

Australian
Bureau of
Statistics

Australian

FARMING

IN BRIEF

1990



ABS Catalogue No. 7106.0

Symbols and other usages

m	—	million
\$m	—	million dollars
ha	—	hectares (2.5 acres)
l	—	litres
kg	—	kilograms
n.e.c.	—	not elsewhere classified
t	—	tonnes
*	—	see Note 2, below

Notes:

- Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of component items and totals.
- The statistics relate to farms with an Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations of \$20,000 or more unless indicated with an asterisk *

Employed persons in Agriculture and services to Agriculture* — August

		1987	1988	1989
Males	'000	271.6	284.0	269.0
Females	"	103.1	118.7	111.1
Persons	"	374.6	402.7	380.1

Employed persons in all industries*

		1987	1988	1989
Males	'000	4,277.1	4,382.1	4,571.9
Females	"	2,815.2	2,971.3	3,155.7
Persons	"	7,092.3	7,353.4	7,727.6

Land use on farms

		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Number of establishments engaged in agricultural activity	'000	130.8	128.6	127.5
Total area of establishments	m ha	471.0	472.0	466.9
Average size of establishments	ha	3,600.7	3,669.7	3,660.8
Area of crops	m ha	19.8	18.4	17.5
Area of sown pastures and grasses	m ha	27.3	28.6	30.2
Total area of Australia	m ha		— 768.3 —	

Number of establishments with Agricultural activity, by Industry, Year ended 31 March

	1987	1988	1989
Poultry for meat	691	709	705
Poultry for eggs	790	746	691
Grapes	3,477	3,388	3,329
Plantation fruit	1,678	1,670	1,623
Orchard and other fruit	5,057	5,200	5,190
Potatoes	1,390	1,407	1,294
Vegetables (except potatoes)	3,418	3,366	3,379
Cereal grains (incl. oilseeds n.e.c.)	12,716	8,271	7,071
Sheep-cereal grains	21,668	22,121	20,909
Meat cattle-cereal grains	3,202	2,793	2,810
Sheep-meat cattle	8,544	8,182	8,184
Sheep	19,203	22,246	25,206
Meat cattle	16,449	16,857	17,111
Milk cattle	16,298	15,519	14,912
Pigs	1,981	1,957	1,844
Sugar cane	5,542	5,393	5,340
Peanuts	412	345	197
Tobacco	565	529	491
Cotton	439	627	469
Nurseries	1,968	2,109	1,878
Agriculture n.e.c.	3,219	3,108	3,075
All other industries	831	795	843
Total	129,538	127,338	126,551

Establishments with agricultural activity

	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Numbers of establishments with —			
Wheat for grain	37,637	33,328	31,711
Barley for grain	22,384	22,554	21,116
Oats for grain	22,933	23,767	23,257
Sheep and lambs	63,529	62,525	63,138
Milk cattle	19,010	18,525	17,675
Meat cattle	67,047	66,499	67,040
Total establishments in Australia	130,814	128,629	127,547

Crop area

	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Wheat for grain '000 ha	11,135	9,005	8,827
Barley for grain "	2,274	2,346	2,190
Oats for grain "	1,140	1,275	1,309

Number of establishments with agricultural activity by Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations, year ended 31 March

	1987	1988	1989
Less than \$19,999	8,355	7,282	5,028
\$20,000-\$29,999	11,055	8,696	7,350
\$30,000-\$39,999	11,476	9,909	8,934
\$40,000-\$49,999	10,990	9,641	8,378
\$50,000-\$59,999	10,488	9,203	8,111
\$60,000-\$74,999	13,418	12,888	11,500
\$75,000-\$99,999	17,040	17,440	16,585
\$100,000-\$149,999	19,481	21,148	22,508
\$150,000-\$199,999	9,968	11,223	12,665
\$200,000-\$499,999	14,419	16,512	20,487
\$500,000 and more	2,848	3,396	5,005
Total	129,538	127,338	126,551

Artificial fertiliser usage

	1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Type of fertilisers used —			
Superphosphate '000t	1,980.7	2,454.1	2,523.4
Nitrogenous "	416.0	431.3	438.4
Other (mixtures, compounds etc) "	829.6	953.0	971.2
Area fertilised m ha	24.1	26.7	27.9

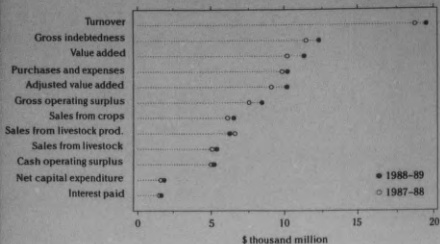
Financial turnover of agricultural enterprises, by industry

	1987-88	1988-89
Sheep-cereal grains \$m	3,835.4	3,982.0
Sheep "	3,644.8	3,639.3
Meat cattle "	1,819.9	1,963.2
Milk cattle "	1,657.9	1,709.1
Sheep-meat cattle "	1,479.6	1,675.0
Cereal grains "	1,219.1	1,426.4
Fruit "	1,171.1	1,010.9
Vegetables "	1,004.1	979.0
Other agriculture "	1,050.3	1,102.1
Sugar "	639.5	707.1
Poultry "	480.3	446.1
Pigs "	363.7	477.6
Meat cattle-cereal grains "	342.4	376.3
All industries "	18,708.0	19,494.0

