

TABLE 16 : WHEAT : ESTIMATED WORLD PRODUCTION BY CONTINENTS

(Source : "Foreign Crops and Markets" published by U.S. Office of Foreign Agricultural Relations)

Continent	Average 1935-39	1950	1951	1952 (a)	Percentage increase (+) or Decrease (-) 1952 on -	
					Average 1935-39	1951
	Million Bus.	Mill Bus.	Million Bus.	Million Bus.	Per Cent	Per Cent
North America	1,086	1,502	1,556	2,005	(+)84.6	(+)28.9
Europe ..	1,599	1,525	1,585	1,650	(+) 3.2	(+) 4.1
Soviet Union	1,240	1,110	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Asia ..	1,498	1,535	1,610	1,620	(+) 8.1	(+) 0.6
Africa ..	143	165	160	175	(+)22.4	(+) 9.4
South America	281	290	155	320	(+)13.9	(+)106.5
Oceania ..	177	190	164	(c)199	(+)12.4	(+)21.3
TOTAL:	6,024	6,317	(d)6,480	(d)7,267	(+)20.6	(+)12.1

(a) Preliminary estimates. (b) Not available. (c) Includes latest estimate for Australia. (d) Includes allowance for Soviet Union

(ii) International Wheat Agreement: In a previous issue of this Bulletin (Volume 7, No. 11) details were given of the International Wheat Agreement which was signed in Washington in March and April, 1949 by the representatives of 41 nations, comprising 36 importing countries and the wheat exporting countries of Canada, United States of America, Australia, France and Uruguay. The Agreement covers a period of four years from 1st August, 1949 to 31st July, 1953, with provision for extension beyond that date, if desired. Under its terms the exporting countries participating in the Agreement must sell specified minimum quantities of wheat each year, if required by importing countries to do so, at the maximum price quoted in the Agreement, while the importing countries are obliged to buy specified quantities, if required by the exporter, at the minimum price quoted for the relevant year. Expressed in Australian currency equivalent, the maximum price in respect of transactions under the Agreement is approximately 16s.1d. per bushel for each year, while minimum prices range from 13s.5d. per bushel in 1949-50 to 10s.9d. per bushel in 1952-53.

The export and import quotas originally specified in the Agreement, totalling 456.3 million bushels, have subsequently been varied because of

- (i) the withdrawal of certain countries from participation in the Agreement (Uruguay as an exporter and China, principally, of the importing countries), and
- (ii) the admission of new members to the Agreement. The principal new participants were Germany (from late 1949) and Japan (from 1951-52) for which the United States of America had originally accepted responsibility for wheat supplies outside the provisions of the Agreement.

Details of the adjusted quotas (which totalled 562.5 million bushels for 1950-51) for the principal exporting and importing countries participating in the Agreement were shown in a previous issue of this Bulletin (Volume 8, No. 3). This issue also showed transactions recorded under the Agreement for the year August, 1950 to July, 1951. Similar details for 1951-52 were shown in the previous issue of this Bulletin (Volume 8, No. 5).

The total quotas for 1951-52 were increased to 580.9 million bushels, to cover Japanese requirements. Australia's quota of 88.7 million bushels was reduced to 72.0 million bushels because wheat supplies were inadequate to meet these commitments.

The total quotas for 1952-53 remained at 580.9 million bushels, Australia's quota being 88.7 million bushels.

