

## AGRICULTURAL STATISTICS OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY 1977-78 SEASON

### INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Vit Zarin on Canberra 525341, or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616

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### EXPLANATORY NOTES

Statistics in this publication are derived from the Agricultural Census conducted annually at 31 March, which collects commodity data from agricultural establishments (previously called holdings) throughout Australia. In the past three years the ABS has been gradually excluding from the statistics establishments whose contribution to agricultural production is small. While this has reduced the number of establishments appearing in publications the effect on statistics of production of major commodities is minimal. Statistics of minor commodities normally associated with smaller scale operations may be affected to a greater extent.

For 1976-77 and 1977-78 establishments have been included in the statistics where the legal entities operating those establishments had an Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations (EVAO) of \$1,500 or more. Details of the method used in the calculation of EVAO are contained in the publication *Agricultural Sector, Part 1 - Structure of Operating Units* (7102.0).

For 1975-76 the EVAO criterion was the same as for 1976-77 and 1977-78, but establishments with areas of 10 hectares or more were also included even if EVAO

was less than \$1,500. Prior to 1975-76 all agricultural establishments with areas of one hectare or more were included. In addition establishments of less than 1 hectare tended to be included where significant agricultural activity was undertaken e.g. poultry farms.

A summary of the full range of statistics relating to the Northern Territory published by the ABS is contained in the statistical series *Northern Territory Statistical Summary* (1306.0).

All publications produced by the ABS are listed in *Catalogue of Publications* (1101.0) which is available free of charge from any ABS office.

### Symbols and other usages

- nil or less than half the final digit shown
- n.a. not available for publication
- n.p. not available for separate publication (but included in totals where applicable).

Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

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TABLE 1. NUMBER, AREA AND LAND UTILISATION OF RURAL ESTABLISHMENTS (a)

	Number of rural establishments (a)	Area used for crops (b)	Area under sown pastures and grasses	Balance of area of rural establishments (a) (c)	Total area of rural establishments (a)
	— Hectares —				
1972-73	415	12,108	146,469	77,852,225	78,010,802
1973-74	394	4,978	127,061	79,354,450	79,486,489
1974-75	385	8,018	129,110	79,209,930	79,347,058
1975-76	361	8,293	115,824	78,662,487	78,786,604
1976-77	289	2,406	112,774	75,263,279	75,378,459
1977-78 —					
Darwin and Gulf	156	1,210	97,836	15,907,643	16,006,689
Victoria River	31	—	14,719	14,515,981	14,530,700
Barkly Tableland	22	—	220	12,837,740	12,837,960
Alice Springs	108	25	295	32,814,238	32,814,558
<b>Northern Territory</b>	<b>317</b>	<b>1,235</b>	<b>113,070</b>	<b>76,075,602</b>	<b>76,189,907</b>

(a) Establishments with agricultural activity (previously called "holdings"). (b) Excludes duplication on account of area double cropped. Excludes pastures and grasses harvested for hay and seed which have been included in "Area under sown pastures and grasses". (c) Used for grazing, lying idle, fallow, etc.

TABLE 2. CATTLE NUMBERS, BY DISTRICT AT 31 MARCH 1978

	Darwin and Gulf	Victoria River	Barkly Tableland	Alice Springs	Total
<b>CATTLE -</b>					
<b>MILK -</b>					
Bulls 1 year and over used or intended for service	n.p.	-	-	n.p.	9
Bull calves under 1 year intended for service	n.p.	-	-	n.p.	n.p.
Cattle used or intended for production of milk and cream -					39
Cows in milk and dry	n.p.	-	-	n.p.	20
Heifers 1 year and over	n.p.	-	-	n.p.	n.p.
Heifer calves under 1 year	n.p.	-	-	n.p.	36
House cows and heifers	12	n.a.	n.a.	12	
<b>Total</b>	<b>74</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>n.a.</b>	<b>42</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>MEAT -</b>					
Bulls 1 year and over used or intended for service	7,252	10,529	12,906	10,028	40,715
Bull calves under 1 year intended for service	722	5,056	1,850	1,771	9,399
Cows and heifers 1 year and over	164,189	280,851	225,236	259,178	929,454
Heifer calves under 1 year	23,831	40,153	39,775	72,642	176,401
Other calves under 1 year	20,626	31,159	40,496	70,613	162,894
Other cattle 1 year and over	65,387	104,901	76,542	115,320	362,150
<b>Total</b>	<b>282,007</b>	<b>472,649</b>	<b>396,805</b>	<b>529,552</b>	<b>1,681,013</b>
<b>Total all cattle</b>	<b>282,081</b>	<b>(a)472,649</b>	<b>(a)396,805</b>	<b>529,594</b>	<b>1,681,141</b>

(a) Incomplete; see individual components.

