



BEEKEEPING, AUSTRALIA, 1979-80

INQUIRIES

If you want to know more about these statistics ring Mr Vit Zarin on Canberra (062) 525341 or our State office, or write to Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616.

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MAIN FEATURES

A record 24,954 tonnes of honey was produced in 1979-80 compared to 18,258 tonnes in 1978-79 (36.7% increase). Previous high was 22,267 tonnes of honey in 1969-70.

Beeswax production is up by 33% and exports of honey have almost doubled from the previous year.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

Since 1974 statistics in this publication have related to the operations of beekeepers with forty or more hives. Statistics prior to 1974-75 related to beekeepers with five or more hives (six or more in the case of New South Wales).

Related publications

Australian Exports, Country by Commodity, 1978-79 (5411.0)

Overseas Trade, Australia, Part 1 - Exports and Imports 1977-78 (5409.0)

Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, 1978-79 (7503.0)

2. In addition to these publications further Agricultural Census details for small areas are available in published form and on magnetic tape and microfiche.

3. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (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

p preliminary - figures or series subject to revision.

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

R. J. CAMERON
Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. BEEKEEPING

| | Number of beehives | Beehives | | | Honey produced | | | Beeswax produced Quantity Tonnes |
|-------------------------|--------------------|----------------|--------------|------------|---|-------------|------------|--|
| | | Productive (a) | Unproductive | Total | Average production per productive beehive | | | |
| | | | | | Quantity Tonnes | kg | | |
| 1977-78 | 2,151 | 363 | 116 | 479 | 18,583 | 51.2 | 329 | |
| 1978-79 | 2,201 | 369 | 132 | 501 | 18,258 | 49.5 | 349 | |
| 1979-80 | | | | | | | | |
| New South Wales | 759 | 160 | 44 | 203 | 9,935 | 62.2 | 188 | |
| Victoria | 362 | 65 | 11 | 76 | 4,065 | 62.8 | 69 | |
| Queensland | 342 | 51 | 28 | 78 | 2,605 | 51.1 | 49 | |
| South Australia | 438 | 81 | 16 | 97 | 5,098 | 62.6 | 98 | |
| Western Australia | 173 | 34 | 8 | 42 | 2,624 | 76.7 | 51 | |
| Tasmania | 57 | 10 | 2 | 13 | 573 | 55.8 | 9 | |
| Aust. Capital Territory | 10 | 1 | - | 1 | 55 | 55.5 | 1 | |
| Australia | 2,141 | 402 | 109 | 511 | 24,954 | 62.0 | 464 | |

(a) Hives from which honey was taken.

TABLE 2. HONEY PRODUCTION
(Tonnes)

| | Year ended 30 June | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------|---------------|---------------|
| | 1978 | 1979 | 1980 |
| New South Wales | 7,073 | 7,444 | 9,935 |
| Victoria | 3,106 | 2,715 | 4,065 |
| Queensland | 1,834 | 2,477 | 2,605 |
| South Australia | 4,316 | 3,048 | 5,098 |
| Western Australia | 1,468 | 1,841 | 2,624 |
| Tasmania | 759 | 684 | 573 |
| Aust. Capital Territory | 27 | 50 | 55 |
| Australia | 18,583 | 18,258 | 24,954 |

TABLE 3. NUMBER OF BEEKEEPERS CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO TOTAL NUMBER OF BEEHIVES,
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1980

