



# Australian Farming in Brief

2004



## LAND USE ON FARMS

		1993	1998	2003
Number of establishments engaged in agricultural activity(a)	'000	122.8	144.9	133.0
Total area of establishments	m ha	460.1	463.8	439.5
Area of crops	m ha	17.3	21.5	23.6
<b>Total area of Australia</b>	<b>m ha</b>	<b>768.2</b>	<b>768.2</b>	<b>769.2</b>

(a) For 1993, count of establishments with EVAO of \$22,500 or more; for 1998 and 2003, count of establishments with EVAO of \$5,000 or more.

## NUMBER OF ESTABLISHMENTS WITH AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY, BY INDUSTRY(a)

	1993	1998	2003
Plant nurseries	1 657	2 113	1 974
Cut flower and flower seed growing	751	1 043	833
Vegetable growing	4 638	4 772	4 391
Grape growing	3 552	5 310	6 377
Apple and pear growing	1 317	1 279	891
Stone fruit growing	1 153	1 307	1 309
Kiwi fruit growing	35	*59	*48
Fruit growing n.e.c.	4 703	5 408	5 390
Grain growing	11 205	15 289	11 960
Grain–sheep/beef cattle farming	18 669	19 230	17 104
Sheep–beef cattle farming	9 639	8 966	10 097
Sheep farming	16 576	15 267	13 250
Beef cattle farming	20 863	31 786	36 208
Dairy cattle farming	13 608	14 010	11 003
Poultry farming (meat)	690	843	735
Poultry farming (eggs)	607	520	^457
Pig farming	1 552	1 217	1 009
Horse farming	1 292	1 613	^434
Deer farming	378	^225	**
Livestock farming n.e.c.	798	669	^1 181
Sugar cane growing	4 916	5 151	4 762
Cotton growing	816	1 112	520
Crop and plant growing n.e.c.	1 241	1 467	1 655
<i>Total agricultural industries</i>	<i>120 656</i>	<i>138 657</i>	<i>131 609</i>
<i>All other industries</i>	<i>2 114</i>	<i>6 206</i>	<i>1 374</i>
<b>Total all industries</b>	<b>122 770</b>	<b>144 863</b>	<b>132 983</b>

(a) For 1993, count of establishments with EVAO of \$22,500 or more; for 1998 and 2003, count of establishments with EVAO of \$5,000 or more.

## ESTABLISHMENTS WITH AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY, BY ESTIMATED VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL OPERATIONS(a)

	1993	1998	2003
\$0–\$22,499	10 728	30 962	21 990
\$22,500–\$49,999	22 277	21 768	19 415
\$50,000–\$99,999	28 882	23 750	22 349
\$100,000–\$149,999	20 156	16 836	15 188
\$150,000–\$199,999	12 903	12 090	10 602
\$200,000–\$349,999	16 635	20 048	20 019
\$350,000–\$499,999	5 470	8 008	9 249
\$500,000–\$999,999	4 137	7 949	9 687
\$1,000,000–\$1,999,999	1 082	2 494	3 191
\$2,000,000 and more	500	958	1 293
<b>Total</b>	<b>122 770</b>	<b>144 863</b>	<b>132 983</b>

(a) For 1993, count of establishments with EVAO of \$22,500 or more; for 1998 and 2003, count of establishments with EVAO of \$5,000 or more.

## LIVESTOCK NUMBERS

	1993	1998	2003
	'000	'000	'000
Milk cattle	2 504	3 076	3 049
Meat cattle	21 555	23 776	23 615
Sheep and lambs	138 099	117 491	99 252
Pigs	2 646	2 768	2 658
Chickens for meat(a)(b)	51 157	75 504	70 912
Chickens for eggs(b)	12 565	14 036	12 913

(a) Prior to 2001, establishments in Tas. were excluded.

(b) Data for 1993 do not include breeding stock.

## LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS AND PRODUCTS, YEARS ENDED 30 JUNE

		1993	1998	2003
<b>Livestock slaughterings</b>				
Cattle	'000	7 443	8 052	8 083
Calves	'000	1 034	1 269	1 146
Sheep	'000	17 525	16 299	13 657
Lambs	'000	15 435	14 992	16 870
Pigs	'000	5 204	5 091	5 742
Chickens(a)	'000	304 128	364 234	419 181
<b>Meat production (carcass weight)</b>				
Beef	'000 t	1 787	1 911	2 035
Veal	'000 t	39	44	38
Mutton	'000 t	370	333	268
Lamb	'000 t	273	284	329
Pig meat	'000 t	340	358	420
Chicken meat (dressed weight)(a)	'000 t	435	544	690
<b>Wool receipts</b>	'000 t	844	641	503
<b>Whole milk factory intake</b>	m litres	7 328	9 439	10 326
<b>Eggs</b>	'000 dozen	(b)130 143	(b)190 135	190 706

(a) Excludes Tas., NT and ACT.