Average financial turnover of agricultural enterprises, by industry

	1987-88	1988-89
Poultry \$'000	443.5	434.8
Vegetables "	235.8	265.8
Pigs "	218.5	265.8
Sheep-meat cattle "	196.3	222.7
Other agriculture "	196.2	231.9
Sheep-cereal grains "	189.2	200.9
Cereal grains "	178.3	202.8
Sheep "	163.2	184.0
Meat cattle-cereal grains "	148.7	157.7
Fruit "	132.0	126.6
Meat cattle "	131.7	149.9
Sugar "	128.6	147.9
Milk cattle "	110.5	121.4
All industries "	163.7	180.9

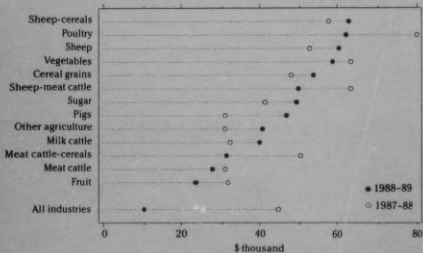
FINANCIAL STATISTICS OF AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES 1987-88 AND 1988-89



Financial statistics of agricultural enterprises

		1987-88	1988-89
Sales from crops	\$m	6,507.7	6,619.2
Sales from livestock	"	5,052.1	5,330.3
Sales from livestock products	"	6,024.1	6,445.5
Turnover	"	18,708.0	19,494.0
Purchases and selected expenses	"	9,852.5	10,201.4
Value added	"	10,187.0	11,290.3
Adjusted value added	"	9,108.5	10,167.8
Gross operating surplus	"	7,511.1	8,449.6
Cash operating surplus	"	4,999.9	5,172.2
Total net capital expenditure	"	1,566.1	1,828.9
Gross indebtedness	"	11,425.6	12,277.0
Interest paid	"	1,473.6	1,625.2

AVERAGE CASH OPERATING SURPLUS OF AGRICULTURAL ENTERPRISES, BY INDUSTRY, 1987-88 AND 1988-89



**Average cash operating surplus
of agricultural enterprises,
by industry**

		1987-88	1988-89
Poultry	\$'000	79.9	62.3
Vegetables	"	63.5	58.8
Sheep-meat cattle	"	63.5	49.7
Sheep-cereal grains	"	57.7	63.0
Sheep	"	52.6	60.5
Meat cattle-cereal grains	"	50.2	31.0
Cereal grains	"	47.9	53.6
Sugar	"	41.4	49.2
Other agriculture	"	30.6	40.7
Milk cattle	"	32.0	40.0
Fruit	"	31.4	23.4
Pigs	"	30.7	46.7
Meat cattle	"	30.7	27.4
All industries	"	44.7	48.0

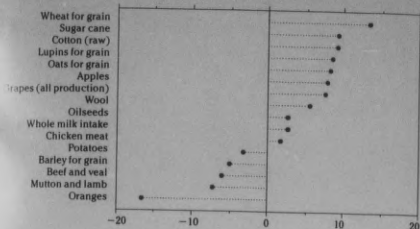
Crop production

		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Cereals for grain —				
Barley	'000t	3,548	3,417	3,242
Grain sorghum	"	1,419	1,633	1,244
Maize	"	206	208	217
Oats	"	1,584	1,698	1,838
Rice	"	608	740	748
Wheat	"	16,119	12,287	13,935
Legumes mainly for grain —				
Field peas	"	513	487	517
Chick peas	"	63	54	86
Lupins	"	802	855	927
Crops for hay —				
Barley	"	57	61	48
Oats	"	676	714	749
Rye	"	4	6	5
Wheat	"	186	200	198
Oilseeds —				
Linseed	"	7	8	3
Rapeseed	"	76	66	58
Safflower	"	19	25	31
Soybeans	"	90	69	130
Sunflower	"	137	216	172
Other crops —				
Sugar cane, cut for crushing	"	24,742	24,832	27,146
Tobacco	"	12	13	11
Cotton (seed cotton)	"	112	762	813
Peanuts (in shell)	"	48	37	25
Grapes	"	783	799	859
Vegetables for human consumption —				
Beans, trench and runner	"	29	33	36
Cabbages and brussel sprouts	"	83	80	94
Carrots	"	146	144	149
Cauliflower	"	92	112	80
Green peas —				
Processing (shelled weight)	"	33	43	46
Sold in pod (pod weight)	"	1	1	1
Lettuce	"	84	86	89
Onions, white and brown	"	165	182	196
Potatoes	"	1,015	1,082	1,048
Pumpkins	"	70	72	73
Sweet corn	"	49	52	64
Tomatoes	"	266	283	319

