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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA
AUSTRALIA

STATISTICAL BULLETIN:

THE WHEAT INDUSTRY

AUSTRALIA

No. 91 JANUARY, 1957

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BY

S. R. CARVER

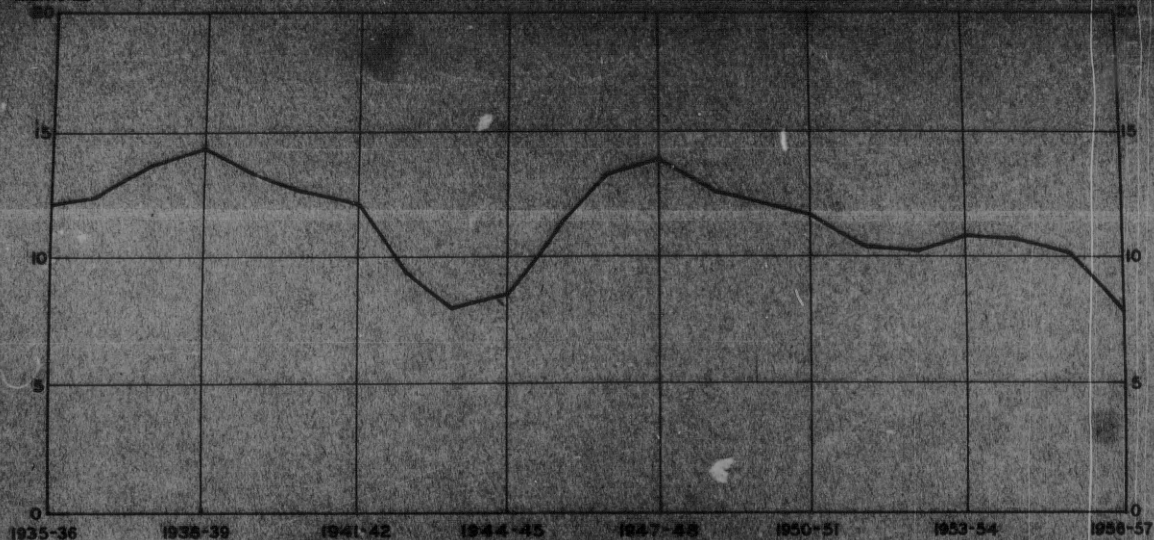
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

WHEAT FOR GRAIN AREA SOWN, AUSTRALIA

1935-36 TO 1956-57

MIL. ACRES

MIL. ACRES



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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PREFACE

The previous issue of this Bulletin (No. 90) was released on 9th April, 1956. This is the ninety first issue in the series and subsequent numbers will appear as circumstances require. In general, this Bulletin is issued at least twice each season, namely (i) at an 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 receipts 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 Department of Primary Industry. 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

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

22ND JANUARY, 1957.

1. WHEAT FOR GRAIN : AREA, PRODUCTION AND YIELD PER ACRE

The area sown to wheat for grain in Australia in the 1956-57 season is estimated at 7,789,000 acres. This is considerably below the area sown in recent years and is about 44 per cent. less than the post-war maximum grain area of 13,880,000 acres sown in 1947-48. Compared with the 1955-56 season present estimates show that less wheat was sown for grain in 1956-57 in all States, the main decline being in New South Wales where the area fell by about 1.2 million acres or 42 per cent.

Official forecasts, based on conditions existing at mid-December indicate that wheat production (as grain) will approximate 126.1 million bushels. The official forecast of 126.1 million bushels is 69.3 million bushels (35 per cent.) less than in the previous season and is the smallest crop since 1946-47 when output in New South Wales and Queensland was greatly reduced by severe drought.

The forecast average yield per acre of 16.2 bushels in 1956-57 is 3.0 bushels below the record yield of 19.2 bushels in the previous year, 1955-56, and is 1.4 bushels below the average for the five years ended 1955-56.

Particulars of the estimates and forecasts for each State for 1956-57 are shown below together with final details for the five seasons ended 1955-56.

TABLE 1 : WHEAT FOR GRAIN : AREA, PRODUCTION AND YIELD PER ACRE

Season		N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	AUST.
<u>AREA SOWN TO WHEAT FOR GRAIN ('000 acres)</u>									
1951-52	..	2,753	2,464	455	1,613	3,094	4	1	10,384
1952-53	..	2,702	2,232	724	1,544	2,999	7	1	10,209
1953-54	..	3,357	2,389	580	1,528	2,885	10	2	10,751
1954-55	..	2,919	2,390	688	1,689	2,979	7	1	10,673
1955-56	..	2,937	2,141	582	1,609	2,890	6	1	10,166
1956-57 (a)		(b) 1,713	1,530	390	1,450	2,700	6	-	7,789
<u>PRODUCTION OF WHEAT ('000 bushels)</u>									
1951-52	..	39,689	45,995	6,632	27,301	40,000	94	14	159,725
1952-53	..	56,670	50,335	18,662	33,919	35,458	156	8	195,208
1953-54	..	63,681	53,698	10,180	30,409	39,700	263	29	197,960
1954-55	..	37,718	48,484	16,478	31,463	34,300	159	15	168,617
1955-56	..	57,149	41,083	14,922	28,891	53,250	129	19	195,443
1956-57 (c)		29,000	29,500	7,000	28,500	32,000	120	-	126,120
<u>YIELD PER ACRE (bushels)</u>									
1951-52	..	14.4	18.7	14.6	16.9	12.9	26.1	14.0	15.4
1952-53	..	21.0	22.6	25.8	22.0	11.8	23.4	12.8	19.1
1953-54	..	19.0	22.6	17.6	19.7	13.8	27.2	18.5	18.4
1954-55	..	12.9	20.3	24.0	18.6	11.5	21.7	19.4	15.8
1955-56	..	19.4	19.2	25.7	18.0	18.4	20.7	25.5	19.2
1956-57	..	16.9	19.3	17.9	19.7	11.9	20.0	-	16.2

- (a) Authority for estimates - New South Wales, Government Statistician; Victoria, Government Statist; Queensland, Department of Agriculture; South Australia, Department of Agriculture; Western Australia, Government Statistician; Tasmania and Australian Capital Territory, Commonwealth Statistician.
- (b) It is estimated that 1,494,000 acres would be stripped for grain and that an additional 219,000 acres which were sown for grain were fed off or failed entirely.
- (c) Authority for forecasts - New South Wales, Department of Agriculture; Victoria, Australian Wheat Board; Queensland, Australian Wheat Board; South Australia, Australian Wheat Board; Western Australia, Australian Wheat Board; Tasmania and Australian Capital Territory, Commonwealth Statistician.