(b) Year ended 31 March.

## MAJOR CROPS

			1993	1998	2003
<b>Crops for grain</b>					
Barley	Production	'000 t	5 397	6 482	3 865
	Area	'000 ha	2 947	3 521	3 864
Grain sorghum	Production	'000 t	548	1 081	1 465
	Area	'000 ha	427	507	667
Lupins	Production	'000 t	1 195	1 561	726
	Area	'000 ha	1 032	1 425	1 025
Oats	Production	'000 t	1 937	1 634	957
	Area	'000 ha	1 149	937	911
Rice	Production	'000 t	858	1 324	438
	Area	'000 ha	106	147	46
Wheat	Production	'000 t	14 739	19 227	10 132
	Area	'000 ha	8 275	10 441	11 170
<b>Crops for hay</b>					
Cereals	Production	'000 t	1 176	1 567	1 581
	Area	'000 ha	309	401	505
Non-cereal crops	Production	'000 t	(a)	170	^ 166
	Area	'000 ha	(a)	59	^ 54
<b>Other crops</b>					
Canola	Production	'000 t	178	855	871
	Area	'000 ha	107	697	1 298
Cotton lint	Production	'000 t	360	564	^ 364
	Area	'000 ha	287	381	245
Sugar cane for crushing	Production	'000 t	27 958	39 531	36 995
	Area	'000 ha	328	415	448
<b>Fruit</b>					
Apples	Production	'000 t	328	309	326
	Trees(b)	'000	4 644	5 845	8 391
Bananas	Production	'000 t	214	223	265
	Bearing area	'000 ha	9	10	11
Grapes	Production	'000 t	792	1 112	1 497
	Bearing area	'000 ha	58	78	143
Mangoes	Production	'000 t	22	37	39
	Trees(b)	'000	446	970	1 044
Oranges	Production	'000 t	616	500	599
	Trees(b)	'000	6 307	6 667	7 129
Pears (excl. Nashi)	Production	'000 t	161	153	136
	Trees(b)	'000	1 298	1 381	1 306
<b>Vegetables</b>					
Carrots	Production	'000 t	170	^ 267	306
	Area	'000 ha	5	7	7
Onions, white and brown	Production	'000 t	168	219	229
	Area	'000 ha	4	6	5
Potatoes	Production	'000 t	1 129	1 372	1 247
	Area	'000 ha	39	43	36
Tomatoes	Production	'000 t	280	380	364
	Area	'000 ha	9	8	7

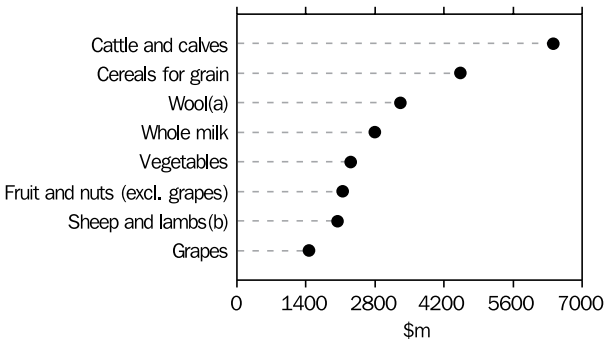
(a) Data not collected in all states.

(b) Number of trees refers to trees of bearing age. For all fruits except apples, this is trees six years and over. For apples, the 2003 figure refers to trees four years and over while the 1993 and 1998 figures refer to trees six years and over.

## GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED

	1993	1998	2003p
	\$m	\$m	\$m
<b>Crops</b>			
Cereals for grain	4 008.0	5 758.8	4 524.4
Cotton	706.0	1 227.8	753.1
Crops for hay	119.2	213.5	371.2
Legumes for grain	441.9	543.3	621.3
Fruit and nuts (excl. grapes)	(a)1 366.8	1 586.8	2 139.9
Grapes	377.6	998.2	1 461.0
Nursery production	559.8	693.8	772.6
Oilseeds	101.0	391.6	416.0
Sugar cane cut for crushing	797.7	1 247.7	1 003.5
Vegetables	1 226.4	1 812.3	2 311.7
Pastures and grasses	593.7	613.4	1 023.7
All other crops n.e.i.	282.7	^ 221.0	484.7
<i>Total crops</i>	<i>10 580.8</i>	<i>15 308.2</i>	<i>15 883.1</i>
<b>Livestock slaughterings and other disposals</b>			
Cattle and calves	3 839.2	4 138.2	6 412.6
Sheep and lambs(b)	680.8	1 066.2	2 037.9
Pigs	(c)649.5	709.8	911.3
Poultry	(c)833.5	1 053.6	1 273.3
Other livestock	7.6	24.0	36.2
<i>Total livestock slaughterings and other disposals</i>	<i>(d)6 032.7</i>	<i>6 991.9</i>	<i>10 671.3</i>
<b>Livestock products</b>			
Wool(e)	2 568.5	2 753.9	3 316.0
Whole milk	(f)2 314.4	2 817.0	2 797.1
Eggs	(f)285.4	347.5	286.4
Honey	31.5	36.9	(g)
Beeswax	1.5	2.5	(g)
<i>Total livestock products</i>	<i>(f)5 201.4</i>	<i>5 957.8</i>	<i>6 399.5</i>
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>21 828.0</b>	<b>28 258.0</b>	<b>32 953.9</b>
(a) Excludes ACT; ACT included in 'All other crops n.e.i.'.		(d) Excludes pigs and poultry in the NT; these are included in 'Total agriculture'.	
(b) Excludes value of wool on skins.		(e) Includes value of dead wool and wool on skins.	
(c) Excludes Tas. and NT; Tas. data included in 'Total livestock slaughterings and other disposals'; NT data included in 'Total agriculture'.		(f) Excludes NT; NT included in 'Total agriculture'.	
		(g) Data not collected in 2003.	

