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AGRICULTURE AND FISHING, NORTHERN TERRITORY SEASON 1993-94

NOTE

This publication contains results from the annual Agricultural Census of the Northern Territory conducted by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Data supplied by the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries has also been included.

Figures quoted in this publication relate only to large commercial properties in the Northern Territory with an Estimated Value of Agricultural Operations (EVAO) greater than \$5,000 in 1993-94, \$22,500 from 1991-92 and \$20,000 for earlier years.

Explanatory notes are published at the back of this publication.

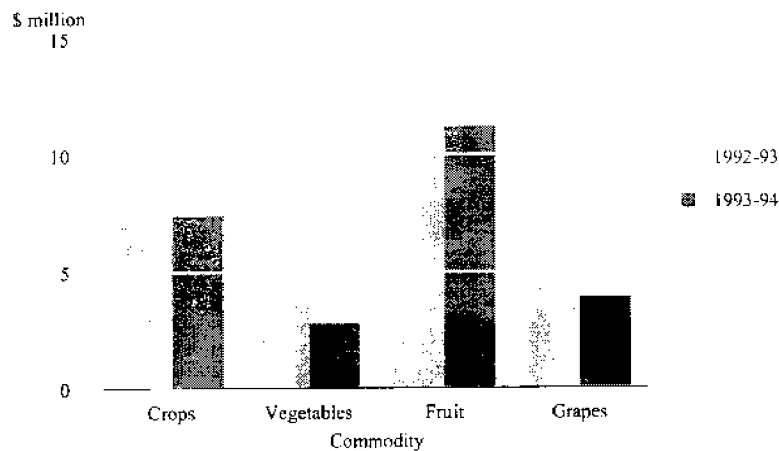
MAIN FEATURES

During the Northern Territory's 1993-94 season, commercial agriculture and fishing production amounted to \$206.7 million, an increase of \$35.0 million (20.4 per cent) over the previous year's production levels. This increase was almost entirely due to the significant increase in prawn landings. At 31 March 1994, 316 Territory producers were involved in commercial agriculture with property holdings totalling 69.9 million hectares.

Horticulture

Northern Territory horticulture production in the 1993-94 season was valued at \$25.3 million, an increase of \$0.5 million over that of the 1992-93 season. In season 1993-94 there was a \$0.7 million decrease in the value of vegetables. There was a \$1.2 million increase in the value of fruit production, mainly due to an increase in mango production.

VALUE OF FIELD CROPS AND HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH
NORTHERN TERRITORY



INQUIRIES

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- for any information about other ABS statistics and services please refer to the back page of this publication

MAIN FEATURES

Beef Cattle and Buffalo

The Northern Territory cattle and livestock products industry, which includes local slaughtering, interstate movement and live exports, produced \$113.6 million for the 1993-94 season. This was a decrease of \$0.1 million from the previous season.

Interstate cattle movements continued to account for the majority of Northern Territory cattle disposals. Queensland received 61.3 per cent of total interstate movements, South Australia 26.9 per cent and Western Australia 10.5 per cent. 65.9 per cent of cattle moved interstate were fattened, the remaining 34.1 per cent were for slaughter. An important factor influencing the level of interstate cattle movements in any particular year is the prevailing climatic conditions in the Northern Territory.

110,958 head of live cattle and buffalo were exported in 1993-94, an increase of 40,861 (58.3 per cent) over the 1992-93 level.

In the 1993-94 season, 217 Territory producers reported 1.4 million head of cattle on their holdings, 99.9 per cent of which were meat cattle. The highest concentrations of cattle numbers were in the statistical local areas of Victoria, Tableland and Sandover-Balance, which together accounted for 64.4 per cent of all Northern Territory cattle.

