

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA
AUSTRALIA

STATISTICAL BULLETIN : LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, AUSTRALIA

No. 26 - 31 MARCH 1968

CONTENTS

<u>Table</u>		<u>Page</u>
	<u>I. SUMMARY OF LIVESTOCK NUMBERS</u>	
1.	Livestock numbers : Australia, 31 March 1964 to 1968	3
	<u>II. SHEEP AND LAMBS</u>	
2.	Sheep and lambs : Analysis of movement in numbers, Australia, seasons 1963-64 to 1968-69	3
3.	Breeds of sheep : Australia, 31 March 1962, 1965 and 1968	4
4.	Lambing returns : Australia, seasons 1963-64 to 1968-69	4
	<u>III. DETAILED TABLES</u>	
5.	Livestock classified according to age and/or sex : Australia, 31 March 1964 to 1968	5
6.	Livestock numbers : States, 31 March 1964 to 1968	6
7.	Cattle classified according to purpose, age and sex : States, 31 March 1968	10
8.	Sheep, pigs and horses classified according to age and/or sex : States, 31 March 1968	11
9.	Breeds of Sheep : States, 31 March 1968	12
10.	Lambing : States, seasons 1963-64 to 1968-69	13
	<u>GRAPHS</u>	
	Cattle : Australia and States, 31 March 1968	7
	Sheep : Australia and States, 31 March 1968	9

FOREWORD

This bulletin shows details of livestock numbers at 31 March 1968. Preliminary estimates of the numbers of livestock in Australia at 31 March 1968 were issued in a statement published on 8 July 1968.

The statistics are based on the complete results of an annual census undertaken in each State and in the Australian Capital Territory. Details shown for the Northern Territory are estimates based mainly on data obtained from the annual pastoral census conducted by the Northern Territory Administration.

Details of livestock in the Northern Territory are collected as follows -

- (a) Horses, sheep and cattle (except those used or intended for production of milk or cream) - at 30 June.
- (b) Pigs, and cattle used or intended for production of milk or cream - at 31 March (30 September prior to 1968).

For the purposes of obtaining Australian totals, statistics collected at 30 June have been aggregated with census results for the remainder of the Commonwealth as at the previous 31 March, and those collected at 30 September with census results as at the 31 March following.

Throughout the bulletin numbers of livestock have been rounded to thousands and any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

SYMBOLS USED IN THIS BULLETIN

- p - Preliminary. Subject to revision.
- n.a. - Not available.
- .. - Nil or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable.

I. SUMMARY OF LIVESTOCK NUMBERSTABLE 1. - LIVESTOCK NUMBERS : AUSTRALIA

('000)

Classification	At 31 March -					Percentage change 1968 on 1967 %
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968p	
SHEEP -						
Under 1 year	35,299	34,758	28,890	34,302	37,750	10.1
1 year and over	129,602	135,863	128,673	129,935	129,162	-0.6
<u>Total sheep</u>	164,981	170,622	157,563	164,237	166,912	1.6
CATTLE -						
Bulls (1 year and over) used or intended for service	377	369	351	367	381	3.8
Cattle used or intended for production of milk or cream	4,835	4,747	4,598	4,528	4,407	-2.7
Cattle for other purposes (mainly for meat production)	13,842	13,699	12,987	13,375	14,431	7.9
<u>Total cattle</u>	19,055	18,816	17,936	18,270	19,218	5.2
PIGS	1,468	1,660	1,747	1,804	2,056	14.0
HORSES	536	520	n.a.	479	n.a.	n.a.

II. SHEEP AND LAMBSTABLE 2. - SHEEP AND LAMBS : ANALYSIS OF MOVEMENT IN NUMBERS : AUSTRALIA

('000)

Season (Year ended 31 March)	Number at beginning of season	Lambs marked (a)	Net exports	Sheep and lambs slaughtered (b)	Estimated deaths on farms (c)
1964	158,626	47,818	312	33,240	7,911
1965	164,981	47,608	307	33,549	8,111
1966	170,622	40,330	277	33,680	19,432
1967	157,563	47,830	337	33,350	7,469
1968	164,237	p50,648	p362	p38,073	p9,538
1969	p166,912	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)

(a) Excludes Northern Territory. (b) Includes an estimate for numbers boiled down.