2. 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 for the years indicated, between farmers' intentions to sow and areas actually sown.

TABLE 2 : WHEAT, ALL PURPOSES : AREA SOWN OR INTENDED TO BE SOWN

('000 Acres)

Particulars	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	A.C.T.	AUST.
<u>SEASON 1954-55</u>								
Area sown -								
For Grain ..	2,919	2,390	688	1,689	2,979	7	1	10,673
For Hay ..	185	40	6	68	99	3	-	401
For Green feed ..	75	-	52	9	22	2	-	160
All Purposes	3,179	2,430	746	1,766	3,100	12	1	11,234
Area intended to be sown								
(all purposes)(a)	3,283	(b)	(b)	1,628	3,146	9	1	(b)
<u>SEASON 1955-56</u>								
Area sown -								
For Grain ..	2,937	2,141	582	1,609	2,890	6	1	10,166
For Hay ..	85	33	5	61	58	3	-	245
For Green feed ..	42	-	53	8	17	1	-	121
All Purposes	3,064	2,174	640	1,678	2,965	10	1	10,532
Area intended to be sown								
(all purposes)(a)	2,977	(b)	(b)	1,717	3,016	8	1	(b)
<u>SEASON 1956-57</u>								
Area Sown (c) -								
For Grain ..	1,713	1,530	390	1,450	2,700	6	-	7,789
For Hay ..	(d)	23	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
For Green feed ..	(d)	-	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
All Purposes	(d)	1,553	440	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)
Area intended to be sown								
(all purposes)(a)	2,571	(b)	(b)	1,560	2,802	7	1	(b)

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

3. VARIETIES OF WHEAT SOWN

The principal varieties of wheat sown in 1955-56 season in the four main wheat-producing States of Australia and the proportion which each bears to the total area sown are shown in the following table.

TABLE 3 : WHEAT - PROPORTIONS OF PRINCIPAL VARIETIES SOWN FOR ALL PURPOSES,
1955-56 SEASON

New South Wales		Victoria		Queensland	
Variety	%	Variety	%	Variety	%
Bencubbin	33.3	Insignia	49.3	Spica	15.4
Gabo	20.3	Pinnacle	24.7	Charter	15.0
Glenwari	6.3	Quadrat	15.4	Festival	13.2
Kendee	6.2	Sherpa	3.2	Lawrence	11.4
Festival	4.0	Magnet	2.0	Gabo	11.3
Ford	3.7	Bencubbin	1.4	Celebration	8.4
Bordan	3.1	Gabo	1.4	Sea Foam	5.1
Charter	2.8	Baldmin	0.9	Fuora	3.6
Insignia	2.4	Pindar	0.4	K41 x FF4473	2.7
Celebration	2.3	Churka	0.2	K9 x PF4521	1.9
Koala	1.8	Bungulla	0.2	Puseas	1.6
Quadrat	1.5	Insignia 49	0.1	Fedweb	1.5
Javelin	1.4	Koorda	0.1	Puno	1.5
Magnet	1.3	Javelin	0.1	Puglo	1.4
Pinnacle	1.3	Kendee	0.1	C.C.C.	1.4
Warigo	0.9	All Other (a)	0.5	Cailloux	0.7
Eureka and				K2 x P4.4620	0.6
Eureka 2	0.9			All Other (a)	3.3
All Other (a)	6.5				
Total	100.0		100.0		100.0

South Australia		Western Australia	
Variety	%	Variety	%
Gabo	22.4	Bungulla	21.8
Insignia 49	12.8	Bencubbin	18.8
Insignia	7.9	Gabo	16.5
Dirk 48	7.7	Kondut	9.5
Bencubbin	6.1	Wongoondy	9.4
Bencubbin 48	5.3	Insignia	8.0
Dirk	2.7	Eureka II	3.5
Javelin 48	2.7	Glucub	3.0
Sabre	2.7	Koorda	1.5
Scimitar	2.4	Blucub	1.3
Quadrat	2.4	Regalia	0.7
Scimitar 48	2.3	Ranee 4H	0.7
Pinnacle	2.2	Bobin	0.6
Javelin	1.6	Bencubbin 48	0.5
Rapier	1.5	Noongaar	0.4
Beldep	1.4	Kendee	0.4
Bungulla	1.3	Devon	0.3
All Other (a)	14.6	All Other (a)	3.1
Total	100.0		100.0

(a) Includes "Not Stated".

4. 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 1951-52 to 1955-56 are set out in the following table.

TABLE 4 : NUMBER OF FARMS GROWING 20 ACRES OR MORE OF WHEAT FOR GRAIN

State	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
New South Wales ..	13,147	13,167	14,865	13,784	14,035
Victoria ..	10,076	10,049	10,900	10,547	(a)
Queensland ..	3,005	4,970	3,918	4,570	4,199
South Australia ..	8,345	8,432	8,473	8,892	(a)
Western Australia ..	7,766	7,751	7,786	7,979	7,962
Tasmania ..	51	95	149	114	85
Australian Capital Territory	13	9	17	10	9
TOTAL:	42,403	44,473	46,108	45,896	(a)

(a) Not yet available.

5. WHEAT PRICES : AUSTRALIA

(1) Wheat for Home Consumption. Details of the prices charged by the Wheat Board from 1st December, 1951 up to the present time for all wheat for human consumption (as flour or in other forms) and for stock feed in Australia are set out in the following table together with particulars of the dates on which they became operative. Information on prices ruling prior to 1st December, 1951 is contained in previous issues of this Bulletin.

TABLE 5 : PRICE OF WHEAT FOR HUMAN CONSUMPTION AND FOR STOCK FEED - AUSTRALIA

Date from which price became effective	Price per Bushel Charged by Wheat Board (bulk basis)	
	For Human Consumption	For Stock Feed
1st December, 1951	s. d. 10. 0	(a) (b) s. d. 12. 0
" " 1952	11. 11	(b) 13. 11
" " 1953	(c) 14. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$	(c) 14. 1 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1955	(c) 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$	(c) 13. 5 $\frac{1}{2}$
" " 1956	(c) 13. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$	(c) 13. 9 $\frac{1}{2}$

(a) Fixed by all States except Western Australia by uniform legislation. In Western Australia the price was fixed at 10s. per bushel.

