



2006–07

7501.0

VALUE OF

# PRINCIPAL AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED

AUSTRALIA  
PRELIMINARY

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) TUES 12 FEB 2008

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## INQUIRIES

For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070 or Geoff Ellerton on Hobart (03) 6222 5856.

## NOTES

### ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION

This publication contains preliminary estimates of the gross values of production for principal agricultural commodities for all states, territories and Australia for the financial year 2006–07.

Comparisons with past year production estimates are based on preliminary 2005–06 estimates released in *Selected Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary, 2005–06*, cat. no. 7112.0.

The ABS plans to release final estimates of gross value of production of selected commodities for 2005–06 in *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia*, cat. no. 7503.0 in May 2008.

The final estimates for 2006–07 will be released in *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia*, cat. no. 7503.0 in July 2008.

### CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE

There are no changes in this issue.

### ABBREVIATIONS

\$m	million dollars
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
AS	Agricultural Survey
Aust.	Australia
NSW	New South Wales
NT	Northern Territory
Qld	Queensland
RSE	relative standard error
SA	South Australia
SE	standard error
Tas.	Tasmania
VACP	Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced
Vic.	Victoria
WA	Western Australia

Brian Pink  
Australian Statistician

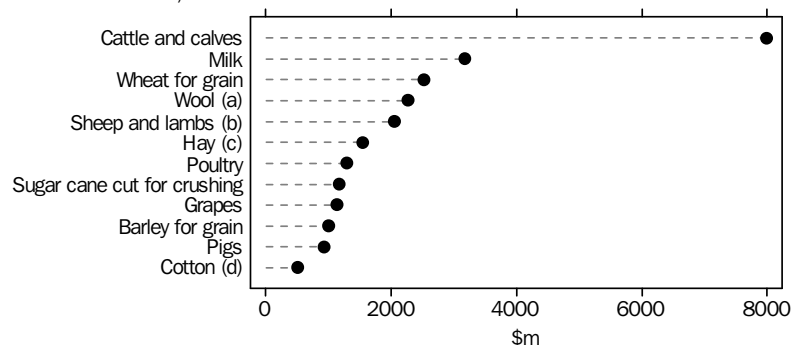
## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

### NATIONAL ESTIMATES

In 2006–07, the preliminary estimate of the gross value of agricultural commodities produced was \$34.2 billion, a fall of 10% (or \$3.6 billion) on the previous year.

The value of crops fell by 20%, only slightly offset by the increased gross values of livestock slaughterings and other disposals (up by 3%), and livestock products (up by 1%) in 2006–07.

### GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED: PRELIMINARY, 2006-07



- (a) Excludes value of wool on skins.  
 (b) Includes value of dead wool and wool on skins.  
 (c) Comprises pastures, cereals and other crops cut for hay.  
 (d) Includes value of cotton lint and cotton seed.

### Crops

The preliminary estimate of the gross value of all crops in 2006–07 decreased by 20% to \$16.0 billion, largely as a result of drought conditions.

Decreases were reported for all the major cereal crops, except grain sorghum. The value of wheat fell by 51% to \$2.5 billion; barley fell by 30% to \$1.0 billion; oats for grain fell by 32% to \$174 million; and rice fell by 80% to \$51 million. The decreased values were mainly due to significantly reduced production, partially offset by increases in average prices. The value of grain sorghum increased by 2% to \$292 million, as production fell by 32% and the average price increased by 49% due to reduced supply.

Decreased values were also recorded for canola (down 59% to \$202 million) and lupins for grain (down 53% to \$125 million), again with lower production partially offset by increased average prices. The value of sugar cane cut for crushing rose by 12% as increased prices more than offset the fall in production. Cotton reported a 46% decrease in value to \$514 million as production fell by 50% and the average price increased by 9%.

In 2006–07, the gross value of hay increased by 13% to \$1.6 billion, despite a 35% fall in production. Average prices rose by 73% due to the general shortage of stock feed.

The gross value of grapes decreased by 16% to \$1.1 billion in 2006–07, as production fell by 22% and average prices rose by 9% due to reduced supply.

Production of apples fell by 2% and average prices increased by 35%, resulting in a 32% increase in value to \$475 million in 2006–07.

### Livestock slaughterings and other disposals

In 2006–07, the preliminary estimate of the gross value of livestock slaughterings and other disposals was \$12.3 billion, an increase of 3% over the previous year.

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS *continued*

### *Livestock slaughterings and other disposals continued*

The total number of cattle and calves slaughterings and other disposals in 2006–07 rose by 9%, but average prices fell by 4%, resulting in a 4% increase in gross value to \$8.0 billion.