S. R. CARVER
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

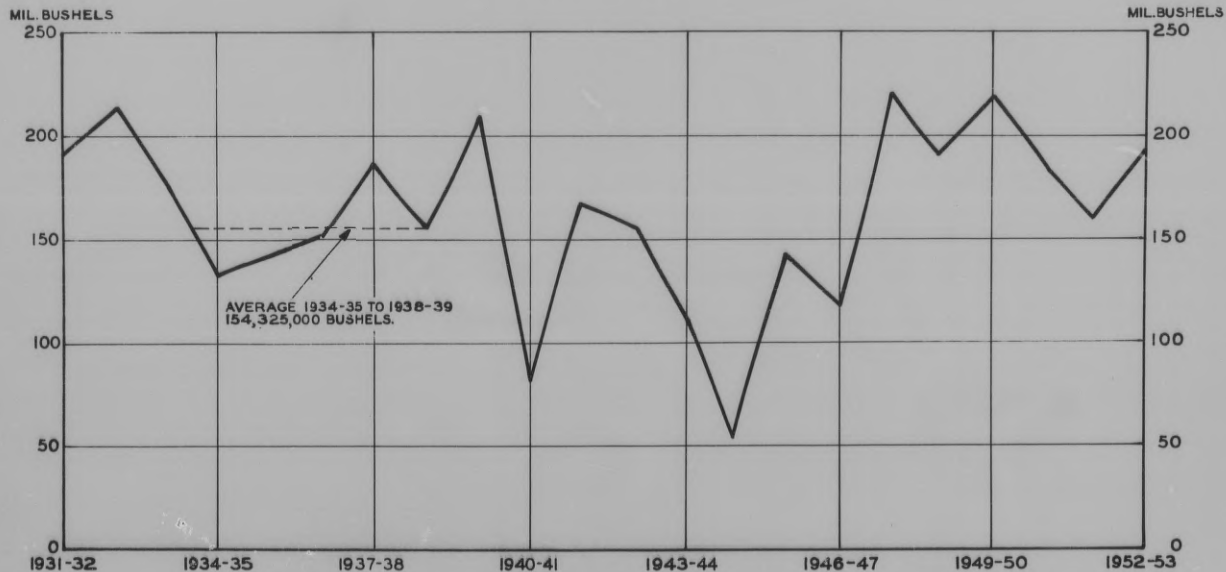
COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA. A.C.T.

1ST APRIL, 1953

PRODUCTION OF WHEAT FOR GRAIN: AUSTRALIA

1931-32 TO 1952-53



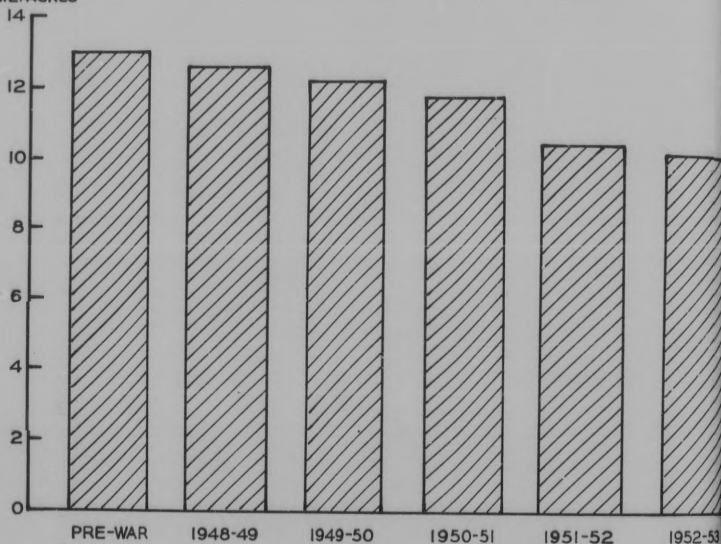
COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS
CANBERRA, A.C.T. MARCH, 1953

WHEAT FOR GRAIN : AUSTRALIA

PRE-WAR AND 1948-49 TO 1952-53

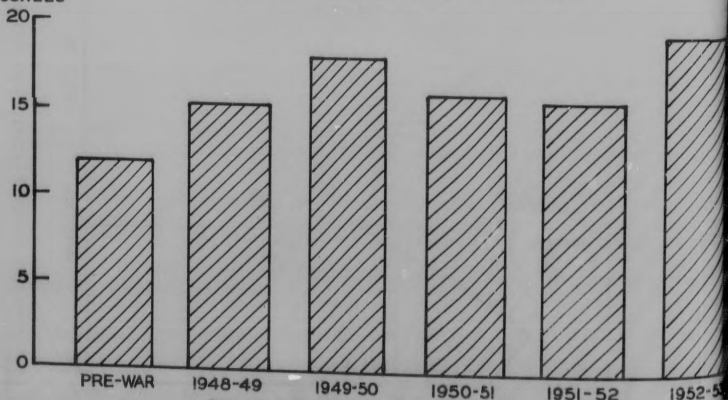
AREA SOWN

MIL. ACRES



AVERAGE YIELD PER ACRE

BUSHELS



(PRE-WAR - AVERAGE 5 YEARS ENDED 1938-39)