| <i>Number of hives kept</i> | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Australia</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|-------------|------------|-------------|-------------|-------------|------------------|
| 40- 49 | 71 | 37 | 51 | 53 | 10 | 9 | 231 |
| 50- 59 | 60 | 36 | 38 | 24 | 23 | 6 | 187 |
| 60- 69 | 42 | 25 | 22 | 34 | 6 | 3 | 132 |
| 70- 79 | 24 | 17 | 25 | 22 | 6 | 6 | 100 |
| 80- 89 | 46 | 15 | 22 | 17 | 9 | } | 182 |
| 90- 99 | 23 | 6 | 16 | 17 | 6 | | |
| 100-124 | 75 | 40 | 42 | 38 | 22 | 6 | 223 |
| 125-149 | 24 | 20 | 8 | 19 | 6 | } | 192 |
| 150-174 | 37 | 21 | 9 | 38 | 5 | | |
| 175-199 | 20 | 3 | 6 | 14 | 4 | } | 224 |
| 200-249 | 72 | 39 | 12 | 37 | 12 | | |
| 250-299 | 33 | 15 | 17 | 20 | 6 | } | 199 |
| 300-349 | 36 | 19 | 16 | 17 | 15 | | |
| 350-399 | 23 | 14 | 7 | 13 | 7 | - | 64 |
| 400-499 | 48 | 20 | 8 | 20 | 15 | } | 291 |
| 500-599 | 27 | 13 | 13 | 18 | 6 | | |
| 600-799 | 45 | 12 | 13 | 22 | 8 | } | 106 |
| 800 and over | 53 | 10 | 17 | 15 | 7 | | |
| Total | 759 | 362 | 342 | 438 | 173 | 57 | (a)2,141 |

(a) Includes 10 beekeepers in the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 4. NUMBER OF PRODUCTIVE HIVES (a) CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO TOTAL NUMBER OF BEEHIVES,
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1980

| <i>Number of hives kept</i> | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Australia</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 40- 49 | 1,896 | 968 | 1,408 | 1,452 | 344 | 264 | 6,332 |
| 50- 59 | 2,021 | 1,039 | 1,014 | 871 | 701 | 257 | 5,903 |
| 60- 69 | 1,648 | 1,163 | 843 | 1,433 | 269 | 172 | 5,528 |
| 70- 79 | 1,190 | 876 | 1,086 | 1,355 | 175 | 360 | 5,042 |
| 80- 89 | 2,473 | 946 | 849 | 1,167 | 510 | } | 10,805 |
| 90- 99 | 1,509 | 435 | 964 | 1,186 | 428 | | |
| 100-124 | 5,778 | 3,274 | 3,135 | 2,716 | 1,679 | 411 | 16,993 |
| 125-149 | 2,358 | 2,206 | 737 | 2,072 | 642 | } | 21,894 |
| 150-174 | 3,907 | 2,845 | 1,002 | 4,835 | 620 | | |
| 175-199 | 2,336 | 465 | 832 | 1,757 | 680 | } | 35,365 |
| 200-249 | 11,652 | 6,725 | 2,017 | 6,212 | 1,831 | | |
| 250-299 | 7,470 | 3,666 | 3,234 | 4,908 | 1,475 | } | 50,293 |
| 300-349 | 9,720 | 5,349 | 4,064 | 4,930 | 4,180 | | |
| 350-399 | 7,158 | 4,515 | 1,565 | 4,435 | 2,262 | - | 19,935 |
| 400-499 | 17,462 | 7,197 | 2,350 | 7,545 | 6,010 | } | 129,914 |
| 500-599 | 12,196 | 5,932 | 5,410 | 7,937 | 2,980 | | |
| 600-799 | 24,378 | 7,020 | 5,749 | 12,895 | 3,513 | } | 93,274 |
| 800 and over | 44,485 | 10,120 | 14,696 | 13,753 | 5,930 | | |
| Total | 159,637 | 64,741 | 50,955 | 81,459 | 34,229 | 10,257 | (b)402,271 |