Fish, Crustaceans and Molluscs

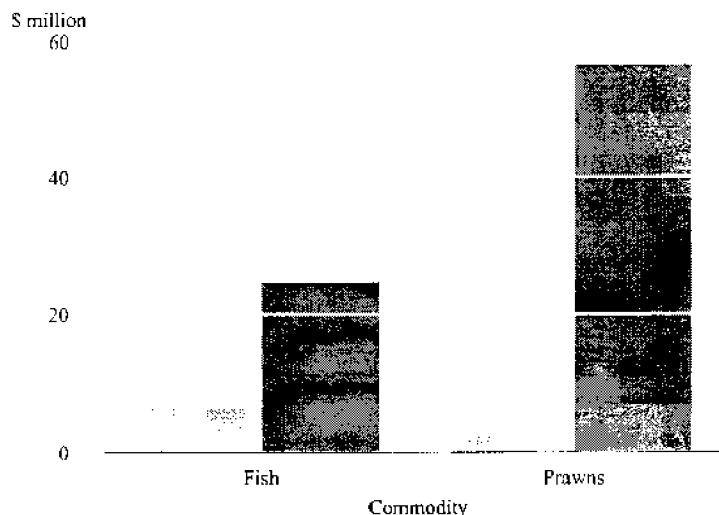
The total estimated value of landings in the Northern Territory fishing industry for 1993-94 was \$67.8 million, an increase of \$34.5 million over that for the 1992-93 season. This increase is attributable to a significant increase in 1993-94 prawn landings.

The value of the prawn catch accounted for 83.4 per cent of this total catch compared with 73.9 per cent of the 1992-93 catch.

The total estimated value of fish landings for 1993-94 was \$8.8 million. Snapper was the major species contributor with \$3.4 million. The barramundi live catch weight of 471,890 kg was a slight increase on 1992-93.

Total estimated value of crustaceans landed in 1993-94 was \$59.0 million. The prawn landing of 4,820 tonnes was an increase of 105.6 per cent from 1992-93.

VALUE OF FISHING INDUSTRY PRODUCTION, NORTHERN TERRITORY



Source: Northern Territory Dept of Industry and Fisheries

1992-93

■ 1993-94

**TABLE 1. VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL AND FISHING PRODUCTION, NORTHERN TERRITORY
(\$'000)**

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Field Crops & Horticulture (a)(b)	21,485	24,800	25,319
Livestock slaughterings/other disposals & livestock products (c)	125,127	113,683	113,590
Fish (d)	28,243	33,293(r)	67,836
Total Agriculture & Fishing	174,855	171,776(r)	206,745

(a) Includes fruit and vegetables.

(b) Figures relate to years ended 31 March.

(c) Includes livestock slaughtered in the NT, livestock movements interstate and exported live overseas. Also included are dressed poultry and livestock products such as milk and eggs. Data is supplied by Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry & Fisheries, figures relate to years ended 30 June.

(d) Includes value of crustaceans, molluscs and Mother of Pearl shell. Fishing industry data supplied by Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry & Fisheries for years ended 30 June.

**TABLE 2. TOTAL AREA OF HOLDINGS AND NUMBER OF
PRODUCERS AT 31 MARCH 1994**

<i>Statistical Local Area</i>	<i>Total area of holding (ha)</i>	<i>Number of producers</i>
Litchfield (S) - Pt B	120,472	61
South Alligator	530,328	8
Daly	1,260,655	13
Elsley - Bal	6,421,471	42
Gulf	5,675,160	15
Victoria	11,466,914	30
Tableland	13,143,613	21
Tennant Creek - Bal	5,986,127	12
Petermann	7,304,576	18
Sandover- Bal	10,006,563	35
Tanami	7,759,670	26
Other	211,873	35
Northern Territory	69,887,422	316

**TABLE 3. VALUE OF FIELD CROPS AND HORTICULTURAL PRODUCTION, NORTHERN TERRITORY
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH
(\$'000)**

	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Field Crops	8,149	6,995	7,350
Vegetables	4,493	3,507	2,848
Fruit	6,275	10,016	11,198
Grapes	2,569	4,315	3,923
Total Field Crops & Horticultural Commodities	21,486	24,833	25,319

TABLE 4. LIVESTOCK NUMBERS ON HOLDINGS, NORTHERN TERRITORY, AT 31 MARCH

	1992	1993	1994
Cattle	1,334,289	1,347,223	1,435,475
Domesticated Buffalo	12,992	10,382	10,751
Pigs	2,528	2,681	2,679
Goats	524	1,074	1,035
Horses	14,436	11,905	10,085

TABLE 5. CATTLE NUMBERS AND NUMBER OF PRODUCERS AT 31 MARCH 1994

Statistical Local Area	Numbers	Numbers of producers
Victoria	410,533	30
Tableland	367,592	17
Sandover - Bal	146,897	34
Tanami	78,108	22
Elsey - Bal	93,529	33
Tennant Creek-Bal	85,998	12
Petermann	53,065	17
Daly	73,086	12
Gulf	33,912	12
Other	92,755	28
Northern Territory	1,435,475	217