The gross value of sheep and lambs slaughterings and other disposals fell by \$57 million (or 3%) to \$2.1 billion in 2006–07. Whilst the total number of sheep and lamb disposals increased by 8%, average prices decreased by 10%.

In 2006–07, the gross value of pigs slaughterings and other disposals rose by 6% to \$944 million, with the number of total disposals falling marginally (by 1%) and average prices increasing by 7%.

The gross value of poultry disposals rose by 6% to \$1.3 billion as production increased by 3% and average prices rose by 2% in 2006–07.

### *Livestock products*

The preliminary estimate of the gross value of livestock products in 2006–07 was \$5.9 billion, an increase of 1% over the previous year.

The gross value of wool production rose by 9% to \$2.3 billion, as production fell by 6% and average prices increased by 16%. Production of shorn wool fell by 7%, but production of skin wool increased by 9% as more sheep and lambs were slaughtered in 2006–07.

In 2006–07, the gross value of wholemilk decreased by \$165 million (or 5%) to \$3.2 billion as production decreased (by 5%) due to residual drought conditions, and average prices remained unchanged.

The gross value of Australian egg production in 2006–07 was \$398 million. Production of eggs increased by 1% and average prices rose by 12% resulting in an increase of \$45 million (or 13%).

## GROSS VALUE, Agricultural Commodities: Preliminary—Year ended 30 June 2007

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
<b>Crops</b>									
Cereals for grain									
Barley	186.0	149.6	^ 12.7	224.6	436.3	3.6	na	**—	1 012.8
Grain sorghum	96.2	**0.1	195.1	—	0.1	na	*0.4	—	291.7
Oats	^ 37.7	38.9	*0.2	8.4	88.1	^ 0.9	na	*0.1	174.2
Rice	^ 51.4	—	na	na	—	na	—	—	^ 51.4
Wheat	645.3	203.4	181.1	337.1	1 150.3	5.0	na	*	2 522.3
Other(a)	115.8	60.3	39.1	44.7	58.8	^ 2.0	^ —	^ 0.1	320.7
Apples	68.7	243.2	32.8	64.7	31.3	34.3	na	—	475.0
Grapes	238.5	297.0	48.1	430.1	107.5	13.2	6.0	0.4	1 140.8
Other fruit and nuts(a)	423.6	465.2	832.6	264.2	^ 139.3	20.1	31.9	*0.2	2 177.1
Cotton(b)	392.3	na	122.1	na	—	na	na	na	514.4
Legumes for grain									
Field peas	^ 1.2	^ 2.2	^ 0.2	21.4	^ 13.2	*0.2	na	—	38.3
Lupins for grain	^ 5.3	^ 3.4	**—	8.4	107.7	*0.2	na	—	125.1
Other(a)	33.8	43.4	^ 16.9	37.1	^ 2.2	—	—	—	133.4
Oilseeds									
Canola	^ 25.2	^ 19.8	**0.3	33.9	122.1	^ 0.3	na	—	201.6
Other(a)	^ 33.1	*0.9	^ 9.5	*2.7	na	na	na	—	46.2
Hay(c)	317.0	629.8	179.7	122.9	248.6	^ 37.3	^ 15.3	*0.8	1 551.4
Potatoes	^ 50.3	90.2	53.0	190.3	^ 43.6	86.2	—	—	513.7
Tomatoes	^ 15.4	^ 74.7	179.5	^ 9.8	*11.2	**3.1	**0.1	—	293.8
Other vegetables(a)	246.0	457.4	759.1	196.1	228.8	93.1	^ 8.5	0.7	1 989.7
Sugar cane cut for crushing	^ 101.5	na	1 074.9	—	6.3	na	na	na	1 182.7
All other crops(a)	217.8	398.1	299.3	123.1	117.2	84.7	5.3	3.2	1 248.6
<b>Total crops</b>	<b>3 302.0</b>	<b>3 177.4</b>	<b>4 036.0</b>	<b>2 119.6</b>	<b>2 912.7</b>	<b>384.2</b>	<b>67.6</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>16 004.9</b>
<b>Livestock slaughterings and other disposals</b>									
Cattle and calves	1 668.1	1 248.9	3 801.9	278.8	555.0	172.5	257.5	5.3	7 987.9
Sheep and lambs(d)	418.0	818.0	44.8	307.5	428.5	39.0	—	—	2 055.9
Pigs	295.8	141.8	236.6	np	np	np	0.7	na	943.6
Poultry	437.9	384.1	237.4	np	np	np	na	0.3	1 301.5
<b>Total livestock slaughterings and other disposals(e)</b>	<b>2 822.7</b>	<b>2 604.2</b>	<b>4 343.4</b>	<b>887.5</b>	<b>1 178.6</b>	<b>236.2</b>	<b>260.8</b>	<b>5.6</b>	<b>12 339.1</b>
<b>Livestock products</b>									
Wool(f)	729.7	497.5	120.2	315.2	534.2	80.0	na	1.7	2 278.4
Milk	394.3	2 016.3	207.1	213.7	111.9	234.3	—	—	3 177.6
Eggs	^ 99.4	^ 106.6	111.1	^ 21.0	^ 44.1	7.6	1.8	6.3	398.0
<b>Total livestock products</b>	<b>1 223.4</b>	<b>2 620.4</b>	<b>438.4</b>	<b>549.9</b>	<b>690.2</b>	<b>322.0</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>8.0</b>	<b>5 854.0</b>
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>7 348.1</b>	<b>8 402.0</b>	<b>8 817.9</b>	<b>3 557.0</b>	<b>4 781.6</b>	<b>942.4</b>	<b>330.1</b>	<b>18.9</b>	<b>34 198.0</b>