(a) Hives from which honey was taken. (b) Includes 993 productive hives in the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 5. TOTAL NUMBER OF BEEHIVES, BY STATE,
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1980

| <i>Number of hives kept</i> | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Australia</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|-------------------|
| 40- 49 | 3,059 | 1,550 | 2,205 | 2,278 | 433 | 379 | 9,904 |
| 50- 59 | 3,087 | 1,835 | 1,979 | 1,239 | 1,194 | 311 | 9,645 |
| 60- 69 | 2,583 | 1,536 | 1,366 | 2,094 | 374 | 193 | 8,146 |
| 70- 79 | 1,755 | 1,231 | 1,795 | 1,593 | 430 | 429 | 7,233 |
| 80- 89 | 3,760 | 1,225 | 1,807 | 1,398 | 732 | 450 | 15,670 |
| 90- 99 | 2,146 | 545 | 1,482 | 1,571 | 554 | | |
| 100-124 | 8,028 | 4,223 | 4,509 | 4,150 | 2,331 | 633 | 23,874 |
| 125-149 | 3,242 | 2,693 | 1,067 | 2,550 | 842 | 763 | 28,345 |
| 150-174 | 5,757 | 3,223 | 1,405 | 6,033 | 770 | | |
| 175-199 | 3,686 | 555 | 1,106 | 2,579 | 743 | 991 | 45,778 |
| 200-249 | 15,082 | 8,085 | 2,545 | 7,761 | 2,645 | | |
| 250-299 | 8,680 | 3,988 | 4,419 | 5,314 | 1,586 | 1,431 | 57,211 |
| 300-349 | 11,049 | 5,871 | 4,969 | 5,314 | 4,590 | | |
| 350-399 | 8,253 | 4,970 | 2,460 | 4,759 | 2,502 | - | 22,944 |
| 400-499 | 20,477 | 8,112 | 3,310 | 8,459 | 6,380 | 1,725 | 153,315 |
| 500-599 | 13,981 | 6,781 | 6,885 | 9,239 | 3,095 | | |
| 600-799 | 28,852 | 7,980 | 8,531 | 14,452 | 5,056 | 5,205 | 127,541 |
| 800 and over | 59,885 | 11,480 | 26,658 | 16,503 | 7,810 | | |
| Total | 203,362 | 75,883 | 78,498 | 97,286 | 42,067 | 12,510 | (a)510,812 |

(a) Includes 1,206 hives in the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 6. PRODUCTION OF HONEY CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO TOTAL NUMBER OF BEEHIVES,
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1980
(Tonnes)

| <i>Number of hives kept</i> | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Australia</i> |
|-----------------------------|---------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|--------------|-------------|------------------|
| 40- 49 | 60 | 27 | 36 | 49 | 10 | 7 | 189 |
| 50- 59 | 60 | 44 | 22 | 28 | 25 | 6 | 186 |
| 60- 69 | 45 | 37 | 21 | 50 | 8 | 3 | 165 |
| 70- 79 | 37 | 25 | 40 | 48 | 5 | 11 | 166 |
| 80- 89 | 83 | 33 | 26 | 45 | 26 | 13 | 394 |
| 90- 99 | 52 | 34 | 23 | 47 | 11 | | |
| 100-124 | 246 | 130 | 109 | 128 | 70 | 9 | 692 |
| 125-149 | 121 | 123 | 27 | 99 | 32 | 21 | 1,021 |
| 150-174 | 179 | 129 | 28 | 236 | 26 | | |
| 175-199 | 119 | 17 | 25 | 89 | 33 | 23 | 1,621 |
| 200-249 | 536 | 303 | 69 | 299 | 108 | | |
| 250-299 | 420 | 238 | 135 | 339 | 117 | 31 | 2,833 |
| 300-349 | 441 | 323 | 196 | 363 | 230 | | |
| 350-399 | 382 | 359 | 59 | 294 | 167 | - | 1,260 |
| 400-499 | 1,034 | 450 | 133 | 449 | 579 | 68 | 8,953 |
| 500-599 | 733 | 457 | 363 | 598 | 290 | | |
| 600-799 | 1,728 | 454 | 407 | 797 | 413 | 380 | 7,421 |
| 800 and over | 3,661 | 881 | 885 | 1,141 | 473 | | |
| Total | 9,935 | 4,065 | 2,605 | 5,098 | 2,624 | 573 | (a)24,954 |

