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PRODUCTION SUMMARY NO. 53 : PLASTICS FILM, SHEETING AND COATED MATERIALS
AUSTRALIA : FEBRUARY 1976

All annual figures are derived from the recorded monthly production and are subject to revision.

Decorative laminated boards and sheets, plastic profile sheet, floor coverings and material prepared for cutting into floor tiles are not included in this summary. For details of these see monthly Production Summaries Nos. 49 and 22.

As from February 1976 production statistics are no longer being collected from single establishment manufacturing enterprises employing less than four persons or from establishments predominantly engaged in non-manufacturing activities but which may carry on in a minor way some manufacturing.

However, except for a few commodities, the effect on production levels and movements is marginal. An indication of the approximate magnitude of the break in comparability may be obtained by comparing annual 1974-75 data which are shown in this publication on both the old and the new basis. Monthly data from July 1975 to January 1976 have also been adjusted on the new basis.

TABLE 1. - UNSUPPORTED PLASTICS FILM, FOIL AND SHEETING (a) - BY POLYMER TYPE
(*000 kilograms)

Period	Vinyl chloride including co-polymers (423.02,03,06,07)	Poly- ethylene (423.11,15,21,25)	Poly- styrene (423.31,35)	Other (b) (423.41,45,61,65)	Total
1972-73	16,542	44,371	6,164	8,964	76,042
1973-74	18,744	53,885	7,033	12,356	92,018
1974-75	15,461	53,216	6,153	9,199	84,030
1974-75(c)	15,461	52,916	6,153	9,199	83,730
1975 -					
January	352	3,704	292	275	4,624
February	966	3,672	500	554	5,692
March	1,197	3,473	510	640	5,821
April	969	3,659	598	710	5,936
May	993	3,981	516	642	6,133
June	1,089	4,403	462	843	6,797
July(d)	1,206	4,274	476	766	6,723
August	1,288	4,319	384	811	6,803
September	1,717	4,633	457	877	7,683
October	1,745	4,612	575	1,023	7,955
November	1,386	4,642	558	944	7,530
December	1,264	4,274	482	714	6,734
1976 -					
January	490	3,234	316	460	4,501
February	1,344	4,718	530	1,104	7,695
1974-75 : July to Feb.	11,213	37,699	4,067	6,363	59,343
1975-76 : July to Feb.	10,441	34,706	3,778	6,698	55,623

(a) Rigid and flexible (includes lay flat tubing) - not profile. Includes film or sheet used in further production in the same establishment. (b) Includes cellulose acetate. (c) Excludes the production of certain small producers. See explanatory notes above. (d) Data for July 1975 and subsequent months exclude the production of certain small producers. See explanatory notes above.

TABLE 2. - UNSUPPORTED PLASTICS FILM, FOIL AND SHEETING (a) - BY THICKNESS ('000 kilograms)

Period	Film (thickness less than 0.010") (b)			Sheeting and sheets (thickness 0.010" and over)			
	Vinyl chloride including co-polymers (423.02,03)	Other (423.11,21 31,41,61)	Total film	Vinyl chloride including co-polymers (423.06,07)	Other (423.15,25 35,45,65)	Total sheeting and sheets	Total film and sheeting and sheets
1972-73	9,141	49,146	58,287	7,401	10,354	17,755	76,042
1973-74	10,672	60,423	71,095	8,072	12,852	20,923	92,018
1974-75	8,676	56,799	65,475	6,786	11,769	18,555	84,030
1974-75(c)	8,676	56,499	65,175	6,786	11,769	18,555	83,730
1975 -							
January	275	3,840	4,115	77	432	509	4,624
February	577	3,864	4,441	389	862	1,251	5,692
March	666	3,756	4,423	531	868	1,399	5,821
April	611	3,914	4,525	358	1,053	1,412	5,936
May	527	4,210	4,737	467	930	1,396	6,133
June	701	4,838	5,539	388	870	1,258	6,797
July(d)	780	4,671	5,451	427	845	1,272	6,723
August	851	4,625	5,477	436	889	1,326	6,803
September	1,156	4,878	6,034	561	1,088	1,649	7,683
October	1,073	5,007	6,080	672	1,203	1,875	7,955
November	792	4,971	5,763	594	1,173	1,767	7,530
December	855	4,492	5,347	409	978	1,386	6,734
1976 -							
January	362	3,450	3,812	128	561	689	4,501
February	845	5,157	6,002	499	1,194	1,693	7,695
1974-75 : July to Feb.	6,171	40,081	46,252	5,042	8,048	13,090	59,343
1975-76 : July to Feb.	6,716	37,251	43,967	3,725	7,932	11,657	55,623

(a) See footnote (a) Table 1. (b) Prior to July 1970 include, film of thickness 0.010". (c) Excludes the production of certain small producers. See explanatory notes above. (d) Data for July 1975, and subsequent months exclude the production of certain small producers. See explanatory notes above.

TABLE 3. - PLASTICS COATED MATERIALS (a) ('000 square metres)

Period	Vinyl chloride (incl. co-polymers) on knitted or woven textile material		Vinyl chloride (incl. co-polymers and polyvinylidene chloride on paper or paperboard) (excl. bitumen treated) (424.33,31)	Polyethylene		Other polymers
	Expanded (424.30)	Other (424.32)		On regenerated cellulose film (424.42)	On other substrates (424.43-47)	
1972-73	6,340	10,533	10,301	13,313	54,320	7,759
1973-74	6,900	11,262	11,841	16,264	76,047	6,541
1974-75	5,396	8,996	11,175	18,048	73,242	5,798
1974-75(b)	5,399	8,994	11,175	18,048	73,242	5,798
1975 -						
January	(d)	154	(d)	983	3,747	178
February	306	745	(d)	1,475	4,492	729
March	377	634	(d)	1,433	2,769	369
April	366	762	(d)	1,667	4,030	403
May	525	599	(d)	1,172	4,686	402
June	618	959	(d)	1,060	3,603	408
July(c)	427	692	(d)	1,247	3,064	384
August	522	587	(d)	1,133	2,465	380
September	763	1,029	(d)	2,020	3,627	431
October	441	812	(d)	1,275	3,873	465
November	552	782	(d)	1,530	4,058	481
December	663	908	(d)	1,808	3,347	443
1976 -						
January	(d)	569	(d)	787	2,644	146
February	(d)	840	(d)	1,168	5,047	581
1974-75 : July to Feb.	3,513	6,040	(d)	12,717	58,154	4,216
1975-76 : July to Feb.	4,205	6,135	(d)	10,969	28,125	3,310

(a) Area of completion of final coating by any method including laminating on continuous supporting materials. Includes production of the specified combinations even if subsequently used in the same establishment for further processing. Excludes coating intended for adhesive purposes in the production of laminates. (b) Excludes the production of certain small producers. See explanatory notes above. (c) Data for July 1975 and subsequent months exclude the production of certain small producers. See explanatory notes above. (d) Not available for publication.

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NOTE: Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr. Cyril Rees on 52 5558 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian Bureau of Statistics.