(b) In addition, wheat growers received a subsidy from the Commonwealth Government of 4s. 1d. per bushel in 1951-52 and 2s. 2d. per bushel in 1952-53 for wheat used by the dairy, pig and poultry industries. The subsidy was limited to 26 million bushels of wheat in each season.

(c) Includes 1 $\frac{1}{2}$ d. used to meet freight charges incurred on wheat shipped to Tasmania.

(11) Export Wheat. Details of export wheat prices by months for the years ended July, 1953 to 1956 and the months of August, 1956 to November, 1956 are shown in Table 6 following. The table has been arranged to conform to the selling year applicable to sales under International Wheat Agreements operating from August, 1949. The prices shown are the basic export selling prices of the Australian Wheat Board.

For the year ended July, 1953 the table shows separately the Australian Wheat Board's basic export selling prices applicable to (i) wheat sold within the terms of the 1949-53 International Wheat Agreement (shown as I.W.A. Quota wheat) and (ii) wheat sold on the free market outside the terms of the Agreement (shown as "Free wheat"). The basic export price for I.W.A. wheat was quoted at the relevant maximum prices specified under the Agreement, namely 16s. 6d. per bushel (bulk) including 5d. per bushel "carrying charge". "Free" wheat refers to wheat sold after I.W.A. commitments have been met. The "free" wheat prices were quoted at levels above the I.W.A. maximum. Both I.W.A. and "free" wheat were sold at times below the prices specified while some "free" wheat was sold above the basic prices, depending on conditions of the market. Some of the wheat was sold at prices fixed under contract for delivery over periods.

During the currency of the second (1953-56) I.W.A. and up to the present under the third (1956-59) I.W.A., all Australian export wheat has been sold at prices within the range of maximum and minimum prices fixed in the agreements and consequently there has been no differential between prices for I.W.A. quota wheat and "free" wheat.

Owing to the fact that in recent years varying proportions of exportable wheat have been sold forward on contracts for delivery some months ahead and because sales were made on differential bases under the 1949-53 International Wheat Agreement, monthly prices recorded in the table below do not necessarily represent the prices actually received for wheat currently being shipped.

TABLE 6 : EXPORT WHEAT PRICES (a) : AUSTRALIA
(s.d. per bushel)

Month	1952-53		1953-54 (c)	1954-55 (c)	1955-56 (c)	1956-57 (c)
	I.W.A. Quota Wheat (b)	"Free" Wheat				
August	16.6	21.6	18.3	14.7	14.6	12.9
September	16.6	21.6	18.2	14.6	13.1 $\frac{1}{2}$	12.9
October	16.6	21.6	17.8	14.6	13.8	12.9
November	16.6	21.6	17.0	14.6	13.4	12.9
December	16.6	21.6	16.10 $\frac{1}{2}$	14.6	13.4	(d) 13.2
January	16.6	21.6	16.9	14.6	13.4	
February	16.6	21.6	16.6	14.6	13.2	
March	16.6	21.6	16.1	14.6	12.9	
April	16.6	21.0	15.9	14.6	12.9	
May	16.6	21.0	15.9	14.6	12.9	
June	16.6	20.6	15.2	14.6	12.9	
July	16.6	19.7	15.0	14.6	12.9	
Average (e)	16.6	21.2	16.7	14.6	13.3	

- (a) Australian Wheat Board basic selling price for f.a.q. bulk wheat, f.o.b. basis.
 (b) Includes 5d. per bushel "carrying charge".
 (c) For some destinations where other exporting countries have a geographical freight advantage the selling price is below the basic price. From August, 1953 the basic prices shown have applied to both I.W.A. quota and "free" wheat.
 (d) On 6th December, the price was raised from 12/9 to 13/3.
 (e) Simple average of twelve monthly prices, no attempt having been made to weight them by the quantities exported.

6. PAYMENTS TO FARMERS AND QUANTITY OF WHEAT RECEIVED BY THE AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD

Details of the advances paid and the quantity of wheat received by the Australian Wheat Board from the harvests of 1953-54 (No. 17 Pool), 1954-55 (Nos. 18 and 18A Pools), 1955-56 (No. 19 Pool) and 1956-57 (No. 20 Pool) are shown in tables 7 and 8 following.

TABLE 7 : WHEAT POOL ADVANCES - AUSTRALIA, AS AT 28TH DECEMBER, 1956.

Advance	1953-54 Harvest, No. 17 Pool			1954-55 Harvest, No. 18 Pool		
	Date (a)	Bulk	Bagged	Date (a)	Bulk	Bagged
		s. d. per bus.	s. d. per bus.		s. d. per bus.	s. d. per bus.
First	14. 2.53	(b)(c) 10.0	(b) 10.4	23.11.54	(b)(c) 10.4	(b) 10.8
Second	13. 9.55	1.0	1.2	11. 9.56	1.0	1.0
Third	15.11.55	1.0	1.0	23.10.56	4½	7½
Final	28. 8.56	(d) 0.788	2.689			
Total Advances		(d) 12.0.788	12.8.689		(c) 11.8½	12.3½

Advance	1954-55 Harvest, No. 18A Pool (e)			1955-56 Harvest, No. 19 Pool		
	Date (a)	Bulk	Bagged	Date (a)	Bulk	Bagged
		s. d. per bus.	s. d. per bus.		s. d. per bus.	s. d. per bus.
First	23.11.54	(b) 9. 4	(b) 9. 8	16.11.55	(b)(c) 9. 6	(b) 9. 10
Second	21. 9.55	3	3			
Third	29.11.55	1.2	1.2			
Fourth	11. 9.56	1.0	1.0			
Fifth	23.10.56	4½	7½			
Total Advances		11. 0.7	11. 7.7		(c) 9. 6	9. 10

	1956-57 Harvest, No. 20 Pool		
	Date (a)	Bulk	Bagged
		s. d. per bus.	s. d. per bus.
First Advance	29.11.56	(b)(c) 10. 0	(b) 10. 4

- (a) Date of commencement of payments in respect of each advance.
 (b) Less rail freight to terminals.
 (c) Western Australian growers receive 2d. per bushel above these rates in recognition of the freight advantage which that State enjoys over other States owing to its proximity to the main overseas markets.
 (d) Western Australian growers received a final payment of 1.424d. and a total payment of 12/3.424.
 (e) The Wheat Board determined that rain-damaged wheat harvested in North-Eastern Victoria should be placed in a separate pool and marketed separately from f.a.q. wheat in No. 18 Pool.