(a) Includes 55 tonnes in the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 7. PRODUCTION OF BEESWAX CLASSIFIED ACCORDING TO TOTAL NUMBER OF BEEHIVES,
YEAR ENDED 30 JUNE 1980
(Kilograms)

| <i>Number of hives kept</i> | <i>N.S.W.</i> | <i>Vic.</i> | <i>Qld</i> | <i>S.A.</i> | <i>W.A.</i> | <i>Tas.</i> | <i>Australia</i> |
|-----------------------------|----------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|---------------|--------------|-------------------|
| 40- 49 | 933 | 617 | 753 | 732 | 119 | 116 | 3,270 |
| 50- 59 | 1,594 | 637 | 417 | 1,022 | 512 | 124 | 4,306 |
| 60- 69 | 711 | 615 | 625 | 784 | 80 | 53 | 2,868 |
| 70- 79 | 972 | 595 | 726 | 718 | 108 | 136 | 3,255 |
| 80- 89 | 1,457 | 734 | 658 | 605 | 415 | } 158 | 6,949 |
| 90- 99 | 1,103 | 233 | 562 | 894 | 130 | | |
| 100-124 | 5,003 | 2,468 | 2,052 | 2,646 | 1,565 | 84 | 13,818 |
| 125-149 | 2,730 | 1,899 | 391 | 1,947 | 585 | } 322 | 19,962 |
| 150-174 | 3,136 | 2,851 | 731 | 4,890 | 480 | | |
| 175-199 | 2,026 | 345 | 873 | 1,422 | 584 | } 390 | 28,647 |
| 200-249 | 9,563 | 5,565 | 1,044 | 5,519 | 1,316 | | |
| 250-299 | 7,867 | 3,022 | 2,533 | 6,844 | 1,192 | } 444 | 52,489 |
| 300-349 | 8,686 | 3,608 | 4,284 | 8,477 | 5,532 | | |
| 350-399 | 7,136 | 4,823 | 1,129 | 5,204 | 3,686 | - | 21,978 |
| 400-499 | 16,816 | 11,017 | 2,630 | 9,633 | 10,299 | } 960 | 163,232 |
| 500-599 | 17,035 | 9,092 | 4,941 | 10,052 | 4,556 | | |
| 600-799 | 28,543 | 8,675 | 6,442 | 15,306 | 7,235 | } 5,780 | 142,858 |
| 800 and over | 72,420 | 12,445 | 18,233 | 21,397 | 12,583 | | |
| Total | 187,731 | 69,241 | 49,024 | 98,092 | 50,977 | 8,567 | (a)464,231 |

* (a) Includes 599 kilograms in the Australian Capital Territory.

TABLE 8. GROSS VALUE OF HONEY AND BEESWAX PRODUCTION
(S'000)

| | <i>Year ended 30 June</i> | | | | | |
|-------------------------|---------------------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|---------------|----------------|
| | <i>1978</i> | | <i>1979</i> | | <i>1980p</i> | |
| | <i>Honey</i> | <i>Beeswax</i> | <i>Honey</i> | <i>Beeswax</i> | <i>Honey</i> | <i>Beeswax</i> |
| New South Wales | 5,217 | 485 | 5,307 | 562 | 7,680 | 750 |
| Victoria | 2,473 | 155 | 2,940 | 162 | 2,369 | 190 |
| Queensland | 1,305 | 111 | 1,737 | 154 | 2,247 | 65 |
| South Australia | 3,082 | 216 | 2,077 | 185 | 2,513 | 214 |
| Western Australia | 763 | 96 | 1,418 | 114 | 1,418 | 114 |
| Tasmania | 623 | 31 | 613 | 35 | 516 | 33 |
| Aust. Capital Territory | 17 | 2 | 19 | 1 | 19 | 1 |
| Australia | 13,480 | 1,096 | 14,111 | 1,213 | 16,762 | 1,367 |