(c) Balance figure; excludes lambs which died before marking. (d) Not yet available.

A complete collection of particulars of sheep numbers classified according to breed has been made for all States in Australia at triennial intervals since 1947. Detailed statistics on breeds of sheep by States at 31 March 1968 are set out in Table 9 on page 12.

A summary of this information for the years 1962, 1965 and 1968 is shown in Table 3 on page 4.

TABLE 3. - BREEDS OF SHEEP : AUSTRALIA

Breed	31 March 1962		31 March 1965		31 March 1968p	
	Number	Pro- portion	Number	Pro- portion	Number	Pro- portion
	'000	%	'000	%	'000	%
Merino	119,234	75.6	129,754	76.0	122,398	73.3
Other recognised breeds	17,945	11.4	19,587	11.5	18,994	11.4
Merino comebacks (a)	5,467	3.5	4,364	2.6	4,516	2.7
Crossbreds (b)	15,066	9.5	16,917	9.9	21,005	12.6
TOTAL	157,712	100.0	170,622	100.0	166,912	100.0

(a) Finer than half-bred. (b) Including half-bred Merino and coarser.

TABLE 4. - LAMBING RETURNS : AUSTRALIA

Season (Year ended 31 March)	Number of breeding ewes at beginning of season	Number of ewes		Number of lambs marked (c)	Number of lambs marked expressed as proportion of -	
		Intended to mate (a)	Actually mated (b)		Breeding ewes	Actual matings
		'000	'000		%	%
1964	70,936	65,452	63,843	47,818	67.4	74.9
1965	72,862	67,045	63,867	47,608	65.3	74.5
1966	75,581	67,228	60,989	40,330	53.4	66.1
1967	73,626	67,700	65,589	47,830	65.0	72.9
1968	76,618	73,535	68,895	50,648	66.1	73.5
1969p	76,698	70,730	(d)	(d)	(d)	(d)

(a) As stated by farmers at beginning of season. (b) As stated by farmers at end of season. (c) Excludes Northern Territory. (d) Not yet available.

III. DETAILED TABLES

The following tables show details of the numbers of sheep and lambs, cattle and calves, pigs and horses in Australia from 31 March 1964 to 31 March 1968, and by States for 31 March 1968.

The statistics for cattle and calves have been classified according to their two main purposes of milk production and meat production irrespective of breed and are not strictly comparable with those for years prior to 1964, when a different classification was in use.

TABLE 5. - LIVESTOCK CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE AND/OR SEX : AUSTRALIA

('000)

Classification	As at 31 March -				
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968p
SHEEP -					
Rams (1 year and over)	1,986	2,047	2,002	2,013	2,079
Breeding ewes (1 year and over)	72,862	75,581	73,626	76,618	76,698
Other ewes (1 year and over)	8,631	8,952	7,397	7,117	7,873
Wethers (1 year and over)	46,203	49,284	45,649	44,186	42,512
Lambs and hoggets (under 1 year)	35,299	34,758	28,890	34,302	37,750
<u>Total sheep and lambs</u>	164,981	170,622	157,563	164,237	166,912
CATTLE -					
Bulls (1 year and over) used or intended for service -					
Dairy breeds	99	95	90	87	82
Beef breeds	278	274	261	272	299
<u>Total</u>	377	369	351	367	381
Cattle used or intended for production of -					
Milk or cream for sale -					
Cows - in milk and dry	3,078	3,012	2,908	2,881	2,794
Heifers - Springing (within 3 months of calving) and other (1 year and over)	821	843	823	796	755
Calves (under 1 year)	718	690	681	672	689
Milk or cream for use on rural holdings -					
House cows and heifers	218	202	186	180	169
<u>Total</u>	4,835	4,747	4,598	4,523	4,407
Cattle for other purposes (a) -					
Cows and heifers (1 year and over)	7,021	7,073	6,692	6,886	7,450
Calves (under 1 year) (b)	3,536	3,378	3,063	3,392	3,868
Other (1 year and over) i.e. steers, bullocks, speyed cows, etc.	3,286	3,248	3,232	3,097	3,113
<u>Total</u>	13,842	13,699	12,987	13,375	14,431
<u>Total All Cattle</u>	19,055	18,816	17,936	18,270	19,218
PIGS -					
Boars	35	37	36	36	38
Breeding sows	224	252	252	263	305
All other	1,209	1,372	1,458	1,504	1,713
<u>Total pigs</u>	1,468	1,660	1,747	1,804	2,056
HORSES -					
Draught horses (1 year and over)	30	23)			
Other horses (1 year and over)	470	460)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Foals (under 1 year)	36	37)			
<u>Total horses</u>	536	520	n.a.	479	n.a.

