

Reference No. 10.56

SHEEP NUMBERS, SHEARING AND WOOL PRODUCTION FORECAST, 1975-76 SEASON

This bulletin contains the latest estimates (as at 16 December 1975) of sheep numbers, shearing and wool production for the 1975-76 season, made by the Australian and State Wool Production Committees. For comparative purposes, statistics for earlier seasons, derived from the Annual Agricultural Census conducted by this Bureau, have also been included.

NOTE. Any discrepancies between totals and sums of components in tables are due to rounding.

**TABLE 1. - SHEEP AND LAMBS SHORN, WOOL PRODUCTION (a)
AND AVERAGE FLEECE WEIGHTS, AUSTRALIA**

<i>Year ended 30 June</i>	<i>Sheep and lambs shorn</i>	<i>Average weight of fleece (b)</i>	<i>Shorn wool (including crutchings)</i>	<i>Dead and felled wool</i>	<i>Wool exported on skins</i>	<i>Total wool production</i>
	'000	kg	mil. kg	mil. kg	mil. kg	mil. kg
1972	183,667	4.23	777.0	8.4	95.0	880.4
1973	156,236	4.14	647.8	7.8	84.8	740.4
1974	150,369	4.28	642.9	4.0	53.2	700.1
1975(c)	161,539	4.49	724.6	2.1	65.7	792.4
1976(d)	167,371	4.30	719.6		70.9	790.5
Percentage change, 1975-76 on 1974-75	3.6	-4.2	-0.7		4.6	-0.2

(a) Greasy basis. (b) Sheep and lambs combined. (c) Preliminary estimates issued by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. (d) Preliminary estimates issued by the Australian Wool Production Committee.

**TABLE 2. - TOTAL WOOL PRODUCTION
(mil. kg)**

<i>Year ended 30 June</i>	<i>N.S.W.</i>	<i>Vic.</i>	<i>Qld</i>	<i>S.A. (a)</i>	<i>W.A.</i>	<i>Tas.</i>	<i>N.T.</i>	<i>A.C.T.</i>	<i>Aust.</i>
1972	281.8	197.5	83.2	117.9	178.2	21.1	..	0.8	880.4
1973	226.2	172.3	70.2	106.0	146.9	18.2	..	0.6	740.4
1974	213.2	155.4	63.8	100.2	149.4	17.5	..	0.6	700.1
1975(b)	254.3	165.5	66.2	107.5	179.5	18.9	..	0.5	792.4
1976(c)	246.9	152.0	69.7	104.2	196.3	20.8	..	0.5	790.5

(a) Year ended 31 March. (b) Preliminary estimates issued by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. (c) Preliminary estimates issued by the Australian Wool Production Committee.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning Mr K. Odgers on 52 7911 extension 5342 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Australian bureau of Statistics.

TABLE 3. - SHEEP NUMBERS, SHEARING AND WOOL PRODUCTION.

