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RURAL STATISTICS OF THE NORTHERN TERRITORY  
1973-1974 SEASON

This Bulletin contains principal statistics of agricultural and pastoral production for the year ended 31 March 1974, compiled from census returns of the rural holdings in the Northern Territory.

A *rural holding* is defined for the purpose of these statistics as a holding of one hectare or more in extent used for the production of agricultural products (including fruit and vegetables), or for the raising of livestock (including poultry) and the production of livestock products. Holdings on which commercial market gardens, nurseries, poultry farms or hatcheries are operated are also generally included.

A summary of the full range of statistics relating to the Northern Territory published by this Bureau is contained in the statistical series Northern Territory Statistical Summary.

Symbols used in this bulletin

p -- Preliminary. Subject to revision.

.. Nil or less than half the final digit shown.

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

NOTE: In this issue statistics of land area and mass are shown in the metric units hectare (2.47105 acres) and tonne (approximately 2,200 lb).

TABLE 1. - RURAL HOLDINGS: NUMBER, AREA AND LAND UTILISATION BY DISTRICTS

District	Number of holdings	Total area of holdings	Area used for crops (a)	Area under sown grasses and clovers	Balance of holdings (b)
		hectares	hectares	hectares	hectares
Darwin and Gulf	218	18 484 783	1 013	104 722	18 379 048
Victoria River	22	15 164 161	8 938	21 202	15 135 231
Barkly Tableland	24	13 754 426	..	320	13 754 106
Alice Springs	120	32 083 119	52	989	32 082 078
Total, 31 March 1974p	394	77 486 489	4 993	127 033	79 354 463
31 March 1973	415	75 010 302	12 109	146 440	77 852 353
31 March 1972	419	77 589 230	7 352	127 312	77 754 556

(a) Excludes duplication on account of area double cropped. Excludes lucerne, grasses and clovers harvested for hay and seed which have been included in "Area under sown grasses and clovers". (b) Used for grazing, lying idle, etc.

TABLE 2. - PERMANENT (FULL-TIME) WORKERS

District	Males	Females	Percentage
Darwin and Gulf	54	130	694
Victoria River	467	103	570
Barkly Tableland	335	76	411
Alice Springs	350	83	433
Total, 31 March 1974p	1 706	402	2 108
31 March 1973	1 839	376	2 215
31 March 1972	1 805	354	2 159

TABLE 3. — NUMBER OF PRINCIPAL LIVESTOCK, BY DISTRICTS

District	Cattle and calves	Sheep and lambs	Domesticated buffaloes	Pigs
Darwin and Gulf	234,848	16	4,409	7,360
Victoria River	381,706	..	..	244
Barkly Tableland	383,077	47	..	..
Alice Springs	321,272	1,024	9	372
Total, 31 March 1974p	1,320,903	1,037	4,418	7,826
31 March 1973	1,237,237	2,656	5,199	6,667
31 March 1972	1,163,824	6,596	7,843	4,862

TABLE 4. — NUMBER OF CATTLE IN PASTORAL DISTRICTS, BY PURPOSE, AGE AND SEX

Classification	Numbers at 31 March 1974				
	Darwin and Gulf	Victoria River	Barkly Tableland	Alice Springs	Total
Bulls (1 year and over) used or intended for service —					
Dairy breeds	9	..	7	(a)	(1)15
Beef breeds	5,805	8,883	11,888	7,484	34,060
Total	5,814	8,883	11,895	7,484	34,076
Cows and Heifers used or intended for production of milk and cream for sale —					
Cows (in milk and dry)	177	..	..	48	225
Heifers (1 year and over)	107	..	..	19	126
Heifer calves (under 1 year)	58	..	..	22	80
Total	342	..	..	89	431
House Cows (in milk and dry) and Heifers (1 year and over) being kept primarily for own milk supply	28	22	16	14	77
Cattle and Calves (not included above) mainly for meat production —					
Cows and Heifers (1 year and over)	138,916	225,530	236,357	177,287	778,090
Calves (under 1 year) including weaners and calves intended for service	41,682	76,764	71,389	74,234	264,069
Other (1 year and over) i.e. steers, bullocks, etc.	48,069	70,507	63,420	62,164	244,160
Total	228,667	372,801	371,166	313,685	1,286,319
Total cattle and calves for all purposes	234,848	381,706	383,077	321,272	1,320,903

(a) Included in Beef breed bulls. (b) Incomplete, see individual districts.

TABLE 5. — NUMBER OF POULTRY

Classification	Year ended 31 March —		
	1972	1973	1974
Hens and pullets	78,918	77,605	65,969
Other fowls and chickens	4,058	4,693	338
Total	82,976	82,298	66,307

TABLE 6. — FODDER CONSUMED BY LIVESTOCK (a)

Type of fodder	Year ended 31 March —			
	1972	1973	1974	
Cereals (b)	tonnes	2,039	5,494	4,658
Hay		6,605	3,426	13,164

(a) Includes all fodder fed to livestock, whether grown on holding or purchased. Excludes manufactured stock feeds. (b) Includes...

TABLE 7. — ARTIFICIAL FERTILISERS APPLIED TO CROPS AND PASTURES

	Area fertilised hectares	Fertiliser used		
		Superphosphate (single strength) (a)	Nitrogenous types	Other types
		tonnes	tonnes	tonnes
Pastures (b)	13,555	1,347	55	11
Crops				
Cereals	10,165	4,262	737	5
Other	351	134	43	86
Total, Season 1973-74 <sup>a</sup>	24,071	5,543	840	102
Season 1972-73	47,214	9,138	2,133	217
Season 1971-72	50,944	8,409	1,320	156

(a) Includes quantities of "double" and "treble" strength superphosphate converted to single strength equivalent. (b) Includes lucerne.

TABLE 8. — IRRIGATION

Irrigated by	Method of irrigation			water from	Source of water			
	hectares	Year ended 31 March			hectares	Year ended 31 March		
		1972	1973			1974 <sup>a</sup>	1972	1973
Sprays		224	250	530	Rivers, creeks, lakes, etc.	275	304	414
Channels or furrows		13	5	17	Farm dams	47	42	22
Flooding		89	61	82	Underground, (bore, springs, well, etc.)	105	98	215
Tricks and Other		7	36	29	Town water supply	6	8	7
Total		433	451	658	Total <sup>a</sup>	433	451	658

TABLE 9. — FARM MACHINERY ON HOLDINGS, 31 MARCH

Type of machinery	1972			1973			1974 <sup>a</sup>		
	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.	No.
Tractors —									
Wheeled	440			444			464		
Crawler	151			164			160		
Fertiliser distributors and broadcasters (a)	102			98			96		
Grain and seed harvesters (incl. headers and strippers) —									
Tractor drawn	32			26			28		
Self-propelled	16			24			22		
Grain drills —									
Combine type	83			89			92		
Other type	11			11			11		
Picking bladders	44			52			53		
Forage harvesters	26			30			38		
Rotary hoes and rotary tillers —									
Self-contained power unit	69			68			60		
Tractor mounted and trailing types	43			48			47		
Maire and cotton planters — number of units	22			21			13		
Milking plant — number of units	27			34			63		

(a) Rotary and direct drop. (b) Not collected.

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NOTE. Inquiries concerning these statistics may be made in Canberra, by telephoning Mr T.D. Bain on 49 0211 extension 378 or, in Darwin, by telephoning 80 2719.

### NORTHERN TERRITORY - PASTORAL DISTRICTS