TABLE 8 : NET RECEIPTS OF WHEAT BY THE AUSTRALIAN WHEAT BOARD.

HARVESTS 1953-54 TO 1956-57

('000 bushels)

Particulars	1953-54 (No. 17 Pool)	1954-55		1955-56 (a) (No. 19 Pool)	1956-57 (b) (No. 20 Pool)
		No. 18 Pool	No. 18A Pool		
Bulk	138,989	101,819	4,315	133,543	} 114,000
Bagged	44,209	46,512	91	47,210	
Total:	183,198	148,331	4,406	180,753	114,000

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Estimated.

7. OVERSEA SHIPPING FREIGHT RATES : AUSTRALIA

The next table gives particulars of the oversea freight rates for wheat shipped to the United Kingdom and Continental ports for the quarters in each of the years 1952 to 1955 and for three quarters in 1956. These rates are expressed in sterling and are subject to an adjustment of 25¹/₂ per cent. on account of exchange when freight is prepaid in Australia.

TABLE 9 : OVERSEA SHIPPING FREIGHT (PARCEL) RATES PER TON WEIGHT ON BULK WHEAT -
AUSTRALIA TO THE UNITED KINGDOM AND CONTINENTAL PORTS

(Supplied by the Oversea Shipping Representatives Association)

(s.d. stg. per long ton)

Quarter ended	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956
31st March	115-0	110-0	95-0	125-0	175-0
30th June	85-0	105-0	95-0	125-0	157-6
30th September	107-6	105-0	105-0	155-0	172-6
31st December	102-6	82-6	120-0	175-0	

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 8th November, 1956 were as follows:

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

(Source : Australian Wheat Board)

To United Kingdom			To India		
Date	Month/s of Loading	Charter Rates (s.d. stg. per long ton)	Date	Month/s of Loading	Charter Rates (s.d. stg. per long ton)
21.11.55	January	150/-	9. 1.56	March	137/6
2.12.55	February	160/-	15. 2.56	March	135/-
13. 1.56	Apr. - May	175/-	12. 3.56	April	137/9
22. 2.56	May - June	167/6	22. 3.56	May - June	137/6
10. 3.56	May - June	180/-	19. 4.56	May	155/-
25. 3.56	June - July	185/-	27. 4.56	Aug. - Sept.	150/-
4. 4.56	May - June	185/-	4. 6.56	July	150/-
16. 4.56	June - July	187/6	15. 6.56	July	147/6
2. 5.56	June	187/6	29. 6.56	August	140/-
18. 5.56	August	177/6	29. 6.56	September	137/6
4. 6.56	September	170/-	16. 7.56	October	140/6
22. 6.56	September	160/-	26. 7.56	October	143/-
13. 7.56	Sept. - Oct.	160/-	3. 8.56	September	145/6
25. 7.56	Sept. - Oct.	165/-	24. 8.56	Oct. - Nov.	150/-
22. 9.56	Dec. - Jan.	190/-	6. 9.56	Dec. - Jan.	150/-
8.10.56	Jan. - Feb.	190/-	17. 9.56	October	150/-
19.10.56	January	180/-	8.10.56	Nov. - Dec.	140/-
8.11.56	December	195/-			

(a) Eastern State basis - shipments from Western Australia customarily 10/- less.

8. PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF WHEAT, AUSTRALIA

Details of the production and disposal of wheat in each of the cereal years ended 30th November, 1952 to 1956 are given in the following table.

TABLE 11 : PRODUCTION AND DISPOSAL OF WHEAT : AUSTRALIA

(Million Bushels)

Particulars	Year ended 30th November -				
	1952	1953	1954	1955 (a)	1956 (a)
Opening Stocks (incl. Flour as Wheat)	19.4	16.9	37.7	94.9	95.0
Production	159.7	195.2	198.0	168.6	195.4
Total available supplies	179.1	212.1	235.7	263.5	290.4
Exports - Wheat	45.6	60.7	38.5	64.8	95.4
Flour (b)	36.1	41.4	27.9	35.0	33.6
Breakfast Foods and Other Products (b)	1.2	0.8	0.8	1.0	1.4
Local Consumption					
Flour (b)	39.0	39.1	34.4	38.0	39.8
Breakfast Foods and Other Products (b)	2.6	2.2	1.6	2.0	1.7
Stock Feed Wheat Sales	23.9	18.4	17.6	16.5	15.3
Seed	10.3	10.8	10.8	10.9	10.1
Retained on Farm	3.4	4.6	4.0	5.0	4.5
Closing Stocks (incl. Flour as Wheat)	16.9	37.7	94.9	95.0	84.2
Total Disposals	179.0	215.7	230.5	268.2	286.0
Excess (+) or Deficiency (-) of Disposals in respect of total available supplies (c)	(-) 0.1	(+) 3.6	(-) 5.2	(+) 4.7	(-) 4.4

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) In terms of wheat.

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

9. STOCKS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR HELD

Details of the movement in recorded 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 1952 to 1956, are shown in the following table.

TABLE 12 : STOCKS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR AS WHEAT

('000 Bushels)

30th November -	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.
1952	5,881	4,432	5	4,254	2,108	187	16,867
1953	9,888	11,550	2,237	7,576	6,307	188	37,746
1954	26,457	26,937	2,487	15,413	23,499	125	94,918
1955 - Wheat	16,557	27,165	3,788	18,100	25,836	211	91,657
Flour (short tons)	19,998	27,428	5,633	8,000	9,539	967	71,565
Total as Wheat	17,483	28,434	4,048	18,471	26,278	256	94,970
1956 - Wheat	20,478	21,892	1,613	15,009	21,959	215	81,166
Flour (short tons)	19,148	20,065	7,783	4,619	12,414	1,090	65,119
Total as Wheat	21,365	22,821	1,973	15,223	22,534	265	84,181

10. PRODUCTION OF FLOUR

The following table shows details of the production of flour in each State for the years 1951-52 to 1955-56.

