



COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, AUSTRALIA

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STATISTICAL BULLETIN : AERIAL AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS, AUSTRALIA

QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 1969

This bulletin contains statistics which have been compiled from returns in respect of the quarter ended December 1969 collected by this Bureau from operators of aircraft engaged in aerial topdressing, seeding, spraying and allied activities such as rabbit and dingo baiting. Prior to 1 January 1967 these statistics were collected, on a broadly similar basis, by the Department of Civil Aviation who developed the series in 1956. Details corresponding to those shown in this bulletin have been available from this collection since its inception.

In Table 1 duplication between topdressing and seeding and spraying has been excluded in arriving at total area treated. Statistics relating to the Australian Capital Territory and the Northern Territory have been included in New South Wales and Queensland respectively.

The number of active operators during the quarter was 72.

SYMBOLS USED IN THIS BULLETIN

- p - Preliminary. Subject to revision.
- .. - Nil, or less than half the final digit shown, or not applicable.

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

TABLE 1. - AERIAL AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS - AREA TREATED

('000 acres)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	N.A.	Tas.	Australia
AREA TOPDRESSED AND SEEDED							
Year ended 31 March 1965	10,047	1,429	564	1,181	711	215	14,147
" " " " 1966	7,585	1,630	335	908	664	193	11,314
" " " " 1967	6,859	1,945	(a)	903	(a)	(a)	11,646
" " " " 1968	6,418	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	(a)	10,495
" " " " 1969	4,969	(a)	994	(a)	1,346	(a)	9,474
Quarter ended December 1968	394	124	659	(a)	241	(a)	1,635
" " March 1969	1,554	(a)	190	196	(a)	(a)	3,150
" " June "	2,091	916	(a)	220	564	(a)	3,899
" " September "	1,620	48	31	(a)	74	(a)	1,829
" " December " (p)	780	(a)	111	157	190	(a)	1,519

AREA SPRAYED							
Year ended 31 March 1965	681	386	239	182	928	1	2,416
" " " " 1966	976	702	410	270	1,087	24	3,469
" " " " 1967	(a)	(a)	305	372	(a)	19	3,192
" " " " 1968	990	266	(a)	237	(a)	(a)	(a)
" " " " 1969	(a)	(a)	(a)	448	(a)	(a)	4,580
Quarter ended December 1968	(a)	98	167	74	87	(a)	597
" " March 1969	260	37	221	7	(a)	(a)	577
" " June "	258	(a)	83	45	111	(a)	552
" " September "	(a)	160	102	169	598	(a)	1,491
" " December " (p)	(a)	203	215	61	75	(a)	904

AREA OF OTHER TYPES OF TREATMENT (RABBIT BAITING, ETC.)

Year ended 31 March 1965	62	81	..	..	..	..	144
" " " " 1966	59	140	28	..	..	..	227
" " " " 1967	(a)	(a)	..	..	200	..	399
" " " " 1968	308	(a)	..	(a)	..	..	(a)
" " " " 1969	(a)	45	201	(a)	..	..	361
Quarter ended December 1968	(a)	..	..	(a)	..	..	9
" " March 1969	42	(a)	(a)	..	..	..	51
" " June "	70	(a)	(a)	..	..	..	152
" " September "	(a)	3	(a)	(a)	..	..	670
" " December " (p)	(a)	(a)	(a)	8	..	..	25

TOTAL AREA TREATED

Year ended 31 March 1965	10,772	1,896	761	1,363	1,633	215	16,640
" " " " 1966	8,620	2,472	773	1,178	1,751	217	15,010
" " " " 1967	7,793	2,424	(a)	1,276	2,301	(a)	15,237
" " " " 1968	7,716	1,803	1,030	(a)	(a)	(a)	14,348
" " " " 1969	6,280	1,956	(a)	934	(a)	(a)	14,416
Quarter ended December 1968	574	221	826	(a)	328	(a)	2,241
" " March 1969	1,876	734	(a)	202	432	(a)	3,779
" " June "	2,419	1,016	(a)	265	675	(a)	4,604
" " September "	2,545	211	(a)	193	673	(a)	3,990
" " December " (p)	1,131	391	(a)	226	265	(a)	2,447

(a) Not available for publication.