GRAPH 1. PROPORTION OF CATTLE IN SELECTED AREAS AT 31 MARCH 1994

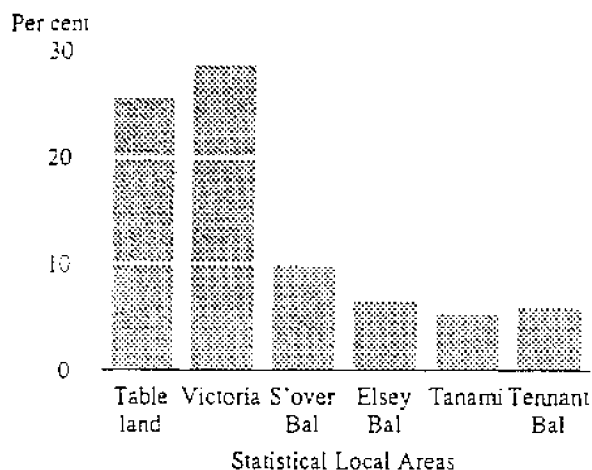


TABLE 6. NUMBER OF ALL CATTLE & CALF DISPOSALS YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

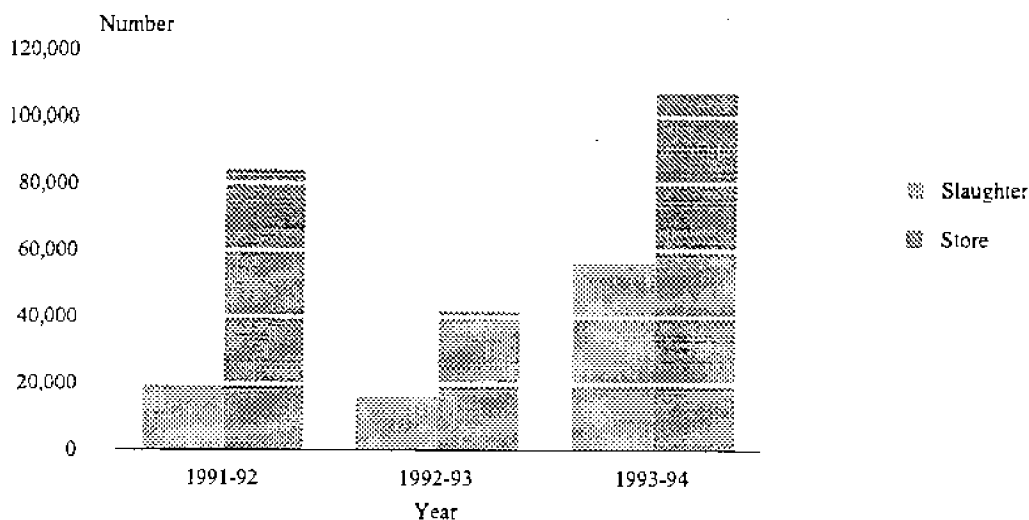
Statistical Local Area	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
Victoria	78,542	83,468	75,375
Tableland	91,056	139,142	89,196
Sandover - Bal	38,186	39,656	34,274
Tanami	22,604	22,064	18,227
Elsey - Bal	10,978	15,716	19,458
Tennant Creek - Bal	12,121	18,696	24,556
Petermann	15,381	13,060	14,790
Daly	8,698	15,110	17,988
Gulf	7,052	7,339	4,717
Other	8,953	12,826	26,477
Northern Territory	293,571	367,077	325,058

TABLE 7. INTERSTATE CATTLE MOVEMENTS (a)