TABLE 13 : PRODUCTION OF FLOUR (FROM WHEAT) (a)

(Tons of 2,000 lb.)

Period	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	TOTAL
1951-52	578,686	559,224	124,703	206,856	223,936	27,745	1,721,150
1952-53	543,693	592,465	132,839	201,685	227,269	28,349	1,726,300
1953-54	603,575	473,842	138,524	164,907	197,654	30,556	1,609,058
1954-55	586,549	455,906	157,904	143,840	178,851	29,969	1,553,019
1955-56 (b)	548,880	451,540	168,138	151,632	186,028	27,660	1,533,878

(a) White flour, sharps and wheatmeal for baking : excludes sharps prior to 1952-53.

(b) Flour mills only; subject to revision.

Particulars of the operations of flour mills and other grain mills in each State during 1954-55, together with available details for Australia for the years 1951-52 to 1955-56 are shown in Tables Nos. 14 and 15 following.

TABLE 14 : OPERATIONS OF FLOUR MILLS, 1954-55

Particulars	Unit	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.
Mills	number	52	35	11	23	20	10	151
Persons employed (a)	"	1,629	1,254	(b)	428	507	(b)	4,528
Wheat Milled (c)	'000 bus.	27,809	21,503	7,241	6,765	8,165	1,448	72,931
Output (c) of -								
Flour (d)	'000 tons	586	456	158	144	179	30	1,553
Bran, Wheaten	" "	96	86	21	28	37	4	272
Pollard	" "	126	91	35	28	27	8	315

(a) Average over whole year; includes working proprietors.

(b) Not available for publication; included in total for Australia.

(c) Includes operations of other grain mills.

(d) White flour, wheatmeal for baking and sharps.

NOTE: 1 ton = 2,000 lb.

TABLE 15 : OPERATIONS OF FLOUR MILLS, AUSTRALIA

Particulars	Unit	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56 (a)
Mills	number	162	158	157	151	(b)
Persons employed (c)	"	4,681	4,892	4,602	4,528	(b)
Wheat Milled (d)	'000 bus.	82,549	80,429	74,562	72,931	70,871
Output (d) of -						
Total Flour (e)	'000 tons	1,721	1,726	1,609	1,553	1,534
Bran	" "	318	304	274	272	266
Pollard	" "	359	369	336	315	319

(a) Subject to revision.

(b) Not yet available.

(c) Average over whole year; includes working proprietors.

(d) Except for the year 1955-56 includes operations of other grain mills.

(e) White flour, wheatmeal for baking and sharps; excludes sharps prior to 1952-53.

NOTE: 1 ton = 2,000 lb.

11. 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, 1952 to 1956.

TABLE 16 : EXPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR

Period	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	TOTAL
<u>WHEAT</u>							
('000 bushels)							
1951-52	3,700	15,883	-	16,524	26,814	-	62,921
1952-53	7,623	11,955	3,654	12,968	23,308	-	59,508
1953-54	7,904	7,161	1,274	12,909	6,791	-	36,039
1954-55	7,259	21,065	1,508	13,974	19,327	-	63,133
1955-56	11,822	15,385	5,170	15,898	22,766	-	71,041
<u>FLOUR (a)</u>							
(Tons of 2,000 lb.)							
1951-52	208,954	310,630	2,040	126,016	163,707	18	811,365
1952-53	201,338	357,088	3,161	135,106	175,620	-	872,313
1953-54	276,522	259,030	5,978	89,890	154,100	-	785,520
1954-55	244,712	221,405	18,321	68,650	130,432	-	683,520
1955-56	227,891	224,378	29,953	72,722	129,285	-	684,229

(a) White flour, sharps and wheatmeal for baking; excludes sharps prior to 1952-53.

Details of the total production of flour in each State and the proportion exported overseas during the financial years 1951-52 to 1955-56, together with details of the quantity and value of wheat and flour exports for the same years according to the countries of consignment are shown in the following tables.

TABLE 17 : QUANTITY OF FLOUR PRODUCED AND PROPORTION EXPORTED

Year ended June	Unit	N.S.W.	VIC.	Q'LD.	S.A.	W.A.	TAS.	AUST.
1952								
Produced	'000 tons	578	559	125	207	224	28	1,721
Exported	%	36.2	55.6	1.6	60.9	73.1	-	47.1
1953								
Produced	'000 tons	544	592	133	202	227	28	1,726
Exported	%	37.0	60.3	23.8	67.0	77.3	-	50.5
1954								
Produced	'000 tons	604	474	138	165	198	30	1,609
Exported	%	54.6	54.6	4.3	54.6	77.8	-	48.8
1955								
Produced	'000 tons	586	456	158	144	179	30	1,553
Exported	%	41.7	48.6	11.6	47.7	72.9	-	44.0
1956								
Produced (a)	'000 tons	549	451	168	152	186	28	1,534
Exported	%	41.5	49.7	17.8	48.0	69.5	-	44.6

(a) Flour mills only - subject to revision.

NOTE: 1 ton = 2,000 lb.

TABLE 18 : EXPORTS OF WHEAT ACCORDING TO COUNTRY OF CONSIGNMENT : AUSTRALIA.