(a) Mainly for meat production. (b) Includes weaners, and bull calves intended for service.

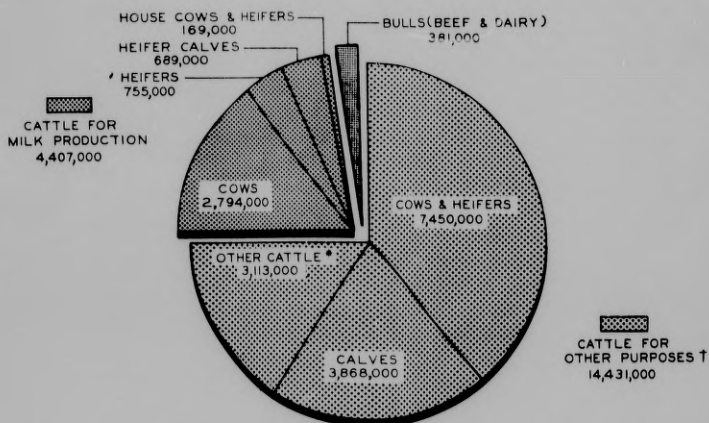
TABLE 6. - LIVESTOCK NUMBERS : STATES ('000)

State or Territory	At 31 March -					Percentage change 1968 on 1967
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968p	
BULLS (1 YEAR AND OVER) USED OR INTENDED FOR SERVICE						
New South Wales	89	87	83	83	85	2.2
Victoria	72	73	71	75	76	0.4
Queensland	127	127	122	126	134	6.5
South Australia	17	16	16	16	16	0.5
Western Australia	27	25	25	26	26	3.4
Tasmania	8	8	9	9	10	6.2
Northern Territory (a)	37	33	24	32	34	5.2
Aust. Cap. Territory	..	..	..	..	..	12.8
<u>Australia</u>	377	369	351	367	381	3.8
CATTLE USED OR INTENDED FOR PRODUCTION OF MILK OR CREAM						
New South Wales	1,202	1,160	1,097	1,052	1,019	-3.1
Victoria	1,825	1,847	1,867	1,913	1,910	-0.2
Queensland	1,092	1,035	937	880	818	-7.1
South Australia	261	253	245	239	224	-6.6
Western Australia	222	214	204	194	188	-3.4
Tasmania	230	235	244	247	246	-0.4
Northern Territory (a)	1	1	1	1	1	-14.0
Aust. Cap. Territory	2	2	2	2	2	-6.3
<u>Australia</u>	4,835	4,747	4,598	4,528	4,407	-2.7
CATTLE FOR OTHER PURPOSES (MAINLY FOR MEAT PRODUCTION)						
New South Wales	3,498	3,372	2,972	3,011	3,450	14.6
Victoria	1,404	1,397	1,458	1,540	1,489	-3.3
Queensland	6,183	6,230	5,829	5,913	6,409	8.4
South Australia	416	428	429	431	455	5.5
Western Australia	1,050	1,020	1,042	1,137	1,213	6.6
Tasmania	212	208	239	266	308	16.0
Northern Territory (a)	1,067	1,034	1,007	1,064	1,095	2.9
Aust. Cap. Territory	13	12	11	11	10	-11.0
<u>Australia</u>	13,842	13,699	12,987	13,375	14,431	7.9
TOTAL CATTLE						
New South Wales	4,789	4,619	4,153	4,146	4,555	9.9
Victoria	3,301	3,316	3,397	3,528	3,474	-1.5
Queensland	7,402	7,393	6,888	6,919	7,361	6.4
South Australia	694	697	690	687	695	1.2
Western Australia	1,299	1,258	1,271	1,357	1,427	5.2
Tasmania	450	451	492	522	564	8.1
Northern Territory (a)	1,105	1,067	1,032	1,097	1,130	3.0
Aust. Cap. Territory	15	14	13	14	13	-9.7
<u>Australia</u>	19,055	18,816	17,936	18,270	19,218	5.2

For footnotes see end of Table 6 on page 8.