## GROSS VALUE OF SELECTED AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED—2003p



(a) Includes value of dead wool and wool on skins.

(b) Excludes value of wool on skins.

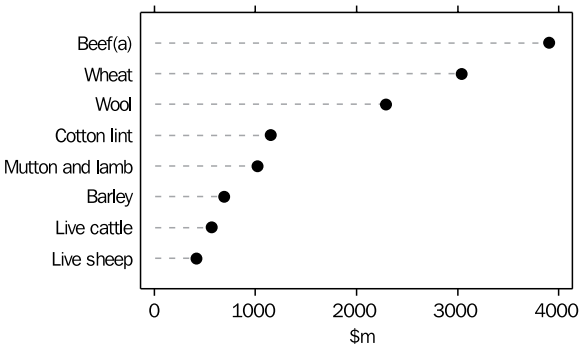
## EXPORTS OF SELECTED COMMODITIES

		1993	1998	2003
<b>Crops</b>				
Barley				
Quantity	'000 t	2 451	2 513	2 827
Value	\$m	405	545	690
Canola				
Quantity	'000 t	49	590	612
Value	\$m	19	256	289
Cotton lint				
Quantity	'000 t	395	593	596
Value	\$m	753	1 386	1 153
Rice				
Quantity	'000 t	482	647	227
Value	\$m	228	396	111
Wheat				
Quantity	'000 t	9 487	15 097	10 649
Value	\$m	1 987	3 630	3 036
<b>Livestock</b>				
Live cattle				
Quantity	'000	166	723	977
Value	\$m	80	352	569
Live sheep				
Quantity	'000	5 118	5 109	5 856
Value	\$m	123	200	415
<b>Livestock products</b>				
Beef(a)				
Quantity	'000 t	828	850	938
Value	\$m	2 988	2 700	3 907
Mutton and lamb				
Quantity	'000 t	210	238	264
Value	\$m	447	653	1 024
Wool (greasy)				
Quantity	'000 t	557	438	305
Value	\$m	2 139	2 222	2 290

(a) Includes veal and buffalo meat.

Source: ABS FASTTRACCS Service, May 2004.

## EXPORTS OF SELECTED COMMODITIES—2003



(a) Includes veal and buffalo meat.

Source: ABS FASTTRACCS Service, May 2004.

## AREA OF PASTURES AND CROPS IRRIGATED(a)

	1993	1998
	'000 ha	'000 ha
Pastures (native or sown)	1 184	1 048
Cereals	311	378
Vegetables for human consumption	89	103
Fruit (incl. nuts)	55	96
Grapevines	43	88
Sugar cane	154	201
Cotton	59	319
All other crops	245	450
<b>Total area irrigated</b>	<b>2 107</b>	<b>2 365</b>

(a) Data for 2003 are not yet available.

## SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics	NT	Northern Territory
ACT	Australian Capital Territory	t	tonnes
EVAO	estimated value of agricultural operations	Tas.	Tasmania
ha	hectares	'000	thousands
m	million	\$m	million dollars
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified	^	relative standard error (RSE) between 10% and 25%
n.e.i.	not elsewhere included	*	RSE between 25% and 50%
		**	RSE is above 50% and is not published

## NOTES

The scope of the 2002–03 and 1997–98 Agricultural Surveys was establishments having an EVAO of \$5,000 or more. In 1992–93, the cut-off was \$22,500 or more. The reference period for 2003 was the year ending 30 June. In 1998 and 1993, commodity statistics relating to crop production, livestock numbers and number of establishments were collected as of 31 March.

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

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Cover photograph: *Windmill and bore in drought conditions near Hillston, NSW*  
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