Fruit production

Orchard fruit —				
Citrus fruit —				
Oranges	"	504	479	399
Lemons and limes	"	42	34	35
Mandarins	"	33	36	36
Grapefruit	"	32	33	29
Pome —				
Apples	"	325	300	323
Pears	"	145	162	142
Stone and other —				
Apricots	"	27	28	28
Cherries	"	4	5	4
Nectarines	"	7	8	8
Peaches	"	61	66	52
Plums and prunes	"	22	18	20
Nuts —				
Almonds (in shell)	"	5	6	6
Macadamia	"	3	4	5
Tropical and other fruit —				
Bananas	"	158	160	196
Pineapples	"	142	147	154

PRODUCTION OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES **PERCENTAGE CHANGE 1988-89 ON 1987-88**



Livestock Numbers at 31 March

		1987	1988	1989
Cattle and calves	'000	21,915	21,851	22,434
Sheep and lambs	"	149,157	152,443	161,603
Pigs	"	2,611	2,706	2,671
Poultry	"	57,608	66,813	57,957

Livestock products, year ended 30 June*

		1987	1988	1989
Meat production (carcass weight)				
Beef	'000t	1,481	1,549	1,459
Veal	"	40	39	32
Mutton	"	288	295	254
Lamb	"	296	294	290
Pigmeat	"	283	297	308
Poultry meat (dressed weight)	"	380	396	407
Total wool (greasy basis)	"	887	916	959
Whole milk factory intake	m litres	6,172	6,129	6,289

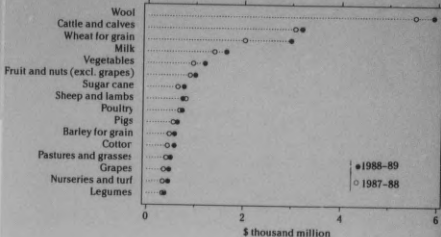
GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED **Year ended 30 June**



Gross value of agricultural commodities produced*

		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Wheat	\$m	2,410.3	2,015.7	2,975.9
Other crops	"	5,207.8	5,796.3	6,930.2
Cattle and calves slaughtered	"	2,833.3	3,057.0	3,197.6
Other livestock slaughtered	"	1,791.4	2,017.3	2,094.6
Wool	"	3,333.6	5,517.3	5,906.0
Other livestock products	"	1,582.0	1,739.6	2,004.8
Total agriculture	"	17,166.5	20,152.5	23,120.0

GROSS VALUE OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED, AUSTRALIA, 1987-88 AND 1988-89



Apparent consumption of selected foodstuffs (per head per year) year ended 30 June*

		1987	1988	1989
Beef and veal	kg	39.4	39.3	39.8
Lamb	"	15.0	14.9	14.3
Mutton	"	7.4	8.0	6.1
Pigmeat	"	16.8	17.6	17.8
Poultry	"	23.5	24.7	24.6
Market milk	litres	102.9	101.5	101.7
Margarine				
(table and other)	kg	8.9	8.8	8.4
butter	"	3.5	3.2	3.0
Cheese	"	8.1	8.3	8.8
Beer	litres	111.3	110.8	113.1
Wine	"	21.0	20.6	19.1
Spirits	litres alcohol	1.2	1.2	1.3
Aerated and carbonated waters	litres	73.6	80.0	85.7
Tea	kg	1.3	1.2	1.2
Coffee	"	1.8	2.1	2.1

Grapes and grape products		1986-87	1987-88	1988-89
Area of vines at harvest —				
Bearing	'000ha	53.9	53.7	53.8
Not yet bearing	"	3.2	3.2	3.9
Total	"	57.1	56.9	57.7
Grape utilisation (fresh weight) —				
Winemaking	'000t	476.9	460.1	562.9
Drying	"	262.3	292.6	248.3
Other purposes	"	43.4	46.1	47.9
Total	"	782.6	798.8	859.2
Dried fruit production (dried weight) —				
Currants	"	4.9	2.8	3.8
Sultanas	"	48.8	55.4	48.0
Raisins	"	5.8	2.3	2.9
Total	"	59.5	60.6	54.7
Gross value of grapes —				
Winemaking	\$m	121.9	178.1	304.1
Drying	"	98.0	106.5	94.3
Other purposes	"	52.3	69.1	64.1
Total	"	272.2	353.7	462.4
Australian wine production —				
Fortified beverage wine	'000l	31,766	31,403	36,937
Unfortified beverage wine	"	306,804	322,993	399,203
Distillation wine	"	62,490	53,376	63,793
Gross total wine	"	401,060	407,772	499,933
Net total wine (excludes grape spirit used for fortifying)	"	395,923	403,325	494,235
Exports and imports of wine —				
Exports	"	21,324	39,124	40,286
Imports	"	7,667	8,146	9,737



This brochure is intended to give no more than a general indication of various aspects of Australian agriculture. For more detailed statistics on Australian agriculture, ring Agriculture & Mining Section on (06) 252 6436, or our State offices, or write to Information Services, Australian Bureau of Statistics, PO Box 10, Belconnen, ACT 2616, Australia.

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