TABLE 3. LIVESTOCK NUMBERS

	At 31 March -					
	1973	1974	1975	1976	1977	1978
<b>CATTLE -</b>						
<b>MILK -</b>						
Bulls 1 year and over used or intended for service	11	19	7	12	4	9
Bull calves under 1 year intended for service	4	13	5	48	3	n.p.
Cattle used or intended for production of milk and cream -						39
Cows in milk and dry	251	225	70	119	115	20
Heifers 1 year and over	86	126	74	541	24	n.p.
Heifer calves under 1 year	67	80	279	60	29	36
House cows and heifers	94	77	71	85	93	
<b>Total</b>	<b>513</b>	<b>540</b>	<b>506</b>	<b>865</b>	<b>268</b>	<b>128</b>
<b>MEAT -</b>						
Bulls 1 year and over used or intended for service	33,901	34,057	37,466	39,023	41,960	40,715
Bull calves under 1 year intended for service	3,895	4,440	6,904	6,681	5,396	9,399
Cows and heifers 1 year and over	741,812	778,090	817,544	885,667	923,380	929,454
Heifer calves under 1 year	218,422	259,616	288,766	188,831	172,128	176,401
Other calves under 1 year	238,694	244,160	283,252	161,343	170,205	162,894
Other cattle 1 year and over	238,694	244,160	283,252	320,405	350,383	362,150
<b>Total</b>	<b>1,236,724</b>	<b>1,320,363</b>	<b>1,433,932</b>	<b>1,601,950</b>	<b>1,663,452</b>	<b>1,681,013</b>
<b>Total all cattle</b>	<b>1,237,237</b>	<b>1,320,903</b>	<b>1,434,438</b>	<b>1,602,815</b>	<b>1,663,720</b>	<b>1,681,141</b>
Domesticated Buffaloes	5,199	4,418	3,171	3,309	3,745	4,214
<b>Poultry -</b>						
Hens and pullets for egg production	77,605	65,969	13,720	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
Other fowls and chickens	4,693	488	1,325	n.p.	n.p.	n.p.
<b>Total</b>	<b>82,298</b>	<b>66,457</b>	<b>15,045</b>	<b>139,516</b>	<b>174,857</b>	<b>183,240</b>

TABLE 4. ARTIFICIAL FERTILISERS USED

	1972-73	1973-74	1974-75	1975-76	1976-77	1977-78
AREA FERTILISED (Hectares)						
Pastures (a)	35,476	13,555	14,042	7,797	7,959	18,528
Crops -						
Cereals	11,196	4,005	8,615	1,106	962	237
Other	524	353	284	265	128	146
<b>Total</b>	<b>47,196</b>	<b>17,913</b>	<b>22,941</b>	<b>9,158</b>	<b>9,049</b>	<b>18,911</b>
SUPERPHOSPHATE USED (SINGLE STRENGTH) (b) (Tonnes)						
Pastures (a)	4,052	1,347	1,654	943	904	1,389
Crops -						
Cereals	4,941	4,362	3,105	156	176	35
Other	140	134	45	64	42	36
<b>Total</b>	<b>9,133</b>	<b>5,843</b>	<b>4,804</b>	<b>1,163</b>	<b>1,122</b>	<b>1,460</b>
NITROGENOUS TYPES USED (Tonnes)						
Pastures (a)	36	55	26	42	34	60
Crops -						
Cereals	2,024	737	988	182	134	6
Other	66	48	19	11	17	26
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,126</b>	<b>840</b>	<b>1,033</b>	<b>235</b>	<b>185</b>	<b>92</b>
OTHER TYPES USED (Tonnes)						
Pastures (a)	9	11	3	13	19	27
Crops -						
Cereals	54	5	5	15	24	(c)
Other	153	90	51	65	59	103
<b>Total</b>	<b>216</b>	<b>106</b>	<b>59</b>	<b>93</b>	<b>102</b>	<b>130</b>

(a) Includes lucerne. (b) Includes quantities of "double" and "treble" strength superphosphate converted to single strength equivalent prior to 1976-77. (c) Not available for publication; included in "other".

## NORTHERN TERRITORY - PASTORAL DISTRICTS