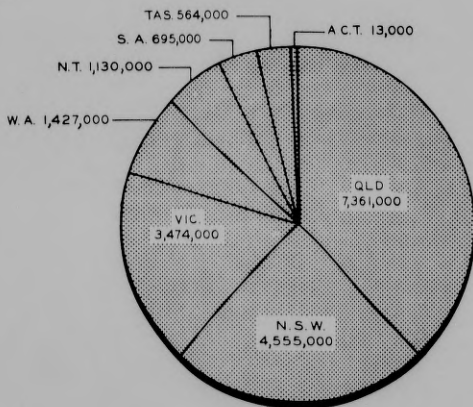
CATTLE: AUSTRALIA

AT 31 MARCH 1968



* BULLOCKS, STEERS AND SPEYED COWS

† MAINLY FOR MEAT PRODUCTION



TOTAL ALL CATTLE: 19,218,000

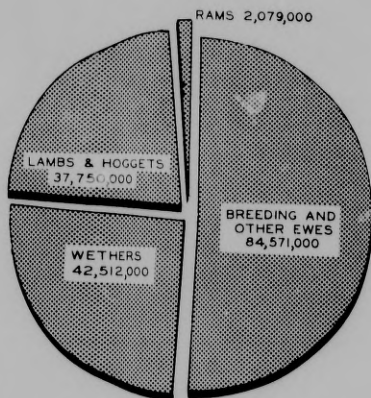
TABLE 6. - LIVESTOCK NUMBERS : STATES ('000) - continued

State or Territory	At 31 March -					Percentage change 1968 on 1967
	1964	1965	1966	1967	1968p	
SHEEP						
New South Wales	71,764	72,396	61,396	63,848	67,786	6.2
Victoria	28,413	30,437	30,968	31,239	27,909	-10.7
Queensland	24,337	24,016	18,384	19,305	19,948	3.3
South Australia	16,403	17,289	17,993	17,864	16,405	-8.2
Western Australia	20,165	22,392	24,427	27,370	30,161	10.2
Tasmania	3,600	3,793	4,127	4,321	4,428	2.5
Northern Territory (a)	10	9	9	8	9	3.3
Aust. Cap. Territory	289	290	258	281	267	-4.8
<u>Australia</u>	164,981	170,622	157,563	164,237	166,912	1.6
PIGS						
New South Wales	391	449	480	514	645	25.6
Victoria	322	378	384	351	377	7.5
Queensland	388	406	417	468	520	11.2
South Australia	154	196	224	222	242	9.0
Western Australia	128	137	144	161	183	13.4
Tasmania	83	92	96	86	87	1.0
Northern Territory (a)	2	2	2	3	2	-28.4
Aust. Cap. Territory	..	..	..	..	..	..
<u>Australia</u>	1,468	1,660	1,747	1,804	2,056	14.0
HORSES						
New South Wales	163	158	151	146	n.a.	n.a.
Victoria	56	56	n.a.	55	n.a.	n.a.
Queensland	206	201	190	182	181	-0.8
South Australia	(b)25	(b)24	n.a.	16	n.a.	n.a.
Western Australia	39	37	35	35	n.a.	n.a.
Tasmania	8	7	n.a.	7	n.a.	n.a.
Northern Territory (a)	38	36	37	38	38	1.3
Aust. Cap. Territory	1	1	1	1	1	9.2
<u>Australia</u>	(c)536	(c)520	n.a.	479	n.a.	n.a.

(a) See foreword for dates of collection. (b) Estimated. (c) See footnote (b).