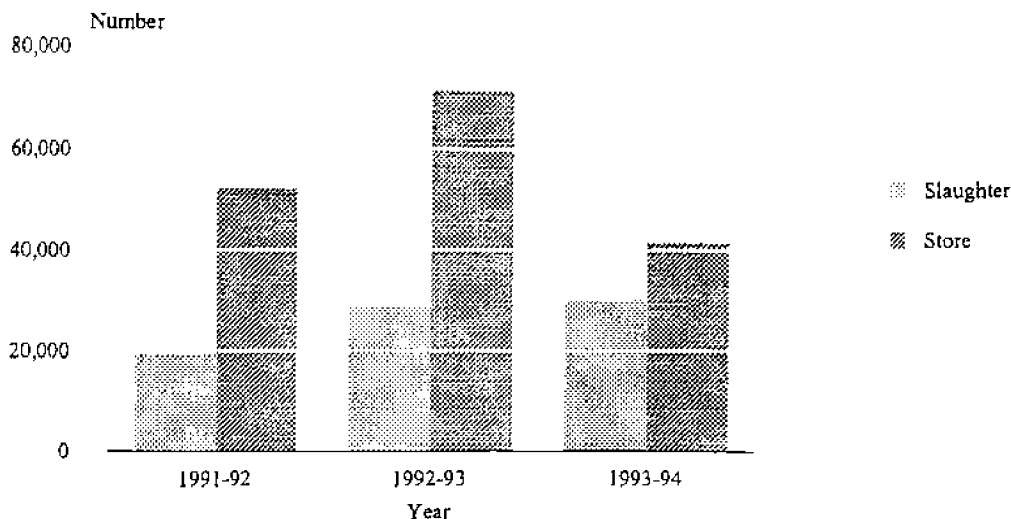
Destination	1991-92			1992-93			1993-94		
	Slaughter	Store	Total	Slaughter	Store	Total	Slaughter	Store	Total
South Australia	19,390	52,280	71,670	28,848	71,223	100,071	30,106	41,485	71,591
Queensland	19,758	84,041	103,799	15,830	41,767	57,597	56,300	106,964	163,264
Western Aust.	6,442	4,081	10,523	6,349	11,187	17,536	3,886	24,045	27,931
Other States	724	551	1,275	-	8,510	8,510	350	3,033	3,383
Total Interstate	46,314	140,953	187,267	51,027	132,687	183,714	90,642	175,527	266,169

(a) Refer to explanatory notes.

Source: Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries

GRAPH 2. LIVE CATTLE MOVEMENTS
NORTHERN TERRITORY TO QUEENSLAND

Source: Northern Territory Dept of Primary Industry and Fisheries

GRAPH 3. LIVE CATTLE MOVEMENTS
NORTHERN TERRITORY TO SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Source: Northern Territory Dept of Primary Industry and Fisheries

TABLE 8. DOMESTICATED BUFFALO NUMBERS, AT 31 MARCH

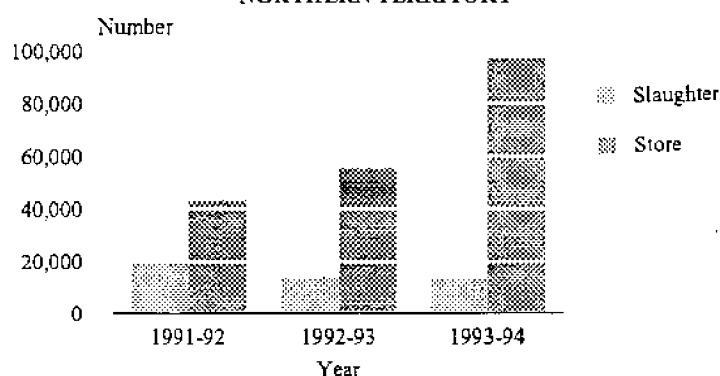
Statistical Local Area	1992	1993	1994
South Alligator	4,683	2,862	2,109
Daly	505	390	190
Elsey - Bal	7,234	6,708	7,886
Victoria	96	117	85
Other	474	305	481
Northern Territory	12,992	10,382	10,751

TABLE 9. NUMBER AND VALUE OF BUFFALO SLAUGHTERED AT NT ABATTOIRS

Year	Number	Estimated Value (\$'000) (a)
1991-92	7,570	2,063
1992-93	4,451	1,151
1993-94	4,895	1,204

(a) Estimated values are calculated as the product of the number of buffalo which were slaughtered (and passed meat inspection), and the average value per head. The average value per head is based on monthly abattoir prices and average dressed weights. The buffalo slaughtering statistics are based on monthly summaries prepared by meat inspectors.

Source: Northern Territory Dept of Primary Industry & Fisheries.

GRAPH 4. LIVE CATTLE EXPORTS
NORTHERN TERRITORY

Source: Northern Territory Dept of Primary Industry and Fisheries

TABLE 10. LIVE CATTLE & BUFFALO EXPORTS (a)
NORTHERN TERRITORY

Commodity	1991-92	1992-93	1993-94
	Numbers		
Cattle			
Slaughter	19,657	13,743	12,952
Store	43,270	55,433	97,119
Total Cattle	62,927	69,176	110,071
Buffalo			
Slaughter	1,353	886	789
Store	5	35	98
Total Buffalo	1,358	921	887
Total Exports	64,285	70,097	110,958

(a) Figures also include NT cattle & buffalo exported via Wyndham WA.

Source: Northern Territory Dept of Primary Industry & Fisheries

TABLE 11. BEEF & BUFFALO MEAT EXPORTS, NORTHERN TERRITORY

Commodity	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
	tonnes	\$A'000	tonnes	\$A'000	tonnes	\$A'000
Fresh Beef	1,927	6,730	79	398	-	-
Fresh Buffalo	52	135	17	66	1	6
Total Fresh Meat	1,979	6,865	96	464	1	6
Frozen Beef	11,287	34,550	6,649	21,072	4,679	15,108
Frozen Buffalo	665	2,377	368	1,391	472	1,788
Total Frozen Meat	11,952	36,927	7,017	22,463	5,151	16,896
Total Meat Exports	13,931	43,792	7,113	22,927	5,152	16,902

TABLE 12. NORTHERN TERRITORY FISHING INDUSTRY, SELECTED SPECIES LANDINGS

Species	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
	Catch live weight (tonnes)	Estimated value (\$000)	Catch live weight (tonnes)	Estimated value (\$000)	Catch live weight (tonnes)	Estimated value (\$000)
FISH						
Barramundi	457	1,689	451	2,073	472	2,110
Mackerel	386	876	248	727	398	1,131
Shark	495	841	529	935	496	941
Snapper	529	1,592	457	1,192	1,093	3,350
Other	704	1,576	605	1,535	613	1,273
<i>Total Fish</i>	<i>2,571</i>	<i>6,574</i>	<i>2,291</i>	<i>6,462</i>	<i>3,072</i>	<i>8,805</i>
CRUSTACEANS						
Prawn (a)	2,044	18,573	2,344	24,600	4,820	56,600
Mud Crab	196	1,374	207	2,052	244	2,339
Other	19	86	23	143	6	28
<i>Total Crustaceans</i>	<i>2,259</i>	<i>20,033</i>	<i>2,573</i>	<i>26,795</i>	<i>5,070</i>	<i>58,967</i>
MOLLUSCS						
Scallops	9	23	6	12	1	3
Other	29	53	9	24	21	61
<i>Total Molluscs</i>	<i>38</i>	<i>76</i>	<i>15</i>	<i>36</i>	<i>22</i>	<i>64</i>
NT. Fisheries(b)(c)	4,868	26,683	4,879	33,293	8,164	67,836

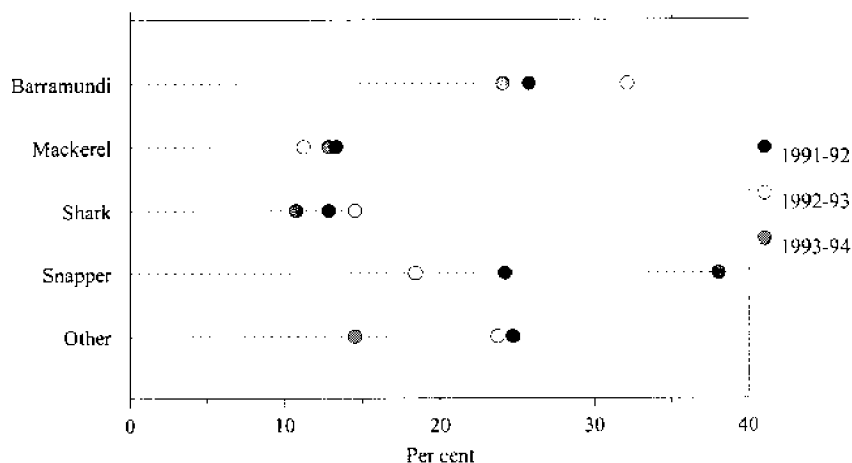
(a) Figures are obtained from Northern Territory trader purchases and Department of Primary Industry & Fisheries Export Inspection Service.

(b) Total excludes value of pearl shell.

(c) Excludes Trepang weight and value.

Source: Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry & Fisheries

GRAPH 5. VALUE OF FISH LANDINGS AS A PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL CATCH
NORTHERN TERRITORY



Source: Northern Territory Dept of Primary Industry & Fisheries

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Scope and coverage

1. Unless otherwise specified, statistics in this publication are derived from the annual Agricultural Census conducted throughout Australia at 31 March, which collects data from establishments with agricultural activity.

2. To minimise demands on small operators for statistical information and to reduce the cost of processing the Census, the Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) excludes from the census those establishments that make only a small contribution to overall agricultural production. From 1986-87 the scope of the Census excludes those establishments with an estimated value of agricultural operations (EVAO) less than \$20,000. In 1991-92 this figure was increased to \$22,500. From 1993-94 the figure has decreased to \$5,000.

3. Generally, an operator who works on more than one establishment must supply separate annual returns for each establishment. If, however, the establishments are not far apart geographically, and are worked as one, the operator may (and in most cases does) supply a single composite return. For statistical purposes, establishments covered by a composite return are treated as a single agricultural establishment. Where an establishment extends into two or more statistical local areas, all operations of that establishment are attributed to the statistical local area in which the homestead is located.

4. Some data in this publication is obtained from information supplied to agencies other than the Australian Bureau of Statistics, in which case the ABS scope and coverage parameters do not apply. Data items involved are:

- (a) Interstate cattle movements
- (b) Rainfall
- (c) Live exports
- (d) Fishing industry landings.

Australian Standard Geographical Classification (ASGC)

5. The ASGC is a system for the classification of statistical units by geographical areas.

6. The system is hierarchical with each geographical area constituting a particular level in one of seven hierarchies.

7. At the base of one hierarchy are the smallest geographic classifications, the Census Districts. These districts may then be combined to form Statistical Local Areas (as referred to in the map provided), the next level in the hierarchy. This process of aggregation continues upward to Statistical Subdivisions (SSD's), then

Statistical Divisions (SD's), then States/Territories (S) and finally Australia.

Deciles

8. Mean or average rainfall figures can give a misleading impression of the regime especially in tropical parts of the Northern Territory. The decile ranges give a better indication of how dry or wet the month or year have been than the departure from the 'mean' or 'average'. All rainfalls received at a particular station are ranked in order from lowest to highest. The lowest 10 per cent are in decile range 1, the next 10 per cent are in decile range 2, and so on, the highest 10 per cent being in decile range 10.

Interstate Livestock Movements

9. Data on interstate livestock movements is derived from information reported at three State/Territory border locations.

10. Cattle movements to Western Australia are reported to the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries by the Western Australian Department of Agriculture in Kununurra.

11. Data on the movement of cattle to Queensland is supplied by the Queensland Department of Primary Industry in Mt Isa.

12. The Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry and Fisheries in Alice Springs reports all cattle movements to South Australia and other southern States.

Fishing Industry Landings

13. Landings is the term used to refer to fish caught in Northern Territory waters but not necessarily off-loaded at Northern Territory ports. However, prawn landings refer only to catches off-loaded at Territory ports, regardless of the waters they were caught in.

14. Fishing industry data is compiled from Territory fishermen's monthly returns to the Northern Territory Department of Primary Industry & Fisheries.

AgStats

15. AgStats consists of the annual Agricultural Census results at small area level in the six States and two Territories. It is available on Floppy Disc (7117.0); Magnetic Tape (7116.0) or CD-ROM (7115.0).

Related publications

16. Users may also wish to refer to the following publications available from ABS bookshops:

Agriculture, Australia (7113.0)

Livestock Products, Australia (7215.0)

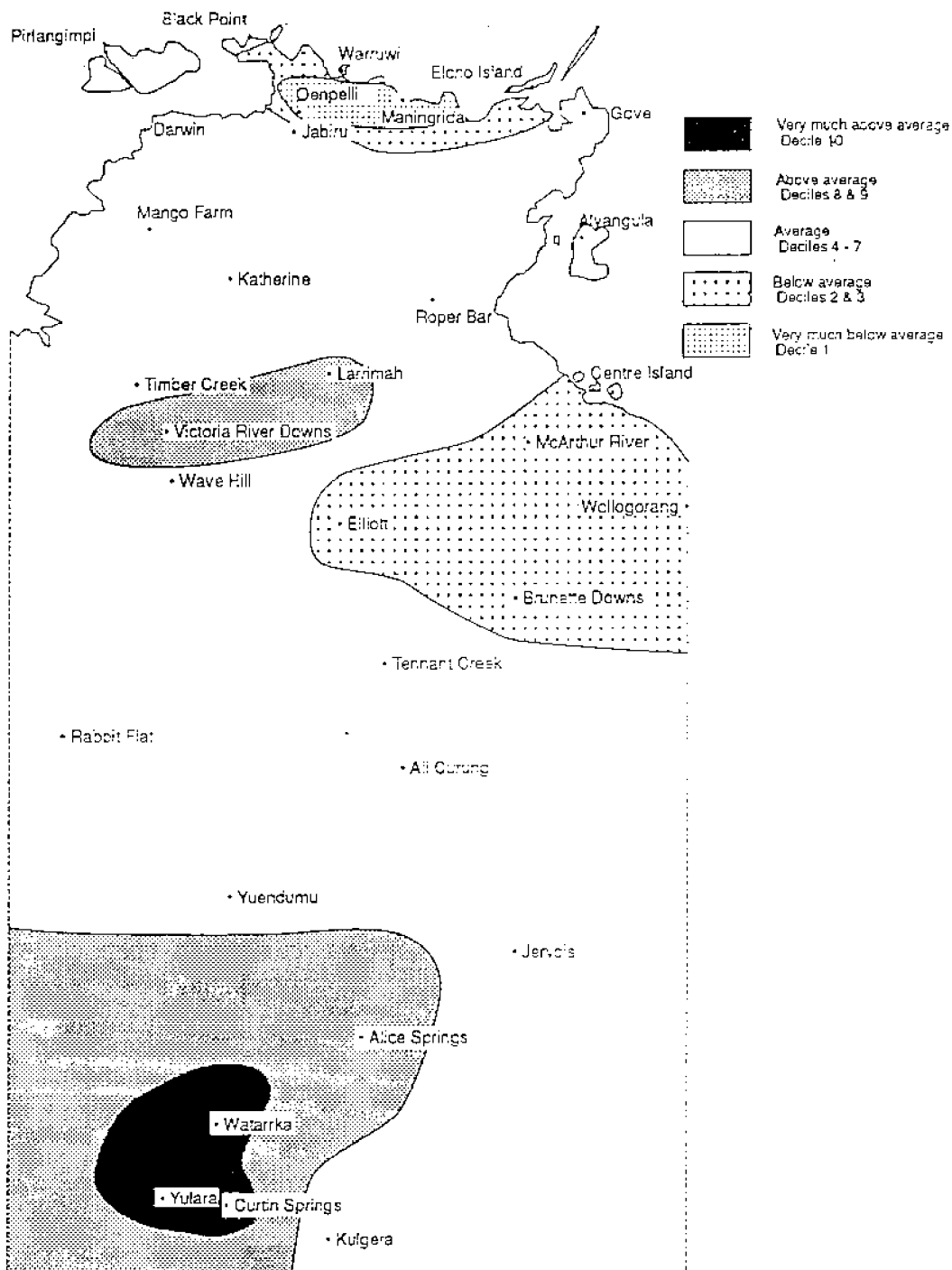
Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia (7503.0)

Agricultural Industries, Financial Statistics, Australia (7507.0)

Symbols and other usages

- nil or rounded to zero
n.a. not available
n.c. not collected
n.p. not published
kg kilograms
t tonnes
\$A Australian dollars

Bob Harrison
Statistician, Northern Territory



Distribution of decile range numbers of rainfall for April 1993 - March 1994

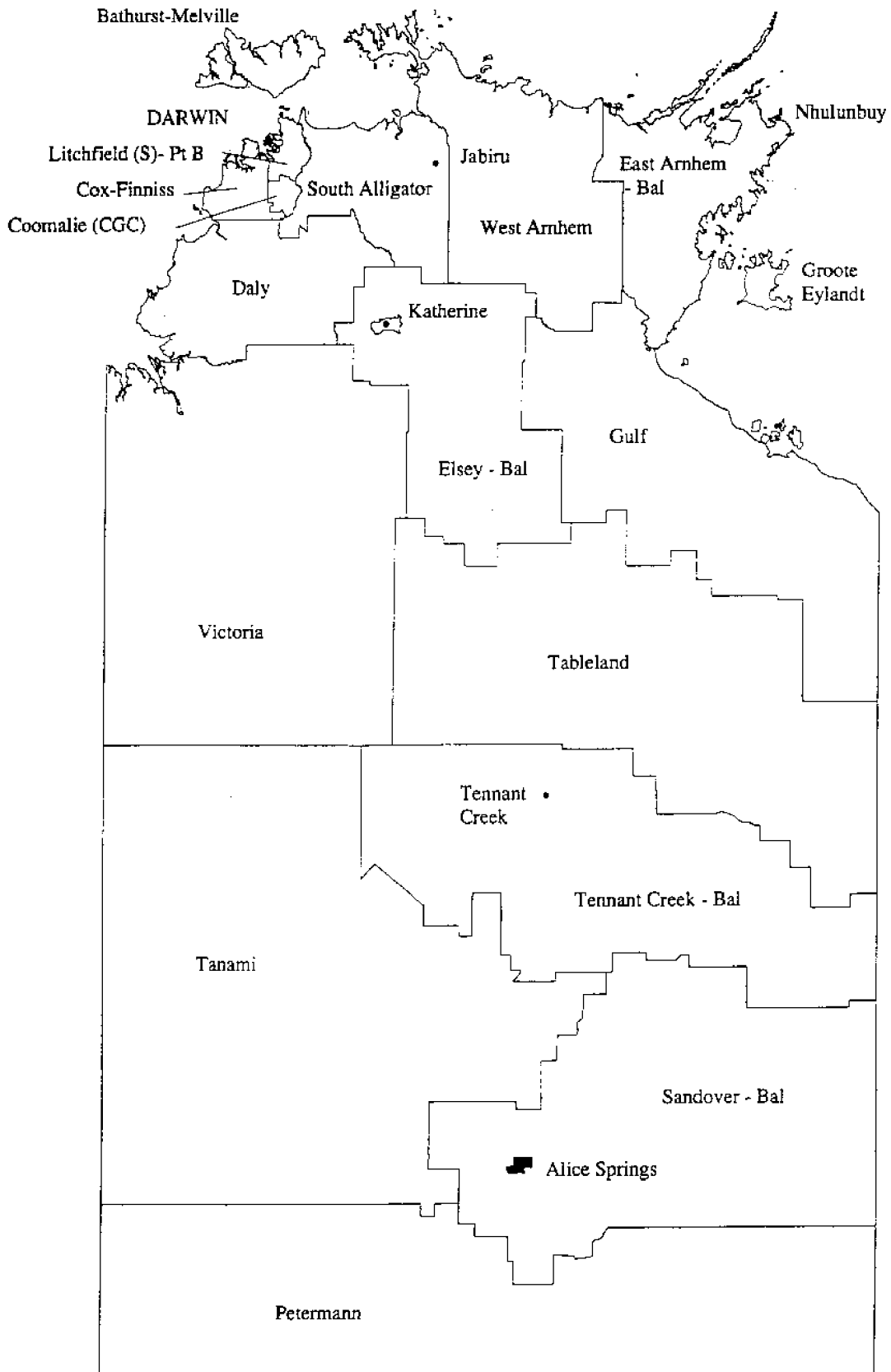
TABLE 13. RAINFALL TOTALS (a)
YEARS ENDED 31 MARCH

Station name	1991-92		1992-93		1993-94	
	Actual rainfall	Decile	Actual rainfall	Decile	Actual rainfall	Decile
Darwin	901.3	1(b)	1733.4	7	1717.2	6
Katherine	600.3	1	1014.8	n.a	1000.6	6
Tennant Creek	165.2	1	667.8	9	414.6	5
Alice Springs	75.0	1	206.8	4	356.0	8

(a) Refer to explanatory notes for information regarding deciles. (b) Represents lowest level on record.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology

NORTHERN TERRITORY - STATISTICAL LOCAL AREAS





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