Country to which Exported	Quantity ('000 bushels)					Value (£A f.o.b. Port of Shipment)				
	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	1951-52	1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
United Kingdom	17,932	21,956	11,520	19,134	20,460	15,052,755	18,274,665	9,574,555	13,717,586	12,782,806
Cyprus	2,266	1,561	706	686	1,659	2,070,257	1,448,590	596,300	502,942	1,148,789
Hong Kong	4	11	19	635	937	4,798	9,891	19,362	477,287	636,488
India	7,372	10,767	7,019	17,416	5,570	6,399,777	9,372,021	5,757,798	12,316,363	3,381,251
Ireland, Republic of	1,933	2,678	653	1,962	430	1,562,211	2,451,972	554,086	1,387,031	295,180
Malaya, Federation of	257	267	292	535	615	251,214	320,664	277,736	366,014	458,010
Malta	381	694	11	281	193	314,811	597,419	10,075	204,644	117,462
New Zealand	9,649	5,808	7,753	7,979	9,075	9,206,270	5,239,442	6,708,241	5,710,133	6,106,636
Pakistan	-	3,580	1,274	-	-	-	3,892,542	1,478,535	-	54
Rhodesia	2,306	1,809	2,275	2,042	1,755	2,099,257	1,724,217	2,127,067	1,528,478	1,233,975
Other British Countries	173	160	176	596	651	182,943	143,280	165,512	498,025	457,077
Egypt	3,980	-	-	3	-	3,581,383	-	-	1,944	-
Germany, Federal Republic of (a)	4,734	2,847	1,888	5,085	8,197	4,190,341	2,361,103	1,604,769	3,668,331	4,920,895
Iran	148	-	-	-	589	134,518	-	-	152	415,536
Iraq	1	-	-	-	2,585	627	-	-	-	1,872,327
Italy	6,472	2,068	357	-	-	5,791,318	1,764,015	324,037	-	-
Japan	-	2,509	227	2,039	11,261	-	2,023,941	177,374	1,421,044	7,834,254
Lebanon	-	-	-	720	623	39	-	-	512,699	429,266
Netherlands	3,095	1,738	662	1,792	35	2,506,568	1,433,638	513,968	1,281,295	23,653
Poland	-	-	-	-	1,862	-	-	-	-	1,082,017
Portuguese Possession - Mozambique	4	-	253	393	969	3,360	-	232,848	291,649	685,499
Sweden	1,493	497	595	-	-	1,219,112	416,156	500,312	-	-
Syria	-	-	-	355	2,747	-	-	-	242,150	1,960,575
Other Foreign Countries	720	558	359	1,479	828	714,982	496,864	334,372	1,094,634	614,032
TOTAL:	62,920	59,508	36,039	63,132	71,041	55,286,541	51,970,420	30,956,947	45,222,401	46,455,782

(a) Includes Eastern Zone prior to 1954-55.

TABLE 19 : EXPORTS OF FLOUR (a) ACCORDING TO COUNTRY OF CONSIGNMENT FROM AUSTRALIA

Country to which Exported	Quantity (Tons 2,000 lb.)					Value (£A f.o.b. Port of Shipment)				
	(b) 1951-52	(b) 1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56	(b) 1951-52	(b) 1952-53	1953-54	1954-55	1955-56
United Kingdom	96,432	139,947	65,659	80,832	67,136	3,744,230	5,579,444	2,442,340	2,260,763	1,768,682
Aden	8,110	12,809	16,951	23,734	18,382	335,877	562,546	609,190	673,559	493,228
Ceylon	187,255	261,846	222,512	112,484	115,899	8,232,603	11,364,837	8,346,837	3,363,578	3,162,602
Hong Kong	8,773	11,996	10,158	7,844	6,910	389,998	543,410	409,061	246,980	206,570
India	100,241	80,214	19,883	46	90	4,370,062	3,241,469	765,506	1,524	2,418
Malaya, Federation of	60,124	65,101	72,376	88,546	81,740	2,601,251	2,636,661	2,920,510	2,984,220	2,574,661
Mauritius	22,374	25,684	32,192	20,102	12,659	886,636	1,075,316	1,214,803	593,088	351,594
Pacific Islands (British)	16,157	15,858	25,779	27,107	27,718	550,340	706,948	1,012,396	905,098	879,146
Singapore	52,377	67,249	64,934	77,956	54,707	2,296,752	2,941,680	2,583,497	2,521,261	1,708,525
Sudan	16,146	11,797	5,777	20,580	14,415	717,699	466,821	196,343	606,742	399,718
Other British Countries	16,793	14,261	21,632	32,066	33,138	729,285	629,679	858,300	1,012,213	985,916
Arabian States	11,276	5,848	12,499	17,710	17,578	455,673	247,441	451,888	485,238	456,812
Burma	5,838	8,020	22,611	28,039	12,777	300,103	415,823	910,905	916,748	394,754
Egypt	65,183	23,083	19,587	9,830	2,689	2,481,118	960,314	717,456	297,013	76,226
France	331	1,680	-	-	-	16,565	66,675	-	-	-
French Dependencies	12,613	11,410	13,424	10,783	8,754	556,382	550,636	562,383	353,889	289,845
Indonesia	62,321	90,774	133,406	95,510	178,098	2,806,877	4,205,220	5,557,915	2,977,872	5,515,182
Portuguese Possessions - Mozambique	2,405	293	95	132	328	101,281	11,423	4,220	5,050	10,033
Thailand	8,475	9,514	9,619	13,711	15,819	412,851	495,839	396,430	474,143	511,129
Other Foreign Countries	58,141	14,929	16,426	16,508	15,392	2,208,663	645,978	641,659	504,825	486,030
TOTAL:	811,365	872,313	785,520	683,520	684,229	34,194,246	37,548,160	30,601,639	21,183,804	20,273,071

(a) White flour, sharps and wheatmeal for baking.

(b) Excludes sharps.

12. IMPORTS OF WHEAT AND FLOUR INTO THE UNITED KINGDOM

During 1955, total imports of wheat and flour into the United Kingdom, expressed in terms of wheat, amounted to 186.1 million bushels, which represented an increase of 38.1 million bushels (25.7 per cent.) from the figure recorded in the previous year.

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 1951 to 1955 were shown in the previous issue of this Bulletin, No. 90.

13. 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 this Bulletin. This has since been superseded by the Stabilization Plans, referred to in (ii) and (iii) following.

(ii) Wheat Stabilization Plan 1947-48 to 1952-53: Full details of the first post-war Wheat Stabilization Plan, which was established under joint Commonwealth and State legislation and which expired after the marketing of the 1952-53 crop, were given in Bulletin No. 84 and previous issues.

(iii) Wheat Stabilization Plan 1953-54 to 1957-58: After protracted negotiations between the Commonwealth and State Governments agreement was reached, at a conference held in July, 1954, on the terms of a new five-year Stabilization Plan. The proposed plan was submitted to polls of growers in all the mainland States and was overwhelmingly approved, 46,584 votes being recorded for the Plan and 2,934 against. Complementary legislation was subsequently passed by Commonwealth and State Parliaments, thus making the plan effective. The main provisions of the Stabilization Plan are as follows:-

(a) The Plan is to apply to the crops of the 1953-54 to 1957-58 seasons inclusive.

(b) The Australian Wheat Board, during the period of the Plan, is to be the sole authority for the marketing of wheat within Australia and wheat and flour for export.

(c) The Commonwealth Government is to guarantee to growers a return equal to the ascertained cost of production in respect of up to 100 million bushels of wheat exported from each of the five season's crops.

