



CEREAL GRAINS : ESTIMATES OF AREA SOWN, AUSTRALIA, 1984-85 PRELIMINARY

- PHONE INQUIRIES** *for more information about these statistics—contact Mr Terry Bain on Canberra (062) 52 6436 or any of our State offices.*
other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.
- MAIL INQUIRIES** *write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.*

MAIN FEATURES

Good July rainfall in Eastern Australia has resulted in greater than expected cereal sowings for the 1984-85 season. Estimates of area sown for all purposes for the three principal cereals are:

Wheat, 12.4 m. hectares (4.4% decrease on 1983-84)

Oats, 1.8 m. hectares (31.6% decrease on 1983-84)

Barley, 3.8 m. hectares (16.6% increase on 1983-84)

Late sowings and the impact of mice and locust infestations could be expected to reduce the resulting crop yield.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

This publication contains estimates for the year ended 31 March 1985 of the area sown to wheat, oats and barley in the major cereal growing States and Australia.

Scope and coverage

2. The estimates of areas sown in New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia are derived from a sample survey of approximately 9,000 establishments conducted in August 1984 by the ABS in the cereal growing areas of those States and may therefore differ from results which would have been obtained from a comparable complete collection. Estimates for Queensland have been supplied by the Queensland Department of Primary Industries. For comparison purposes, data on area sown for the two previous years have also been included.

3. Data for past years have been derived from the annual Agricultural Census conducted throughout Australia at 31 March, which collects data from establishments with agricultural activity. The ABS excludes from the Census those establishments which make only a small contribution to overall agricultural production. Thus, establishments with agricultural activity have been included in the 1983-84 Census if they had, or were expected to have, an estimated value of agricultural operations of \$2,500 or more. In previous years the value cut off was applied at the enterprise level—for 1981-82 the value was \$2,500 and for earlier years, \$1,500.

4. More detailed information on wheat, oats and barley will be provided in *Cereal Grains : Estimates of Area Sown, Australia 1984-85* (7312.0) which will be published in October 1984. This publication will also contain the standard errors associated with these estimates.

Related publications

5. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications which are available on request:

Selected Agricultural Commodities, Australia, 1983-84, Preliminary (7112.0)

Crops and Pastures, Australia, 1982-83 (7321.0)

6. In addition to releasing agricultural statistics in printed publications, the ABS also has an Agricultural Information Dissemination Service (AIDS) which provides agricultural statistics on magnetic tape and microfiche. AIDS offers a wider range of data, aggregated at smaller geographic areas than those generally available in printed publications. AIDS is available for each year from 1976-77 to 1981-82. In certain cases these additional services are subject to a charge.

7. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

p preliminary—figure or series subject to revision
n.a. not available
n.y.a. not yet available

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

9. The figures shown in this publication have been revised where necessary and as a consequence may not agree with similar data shown in previous publications.

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

CEREAL GRAINS—AREA AND PRODUCTION, YEAR ENDED 31 MARCH

	Area sown for all purposes (¹ 000 hectares)			Area sown for grain (¹ 000 hectares)				Area likely to be harvested for grain (¹ 000 hectares)	Grain produced (¹ 000 tonnes)		
	1983	1984p	1985(a)	1983	1984p	1985(a)(b)	1985(a)(c)		1983	1984p	1985
WHEAT											
N.S.W.	3,234	4,036	3,759	3,162	4,000	3,714	3,676	1,499	8,966	}	n.y.a.
Vic.	1,381	1,620	1,542	1,327	1,609	1,531	1,519	394	3,989		
Qld	804	1,065	1,040	767	1,053	1,026	n.a.	754	1,950		
S.A.	1,431	1,540	1,377	1,398	1,527	1,356	1,353	692	2,839		
W.A.	4,903	4,754	4,728	4,865	4,718	4,701	4,680	5,534	4,156		
Aust(d)	11,756	13,017	12,448	11,520	12,908	12,331	n.a.	8,876	21,903		
OATS											
N.S.W.	818	1,149	548	394	792	347	341	135	1,093	}	n.y.a.
Vic.	345	420	312	213	520	259	252	98	503		
Qld	194	235	203	12	18	13	n.a.	9	19		
S.A.	205	223	222	124	151	118	114	65	175		
W.A.	617	577	491	461	447	397	388	534	454		
Aust(d)	2,207	2,636	1,803	1,212	1,742	1,146	n.a.	848	2,269		
BARLEY											
N.S.W.	436	608	664	387	584	647	643	189	986	}	n.y.a.
Vic.	292	404	533	278	399	527	518	75	729		
Qld	189	302	430	167	287	400	n.a.	268	539		
S.A.	1,040	1,127	1,133	1,005	1,112	1,102	1,097	668	1,858		
W.A.	618	786	1,007	603	767	991	985	717	791		
Aust(d)	2,588	3,243	3,780	2,452	3,164	3,680	n.a.	1,939	4,937		

(a) Estimated; see Explanatory notes. (b) Estimates of the area sown for grain for the 1984-85 Season represent growers' expectations, at the time of the survey, of the area intended to be used for grain production purposes. Data for the two earlier seasons are the actual areas sown for grain as reported at the annual Agricultural Census. (c) These forecasts represent growers' expectations of the area likely to be harvested for grain and will not necessarily equal the area sown for grain because of circumstances such as adverse climatic or economic conditions. (d) Includes Tasmania and the Australian Capital Territory.