SHEEP: AUSTRALIA

AT 31 MARCH 1968



TOTAL SHEEP AND LAMBS: 166,912,000

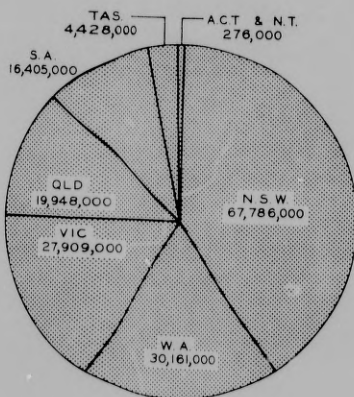


TABLE 7. - CATTLE CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO PURPOSE, AGE AND SEX : STATES, 31 MARCH 1968P

('000)

Classification	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T. (a)	A.C.T.	Aust.
Bulls (1 year and over) used or intended for service -									
Dairy breeds	17	30	14	5	3	4	..	..	82
Beef breeds	68	37	120	11	23	6	34	..	299
<u>Total</u>	85	76	134	16	26	10	34	..	381
Proportion of Aust. total	% 22.3	19.8	35.2	4.3	6.0	2.5	9.9	..	100.0
Cattle used or intended for production of -									
Milk or cream for sale -									
Cows in milk and dry	645	1,200	556	130	100	152	..	1	2,794
Heifers - Springing (within 3 months of calving)	154	330	120	18	21	43	..	..	755
Other (1 year and over)	134	345	90	24	28	45	..	..	689
Calves (under 1 year)				36	30				
Milk or cream for use on rural holdings -									
House cows and heifers	86	26	35	7	9	6	..	..	169
<u>Total</u>	1,019	1,910	618	224	138	246	1	2	4,407
Proportion of Aust. total	% 23.1	43.3	18.6	5.1	4.3	5.6	..	..	100.0
Cattle for other purposes (b) -									
Cows and heifers (1 year and over)	1,915	741	3,220	257	633	130	648	6	7,450
Calves (under 1 year) (c)	1,122	478	1,403	141	305	118	200	3	3,668
Other (1 year and over) i.e. steers, bullocks, speyed cows, etc.	513	270	1,606	57	275	60	240	1	3,113
<u>Total</u>	3,450	1,489	6,400	455	1,213	308	1,005	10	14,431
Proportion of Aust. total	% 23.0	10.3	44.4	3.2	8.4	2.1	7.6	0.1	100.0
<u>TOTAL CATTLE AND CALVES FOR ALL PURPOSES</u>	4,555	3,474	7,361	605	1,427	564	1,130	13	16,218
Proportion of Aust. total	% 23.7	18.1	38.3	3.6	7.4	2.0	5.0	0.1	100.0

(a) See foreword for dates of collection. (b) Mainly for meat production. (c) Includes weaners, and bull calves intended for service.

TABLE 8. - SHEEP, PIGS AND HORSES CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO AGE AND SEX : STATES, 31 MARCH 1968^a

('000)

Classification	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	N.T. (a)	A.C.T.	Aust.
SHEEP									
Rams (1 year and over)	810	340	246	215	418	49	..	2	2,079
Breeding ewes, including ewes intended for mating	31,900	12,000	8,378	7,751	13,538	1,054	4	93	76,698
Other ewes (1 year and over)	3,304	1,173	1,103	789	1,183	203	..	28	7,873
Wethers (1 year and over)	14,826	7,300	6,443	4,118	8,648	1,072	4	93	42,512
Lambs and hoggets (under 1 year)	16,766	6,007	3,778	3,534	6,374	1,150	..	51	37,750
<u>Total</u>	67,786	27,000	19,948	16,405	30,161	4,428	9	267	166,912
Proportion of Aust. total %	40.6	16.7	12.0	9.8	18.1	2.7	..	0.2	100.0

PIGS									
Boars	12	7	10	4	4	2	..	..	38
Breeding sows	90	57	77	32	27	13	..	..	305
All other	534	314	434	206	152	71	1	..	1,713
<u>Total</u>	645	377	520	242	183	87	2	..	2,056
Proportion of Aust. total %	31.4	18.3	25.3	11.8	8.9	4.2	0.1	..	100.0

HORSES									
Draught horses (1 year and over)	n.a.	n.a.	(3)	n.a.	n.a.	((b))	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.
Other horses (1 year and over)			(166)			(35)			
Foals (under 1 year)			(12)			(3)			
<u>Total</u>	n.a.	n.a.	181	n.a.	n.a.	38	1	n.a.	n.a.
Proportion of Aust. total %	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.

(a) See foreword for dates of collection. (b) Not available: included in "Other".