(d) A Stabilization Fund is to be established by means of an export tax of up to 1s. 6d. per bushel of wheat from each season's crop exported, to be levied when export realizations exceed the cost of production.

(e) The maximum amount of the Fund is to be £20m., repayments from the Fund to be made to the oldest contributing Pool on the recommendations of the Australian Wheat Board when moneys in the Fund exceed this figure.

(f) When export realizations fall below the cost of production, returns are to be raised in respect of up to 100 million bushels from each crop to that level firstly by drawing on the Stabilization Fund and secondly when that source is exhausted, by the Commonwealth Government.

(g) The home consumption price for each year of the plan is to be fixed at 14s. per bushel bulk f.o.r. ports or the ruling I.W.A. export price at the beginning of the year if this is less than 14s. The home consumption price will, however, be not less than the cost of production determined for each season. If Australia should not be a party to an International Wheat Agreement during any part of this period the current price for export sales by the Australian Wheat Board at the commencement of each season is to be taken in determining the home consumption price instead of the ruling International Wheat Agreement export price.

(h) A premium of 3d. per bushel on wheat grown in Western Australia and exported from that State will be paid out of export realizations in recognition of the natural freight advantage applying to Western Australia owing to the proximity of the State to the principal overseas markets for wheat.

(i) Provision has been made for a loading of 1½d. per bushel on all wheat sold for consumption in Australia to cover the cost of transporting wheat from the mainland to Tasmania. This extra amount will be kept in a separate fund and will not affect the pool return to growers in any way.

(iv) F.A.Q. Standard of Wheat. Details of the F.A.Q. weights of a bushel of wheat in each of the four main wheat producing States for the seasons 1950-51 to 1955-56 were given in the previous issue of this Bulletin, No. 90.

14. WORLD WHEAT STATISTICS

(i) General: Details of the production, domestic utilization, and exportable surpluses of the four chief wheat-exporting countries, namely, the United States of America, Canada, Argentina and Australia, 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 1951-52 to 1956-57.

TABLE 20 : 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 Year	Crops	Total				

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA (JULY TO JUNE)

1951-52	396	981	1,377	678	699	443	256
1952-53	256	1,291	1,547	688	859	297	562
1953-54	562	1,170	1,732	619	1,113	211	902
1954-55	902	985	1,887	587	1,300	274	1,026
1955-56 (a)	1,026	937	1,963	600	1,363	333	1,030
1956-57 (b)	1,030	967	1,997	611	1,386	(c)	(c)

CANADA (AUGUST TO JULY)

1951-52	189	553	742	169	573	356	217
1952-53	217	702	919	150	769	386	383
1953-54	383	614	997	140	857	255	602
1954-55	602	309	911	159	752	252	500
1955-56 (a)	500	494	994	148	846	309	537
1956-57 (b)	537	512	1,049	160	889	(c)	(c)

ARGENTINA (DECEMBER TO NOVEMBER)

1951-52	18	76	94	96	(d)(-)2	(-)4	2
1952-53	2	280	282	142	140	67	73
1953-54	73	228	301	129	172	112	60
1954-55	60	283	343	132	211	128	83
1955-56 (a)	83	193	276	136	140	(e)74	66

AUSTRALIA (DECEMBER TO NOVEMBER)

1951-52	19	160	179	79	(f)100	83	17
1952-53	17	195	212	75	(f)141	103	38
1953-54	38	198	236	68	(f)162	67	95
1954-55	95	169	264	72	(f)196	101	95
1955-56 (a)	95	195	290	71	(f)214	130	84

(a) Subject to revision. (b) Estimated. (c) Not yet available.
 (d) Imports amounted to 8 million bushels. (e) December - August.
 (f) Includes allowance for unrecorded movements in stocks, gain or loss in outturn, etc.

Table 21 below sets out details of the estimated world production of wheat by regions for 1952 to 1956 together with the percentage increase or decrease of production in each region in 1956 as compared with 1955.

TABLE 21 : WHEAT, ESTIMATED WORLD PRODUCTION BY REGIONS

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

Region	1952	1953	1954	1955	1956 (a)	Percentage increase (+) or decrease (-) 1956 on 1955
	Million Bushels	Million Bushels	Million Bushels	Million Bushels	Million Bushels	
North America	1,999	1,809	1,300	1,465	1,520	(+) 3.8
Europe	1,640	1,725	1,720	1,795	1,595	(-) 11.1
Soviet Union	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)	(b)
Asia	1,600	1,790	1,790	1,880	1,880	-
Africa	174	195	220	190	205	(+) 7.9
South America	370	330	390	300	360	(+) 20.0
Oceania	200	203	171	198	149	(-) 24.7
TOTAL:	(c)7,280	(c)7,380	(c)6,930	(c)7,380	(c)7,510	(+) 1.8

(a) Preliminary estimates. (b) Not available. (c) Includes allowances for Soviet Union.

(ii) International Wheat Agreement: Full details of the 1949-53 and 1953-56 International Wheat Agreements were given in previous issues of this Bulletin. Details of quotas for the principal exporting and importing countries participating in those Agreements together with transactions recorded under the Agreements for years up to 1954-55 have also been shown in previous issues of this Bulletin.

A new International Wheat Agreement came into force on 1st August, 1956, covering a period of three years from 1st August, 1956 to 31st July, 1959. The 1956 Agreement is identical in form with the 1949 and 1953 Agreements, although amendments have been made to many of the more important provisions.

The maximum and minimum prices under the International Wheat Agreement are expressed in terms of "Canadian currency per bushel, at the parity of the Canadian dollar determined for the purposes of the International Monetary Fund for No. 1 Manitoba Northern wheat in bulk in store Fort William - Port Arthur". Expressed in terms of Australian currency the maximum price for f.a.q. Australian wheat f.o.b. is approximately 18s. per bushel. The direct currency conversion of the minimum price is 12s. but this price will vary according to movements in transportation costs.

The annual quota of 395 million bushels determined by the 1953 International Wheat Agreement was reduced in the new Agreement by almost a quarter to 303 million bushels.

As previously, 44 importing countries submitted figures for inclusion but many quotas were substantially less than those in the previous Agreement. The number of exporting countries was increased to six. Argentina and Sweden were the two additional exporting countries included and France was given a substantial quota instead of the nominal one it had in the 1953 Agreement.