TABLE 2. - AERIAL AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS - QUANTITY OF MATERIALS APPLIED

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia
SUPERPHOSPHATE (tons)							
Year ended 31 March 1965	446,362	92,213	7,502	54,454	38,506	17,057	656,094
" " " " 1966	374,487	110,550	5,334	46,392	37,654	13,620	588,045
" " " " 1967	318,527	(a)	(a)	46,850	(a)	22,009	596,628
" " " " 1968	308,786	(a)	15,741	(a)	46,826	(a)	524,374
" " " " 1969	233,869	87,225	15,123	(a)	52,403	(a)	436,589
Quarter ended December 1968	19,704	8,722	5,444	6,723	(a)	(a)	57,439
" " March 1969	73,668	42,686	(a)	11,026	20,418	(a)	161,970
" " June "	99,008	54,276	(a)	11,700	31,194	(a)	203,542
" " September "	77,548	3,202	(a)	1,233	2,841	(a)	89,806
" " December " (p)	39,639	15,280	(a)	16,123	17,717	(a)	100,182

SEED
('000 lb)

Year ended 31 March 1965	1,711	162	629	748	177	40	3,467
" " " " 1966	741	56	405	269	112	..	1,531
" " " " 1967	1,086	139	354	(a)	(a)	(a)	2,407
" " " " 1968	(a)	310	626	217	201	(a)	3,249
" " " " 1969	(a)	157	(a)	(a)	108	33	4,125
Quarter ended December 1968	(a)	..	993	..	(a)	..	2,636
" " March 1969	242	(a)	254	(a)	32	(a)	605
" " June "	480	(a)	24	81	(a)	(a)	760
" " September "	172	13	(a)	..	(a)	..	207
" " December " (p)	(a)	17	145	(a)	(a)	..	1,520

(a) Not available for publication.

TABLE 3. - AERIAL AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS - AREA SPRAYED, AUSTRALIA

('000 acres)

Period	Pasture	Crops	Other vegetation	Total
Year ended 31 March 1965	177	2,217	22	2,416
" " " " 1966	489	2,925	56	3,469
" " " " 1967	397	2,760	36	3,192
" " " " 1968	658	2,693	(a)	(a)
" " " " 1969	502	3,963	115	4,580
Quarter ended December 1968	(a)	528	(a)	597
" " March 1969	(a)	487	(a)	577
" " June "	(a)	415	(a)	552
" " September "	(a)	1,367	(a)	1,491
" " December " (p)	(a)	814	(a)	904

(a) Not available for publication.

TABLE 4. - AERIAL AGRICULTURE OPERATIONS - TOTAL FLYING TIME
(hours)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia
Year ended 31 March 1965	67,030	14,649	5,634	7,767	10,867	2,798	108,753
" " " " 1966	61,610	19,832	7,143	7,056	10,489	2,720	108,860
" " " " 1967	56,442	19,109	(a)	7,322	14,031	(a)	108,668
" " " " 1968	53,241	15,124	(a)	5,609	15,072	(a)	102,112
" " " " 1969	43,420	15,536	(a)	5,087	18,696	(a)	99,639
Quarter ended December 1968	4,535	1,749	(a)	1,089	2,261	(a)	15,528
" " March 1969	12,864	6,381	4,122	(a)	3,325	(a)	29,456
" " June "	13,644	7,967	(a)	1,525	4,981	(a)	30,540
" " September "	13,359	1,658	1,411	(a)	2,998	(a)	20,382
" " December " (p)	7,899	4,183	(a)	2,018	2,071	(a)	20,498

(a) Not available for publication.

TABLE 5. - TOPDRESSING - QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 1969(p)

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia
Area treated '000 acres	754	183	56	(a)	(a)	(a)	1,434
Fertiliser used -							
Superphosphate tons	(a)	(a)	(a)	16,123	17,717	(a)	99,247
Other "	299	(a)	(a)	..	(a)	..	649
Flying time hours	4,630	2,162	(a)	1,399	1,425	(a)	11,269

(a) Not available for publication.

TABLE 6. - SEEDING (including topdressing and seeding in combination)

QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 1969(p)

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia
Area treated '000 acres	26	(a)	54	(a)	(a)	..	85
Materials used -							
Seed '000 lb	(a)	17	145	(a)	(a)	..	1,520
Superphosphate tons	(a)	(a)	..	..	..	..	935
Flying time hours	373	(a)	480	(a)	(a)	..	929

(a) Not available for publication.

TABLE 7. - SPRAYING AND OTHER TYPES OF TREATMENT - QUARTER ENDED DECEMBER 1969(p)

	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Australia
Area sprayed '000 acres	(a)	203	215	61	75	(a)	904
Area otherwise treated " "	(a)	(a)	(a)	8	..	..	25
Flying time hours	2,896	(a)	2,148	(a)	(a)	(a)	8,300

(a) Not available for publication.

J.P. O'NEILL
ACTING COMMONWEALTH STATISTICIAN

COMMONWEALTH BUREAU OF CENSUS AND STATISTICS

CANBERRA, A.C.T. 2600

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra by telephoning 490211 extension 382 or, in each State capital, by telephoning the office of the Bureau of Census and Statistics.