Year ended 30 June	Number at 31 March			Number shorn			Production of shorn wool from			Average fleece weight		
	Sheep	Lambs	Total	Sheep	Lambs	Total	Sheep	Lambs	Total	Sheep	Lambs	Sheep and lambs
	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000	'000 kg	'000 kg	'000 kg	kg	kg	kg
NEW SOUTH WALES												
1972	48,133	13,867	62,000	56,243	9,866	66,109	244,954	15,250	260,204	4.36	1.55	3.94
1973	41,527	10,510	52,037	45,043	7,294	52,337	195,378	10,563	205,941	4.34	1.45	3.93
1974	40,557	12,740	53,296	41,484	7,529	49,013	190,658	12,023	202,681	4.60	1.60	4.14
1975(a)	41,617	13,368	54,985	44,623	8,977	53,600	217,236	15,045	232,281	4.87	1.68	4.33
1976(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	47,300	9,000	56,300	212,800	14,100	226,900	4.50	1.57	4.03
VICTORIA												
1972	22,955	6,541	29,496	31,316	7,502	38,819	141,434	10,247	151,681	4.52	1.37	3.91
1973	19,120	4,985	24,105	27,267	6,346	33,613	121,220	7,855	129,075	4.45	1.24	3.84
1974	20,396	5,392	25,787	24,565	5,983	30,548	120,961	8,257	129,218	4.92	1.38	4.23
1975(a)	20,790	5,621	26,411	26,385	6,591	32,976	128,613	9,887	138,501	4.87	1.50	4.20
1976(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	26,400	5,600	32,000	116,840	6,160	123,000	4.42	1.10	3.84
QUEENSLAND												
1972	11,466	3,138	14,604	13,079	1,895	14,974	65,286	4,097	69,383	4.99	2.16	4.63
1973	11,195	2,151	13,346	11,600	1,700	13,300	57,831	3,593	61,424	4.99	2.11	4.62
1974	10,412	2,707	13,119	11,288	1,641	12,929	55,167	3,263	58,430	4.89	1.99	4.52
1975(a)	11,323	2,585	13,908	11,815	1,800	13,615	58,000	3,800	61,800	4.91	2.11	4.54
1976(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	12,570	1,900	14,470	60,960	4,180	65,140	4.85	2.20	4.50
SOUTH AUSTRALIA (c)												
1972	13,949	4,021	17,970	16,613	4,210	20,823	99,695	7,792	107,487	6.00	1.85	5.16
1973	12,045	3,607	15,651	15,009	3,972	18,981	89,772	6,844	96,616	5.98	1.72	5.09
1974	12,599	3,832	16,431	13,965	3,919	17,885	86,563	7,320	93,883	6.20	1.87	5.25
1975(a)	13,402	4,216	17,618	14,651	4,415	19,066	93,559	8,703	102,262	6.39	1.97	5.36
1976(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	15,800	4,000	19,800	91,600	6,600	98,200	5.80	1.65	4.96
WESTERN AUSTRALIA												
1972	26,764	7,641	34,405	30,838	7,277	38,115	157,399	11,451	168,850	5.10	1.57	4.43
1973	25,009	5,910	30,919	28,200	5,400	33,600	130,781	7,425	138,206	4.64	1.38	4.11
1974	25,225	7,227	32,451	28,945	6,818	35,763	132,850	9,250	142,100	4.59	1.36	3.97
1975(a)	26,305	8,171	34,476	30,348	7,644	37,992	161,057	11,036	172,093	5.31	1.44	4.53
1976(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	32,407	7,843	40,250	175,700	11,300	187,000	5.42	1.45	4.63
TASMANIA												
1972	3,108	1,128	4,237	3,711	895	4,606	17,441	1,132	18,573	4.70	1.26	4.03
1973	2,865	960	3,824	3,413	838	4,251	15,038	935	15,973	4.41	1.12	3.76
1974	2,966	998	3,964	3,280	821	4,101	15,010	1,011	16,021	4.58	1.23	3.91
1975(a)	3,102	1,034	4,136	3,417	736	4,153	16,182	965	17,147	4.74	1.31	4.13
1976(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	3,586	835	4,421	17,700	1,100	18,800	4.94	1.32	4.25
AUSTRALIA (d)												
1972	126,537	36,374	162,910	151,995	31,672	183,667	727,016	50,002	777,018	4.78	1.58	4.23
1973	111,879	28,149	140,029	130,666	25,570	156,236	610,965	37,235	647,800	4.67	1.45	4.14
1974	112,255	32,921	145,175	123,640	26,728	150,369	601,736	41,143	642,880	4.87	1.54	4.28
1975(a)	116,633	35,020	151,653	131,348	30,191	161,539	675,159	49,484	724,643	5.14	1.63	4.49
1976(b)	n.a.	n.a.	n.a.	138,172	29,199	167,371	676,102	43,475	719,577	4.89	1.49	4.30

(a) Preliminary estimates issued by the Australian Bureau of Statistics, (b) Preliminary estimates issued by the Australian Wool Production Committee, (c) Year ended 31 March, (d) Includes Northern Territory and Australian Capital Territory.

n.a. not available.