TABLE 9. - BREEDS OF SHEEP, STATES, 31 MARCH 1968p

('000)

Breed	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania	Northern Territory (a)	Australian Capital Territory	Australia
Merino	48,977	12,810	19,373	13,418	27,286	315	9	209	122,398
Other recognised breeds -									
Corriedale	3,508	4,082	53	1,113	804	795	..	7	10,362
Polwarth	492	982	62	114	131	1,792	..	1	3,574
Border Leicester	1,257	509	92	38	150	40	..	2	2,088
Dorset Horn	589	410	6	59	69	28	..	1	1,162
Romney Marsh	283	598	2	26	65	88	..	2	1,065
Other (incl. unspecified)	204	328	28	33	85	66	..	1	743
<u>Total Other Recognised Breeds</u>	<u>6,333</u>	<u>6,909</u>	<u>243</u>	<u>1,383</u>	<u>1,304</u>	<u>2,809</u>	<u>..</u>	<u>14</u>	<u>18,994</u>
Merino Comebacks (finer than half-bred)	1,846	1,584	52	214	339	476	..	5	4,516
Crossbreds (half-bred merino and coarser)	10,630	6,605	279	1,391	1,232	829	..	39	21,005
<u>TOTAL</u>	<u>67,786</u>	<u>27,909</u>	<u>19,948</u>	<u>16,405</u>	<u>30,161</u>	<u>4,428</u>	<u>9</u>	<u>267</u>	<u>166,912</u>

(a) Assumed to be all Merino. As at 30 June 1968.

TABLE 10. - LAMBING : STATES

Particulars for seasons (years ended 31 March)		N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	A.C.T.	Aust. (a)
1963-64 -									
Ewes mated	'000	27,548	11,369	8,819	6,850	7,711	1,458	88	63,843
Lambs marked	'000	20,881	9,795	5,161	5,402	5,158	1,353	68	47,818
Percentage (b)	%	75.8	86.2	58.5	78.9	66.9	92.8	77.5	74.9
1964-65 -									
Ewes mated	'000	27,131	11,611	7,942	7,191	8,426	1,478	87	63,867
Lambs marked	'000	20,477	9,853	4,457	5,739	5,642	1,374	66	47,608
Percentage (b)	%	75.5	84.9	56.1	79.8	67.0	93.0	75.9	74.5
1965-66 -									
Ewes mated	'000	24,404	12,501	5,487	7,505	9,360	1,651	81	60,989
Lambs marked	'000	14,256	10,556	1,796	5,954	6,129	1,594	46	40,330
Percentage (b)	%	58.4	84.4	32.7	79.3	65.5	96.5	56.7	66.1
1966-67 -									
Ewes mated	'000	25,652	12,605	7,402	7,583	10,567	1,688	92	65,589
Lambs marked	'000	18,434	10,626	4,034	5,974	7,115	1,574	73	47,830
Percentage (b)	%	71.9	84.3	54.5	78.8	67.3	93.3	80.0	72.9
1967-68p -									
Ewes mated	'000	28,126	12,476	7,146	7,638	11,635	1,779	95	68,895
Lambs marked	'000	21,114	10,101	4,128	5,889	7,824	1,522	70	50,648
Percentage (b)	%	75.1	81.0	57.8	77.1	67.2	85.6	73.7	73.5
1968-69p -									
Ewes mated or intended to mate to -									
Merino rams	'000	14,698	3,538	6,945	4,973	11,069	162	34	41,419
Percentage of total ewes mated	%	51.5	30.0	94.0	66.0	82.2	8.5	47.6	58.6
Corriedale and polwarth rams	'000	1,954	2,345	98	587	944	948	9	6,886
Percentage of total ewes mated	%	6.8	19.9	1.3	7.8	7.0	49.7	12.4	9.7
British breed rams - short wool	'000	5,692	3,926	132	1,251	895	563	14	12,472
Percentage of total ewes mated	%	19.9	33.3	1.8	16.6	6.6	29.5	20.0	17.6
British breed rams - long wool	'000	6,217	1,988	212	728	559	234	14	9,953
Percentage of total ewes mated	%	21.8	16.9	2.9	9.7	4.2	12.3	20.0	14.1
Total ewes mated or intended to mate	'000	28,561	11,797	7,387	7,541	13,466	1,908	71	70,730
Percentage	%	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0

(a) Includes Northern Territory. (b) Of lambs marked to ewes mated.

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

22 JANUARY 1969

NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 63 9111 extension 2277 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.

K.M. ARCHER

COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN