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COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS, CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

Reference No. 10.53

THE WHEAT INDUSTRY : ESTIMATES OF WHEAT PRODUCTION SEASON 1973-74

This publication contains estimates of the area and production of wheat in the major wheat-growing States and Australia during the season 1973-74 compared with the four previous seasons. The 1973-74 estimates are based on returns from a selection of growers to whom forms were sent early in October. These estimates, made by farmers, were formulated before harvest, and have subsequently been adjusted after consultation with State Departments of Agriculture and State Wheat Boards. Nevertheless, in view of the unseasonal conditions affecting the eastern States during November, caution should be exercised when interpreting the 1973-74 season production estimates.

More detailed statistics of the wheat industry will be published in *The Wheat Industry, 1972-73 and 1973-74 (Preliminary)* (Reference No. 10.35) due to be released in April 1974.

The seasons listed in this bulletin relate to the year ended 31 March.

NOTE. In this issue statistics of area and production are expressed in the metric units hectare (1 hectare = 2.47105 acres) and tonne (1 tonne = 36.7437 bushels of wheat).

WHEAT : AREA SOWN, AND PRODUCTION

Season	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Aust. (a)
AREA SOWN - WHEAT, ALL PURPOSES ('000 HECTARES)						
1969-70	3,571	1,352	678	1,324	2,802	9,736
1970-71	2,272	769	367	824	2,393	6,632
1971-72	2,475	1,053	567	1,085	2,068	7,253
1972-73 (b)	2,679	1,122	492	1,007	2,472	7,778
1973-74 (c)	2,894	1,329	400	1,467	3,058	9,155
AREA SOWN - WHEAT, FOR GRAIN ('000 HECTARES)						
1969-70	3,489	1,335	609	1,299	2,747	9,486
1970-71	2,216	760	334	802	2,361	6,478
1971-72	2,426	1,040	556	1,069	2,042	7,138
1972-73 (b)	2,618	1,092	471	986	2,437	7,609
1973-74 (c)	2,845	1,317	385	1,455	2,949	8,955
WHEAT PRODUCTION ('000 TONNES)						
1969-70	4,430	2,274	405	1,610	1,815	10,547
1970-71	3,010	1,004	120	790	2,957	7,890
1971-72	2,410	1,797	722	1,407	2,165	8,510
1972-73 (b)	1,954	1,256	405	815	2,003	6,441
1973-74 (c)	4,268	2,189	640	2,014	3,672	12,790

(a) Includes Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory. (b) Preliminary. (c) Estimated.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr K. Flynn on 49 0211 extension 385 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.