TABLE 9. IMPORTS OF HONEY AND BEESWAX, AUSTRALIA

| Year ended 30 June | Honey | | Beeswax | |
|--------------------|--------|------------------|---------|------------------|
| | Tonnes | Value \$A'000 | Tonnes | Value \$A'000 |
| 1978 | 113 | 190 | 20 | 88 |
| 1979 | 85 | 150 | 61 | 141 |
| 1980 | 64 | 130 | 16 | 48 |

TABLE 10. EXPORTS OF HONEY, AUSTRALIA
(Australian produce only)

| Country of destination - | Year ended 30 June | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|---------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|---------------|---------------------------|
| | 1978 | | 1979 | | 1980 | |
| | Tonnes | Value f.o.b. \$'000 | Tonnes | Value f.o.b. \$'000 | Tonnes | Value f.o.b. \$'000 |
| Austria | - | - | - | - | 35 | 27 |
| Belgium-Luxembourg | 57 | 123 | 73 | 67 | 138 | 132 |
| Denmark | 52 | 35 | 35 | 26 | 87 | 68 |
| France | - | - | 44 | 44 | 58 | 71 |
| Germany, Dem. Rep. of | - | - | 35 | 32 | 70 | 50 |
| Germany, Fed. Rep. of | 125 | 95 | 417 | 361 | 1,971 | 1,711 |
| Hong Kong | 33 | 46 | 27 | 40 | 25 | 38 |
| Indonesia | 118 | 126 | 76 | 73 | 121 | 105 |
| Iran | 651 | 701 | 597 | 890 | 820 | 1,275 |
| Italy | - | - | 46 | 39 | 143 | 122 |
| Japan | 92 | 100 | 164 | 147 | 58 | 70 |
| Kenya | 41 | 51 | 45 | 65 | 26 | 42 |
| Korea, Rep. of | 1 | 1 | 14 | 31 | 84 | 109 |
| Kuwait | 35 | 52 | 17 | 37 | 25 | 54 |
| Malaysia | 336 | 462 | 319 | 536 | 286 | 512 |
| Mauritius | 19 | 26 | 38 | 55 | 27 | 44 |
| Oman | 144 | 119 | 98 | 111 | 146 | 179 |
| Portugal | 17 | 12 | 322 | 269 | 1,093 | 997 |
| Saudi Arabia | 127 | 209 | 225 | 434 | 133 | 254 |
| Singapore | 269 | 347 | 260 | 383 | 449 | 683 |
| Spain | - | - | - | - | 365 | 321 |
| Thailand | 48 | 35 | 87 | 76 | 121 | 150 |
| United Arab Emirates | 110 | 156 | 26 | 46 | 83 | 167 |
| United Kingdom | 1,742 | 1,236 | 2,238 | 1,782 | 4,631 | 3,817 |
| United States of America | 11 | 11 | 170 | 152 | 86 | 77 |
| Yemen, Dem. Rep. of | 36 | 49 | 133 | 203 | 181 | 280 |
| Other countries | 209 | 233 | 211 | 227 | 165 | 216 |
| Total | 4,274 | 4,228 | 5,720 | 6,124 | 11,427 | 11,572 |

TABLE 11. EXPORTS OF BEESWAX, AUSTRALIA
(Australian produce only)

| Country of destination - | Year ended 30 June | | | | | |
|--------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------|------------|----------------------------|------------|----------------------------|
| | 1978 | | 1979 | | 1980 | |
| | Tonnes | Value f.o.b. \$A'000 | Tonnes | Value f.o.b. \$A'000 | Tonnes | Value f.o.b. \$A'000 |
| France | 17 | 66 | 10 | 40 | 23 | 97 |
| Germany, Fed. Rep. of | 10 | 39 | 32 | 89 | 71 | 300 |
| Japan | - | - | 12 | 49 | 13 | 51 |
| United Kingdom | 89 | 336 | 122 | 483 | 72 | 296 |
| United States of America | 4 | 7 | - | - | - | - |
| Other countries | 25 | 94 | 18 | 82 | 39 | 173 |
| Total | 145 | 542 | 194 | 743 | 218 | 917 |