As a result of the reduction in quantities submitted by importing countries and the participation of France, Argentina and Sweden, there has been a substantial reduction in the export quotas available for Australia, Canada and the United States. Australia's original quota was reduced from 45 million bushels under the 1953 Agreement to 30 million bushels.

The new Agreement was to be ratified by both exporting and importing countries on 1st December, 1956. On that date 37 importing countries had ratified and Iceland had joined the Agreement as an importer although not included in the original list. Of the remaining seven countries which submitted import quotas, four countries (Brasil, Lebanon, the Netherlands and Panama) have notified that they intend ratifying and three countries (Ceylon, Colombia and Jordan) will not ratify the Agreement. All six exporting countries have acceded.

In accordance with the terms of the Agreement, the original quotas allotted to exporting countries have been reduced in conformity with the reduction in importers' quotas. The adjustment has been made on the basis of ratifications as at 1st December, 1956. This pro rata adjustment has given Australia an export quota of 25.6 million bushels but this will probably be increased to 29.3 million bushels when countries which have indicated their intention of doing so, have formally ratified the Agreement.

Particulars of guaranteed sales and purchases and transactions actually recorded during 1955-56 are shown in the following table.

TABLE 22 : INTERNATIONAL WHEAT AGREEMENT, GUARANTEED SALES
AND PURCHASES AND TRANSACTIONS RECORDED FOR 1955-56

(Million Bushels)

Exporting Countries			Importing Countries		
Country	Guaranteed Sales (a)	Sales Recorded	Country	Guaranteed Purchases (b)	Purchases Recorded (c)
United States of America	196.5	133.7	Germany	55.1	46.3
Canada	153.1	75.5	Japan	36.7	36.3
Australia	45.0	44.9	India	36.7	16.3
France	0.4	0.4	Netherlands	24.8	14.9
			Belgium	23.9	12.6
			Remaining Importing Countries	217.8	123.5
<u>TOTAL:</u>	395.0	254.5	<u>TOTAL:</u>	395.0	249.9

- (a) Quantities which exporting countries must sell if required by importing countries to do so at the maximum price.
 (b) Quantities which importing countries must buy if required to do so at the relevant minimum price.
 (c) Purchases recorded by the International Wheat Council to 20th July, 1956; final details not yet available.

S. R. CARVER
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

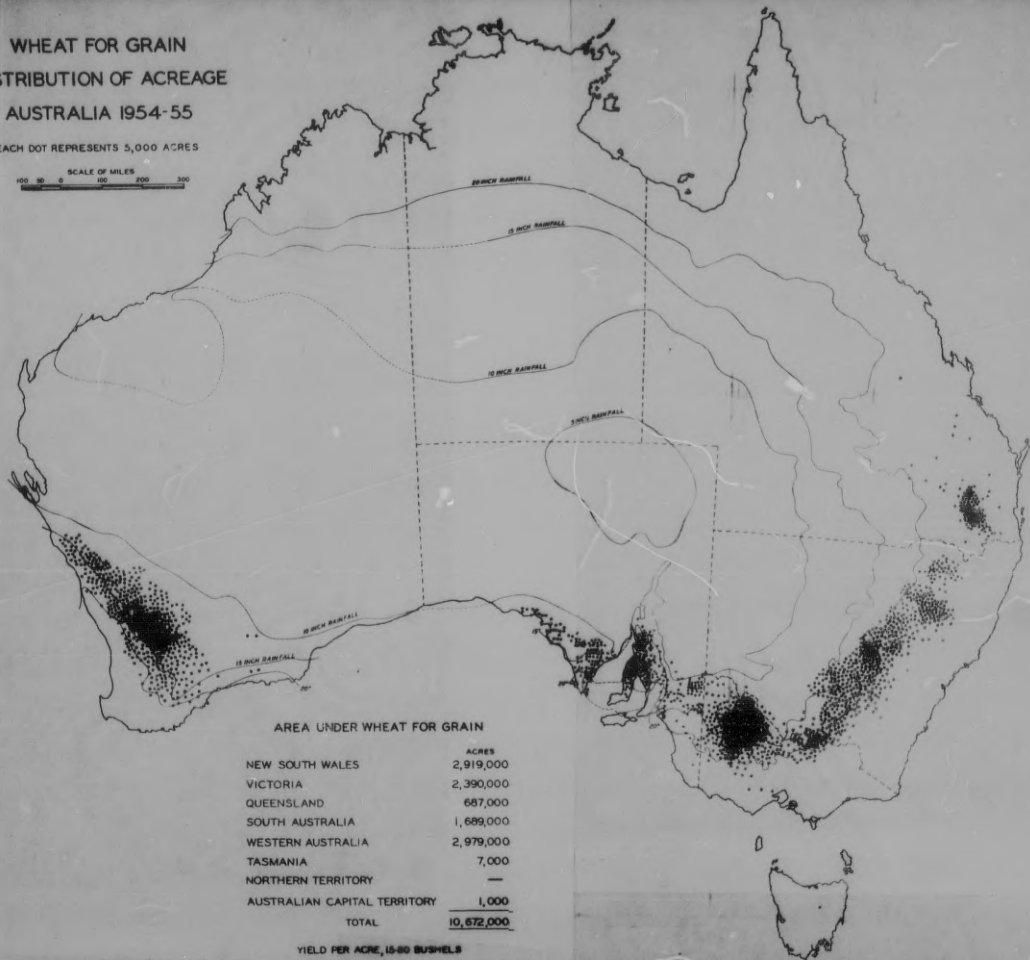
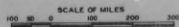
COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T.

22ND JANUARY, 1957.

WHEAT FOR GRAIN DISTRIBUTION OF ACREAGE AUSTRALIA 1954-55

EACH DOT REPRESENTS 5,000 ACRES



AREA UNDER WHEAT FOR GRAIN

	ACRES
NEW SOUTH WALES	2,919,000
VICTORIA	2,390,000
QUEENSLAND	687,000
SOUTH AUSTRALIA	1,689,000
WESTERN AUSTRALIA	2,979,000
TASMANIA	7,000
NORTHERN TERRITORY	—
AUSTRALIAN CAPITAL TERRITORY	1,000
TOTAL	<u>10,672,000</u>

YIELD PER ACRE, 15-20 BUSHEL

1935-36 to 1956-57

PRODUCTION
TOL. BUSHELS

YIELD PER ACRE
BUSHELS