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

\* estimate has a relative standard error of 25% to 50% and should be used with caution

\*\* estimate has a relative standard error greater than 50% and is considered too unreliable for general use

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

na not available

np not available for publication but included in totals where applicable, unless otherwise indicated

(a) Estimates for 2007 for these commodities cannot be produced at the preliminary estimates stage due to the unavailability of source data. The 2006 values have been used to provide an 'order of magnitude' estimate as a contribution to the 'total agriculture' gross value. Estimates for these commodities for 2007 will be provided in the publication *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia* (cat. no. 7503.0).

(b) Includes value of cotton lint and cotton seed.

(c) Comprises pastures, cereals and other crops cut for hay.

(d) Excludes value of wool on skins.

(e) Includes value of other livestock.

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

## GROSS VALUE(a), Agricultural Commodities: Preliminary—Year ended 30 June

	2006	2007	Change 2007 on 2006
	\$m	\$m	%
Crops			
Cereals for grain			
Barley	1 445.1	1 012.8	-29.9
Grain sorghum	286.1	291.7	2.0
Oats	255.0	174.2	-31.7
Rice	255.4	^ 51.4	-79.9
Wheat	5 194.3	2 522.3	-51.4
Other(b)	320.7	320.7	—
Apples	359.9	475.0	32.0
Grapes	1 352.6	1 140.8	-15.7
Other fruit and nuts(b)	2 177.1	2 177.1	—
Cotton(c)	950.0	514.4	-45.9
Legumes for grain			
Field peas	131.9	38.3	-70.9
Lupins	264.8	125.1	-52.8
Other(b)	133.4	133.4	—
Oilseeds			
Canola	485.7	201.6	-58.5
Other(b)	46.2	46.2	—
Hay(d)	1 373.4	1 551.4	13.0
Potatoes	465.1	513.7	10.4
Tomatoes	296.7	293.8	-1.0
Other vegetables(b)	1 989.7	1 989.7	—
Sugar cane cut for crushing	1 056.4	1 182.7	12.0
All other crops(b)	1 248.6	1 248.6	—
<b>Total crops</b>	<b>20 088.0</b>	<b>16 004.9</b>	<b>-20.3</b>
Livestock slaughterings and other disposals			
Cattle & calves	7 682.6	7 987.9	4.0
Sheep & lambs(e)	2 112.7	2 055.9	-2.7
Pigs	890.1	943.6	6.0
Poultry	1 229.1	1 301.5	5.9
<b>Total livestock slaughterings and other disposals(f)</b>	<b>11 964.0</b>	<b>12 339.1</b>	<b>3.1</b>
Livestock products			
Wool(g)	2 092.6	2 278.4	8.9
Milk	3 342.5	3 177.6	-4.9
Eggs	353.4	398.0	12.6
<b>Total livestock products</b>	<b>5 788.5</b>	<b>5 854.0</b>	<b>1.1</b>
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>37 840.6</b>	<b>34 198.0</b>	<b>-9.6</b>

^ estimate has a relative standard error of 10% to less than 25% and should be used with caution

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

(a) Estimates for 2006 and 2007 are preliminary and may be subject to revision.

(b) Estimates for 2007 for these commodities cannot be produced at the preliminary estimates stage due to the unavailability of source data. The 2006 values have been used to provide an 'order of magnitude' estimate as a contribution to the 'total agriculture' gross value. Estimates for these commodities for 2007 will be provided in the publication *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia* (cat. no. 7503.0).

(c) Includes value of cotton lint and cotton seed.

(d) Comprises pastures, cereals and other crops cut for hay.

(e) Excludes value of wool on skins.

(f) Includes value of other livestock.

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

## EXPLANATORY NOTES

### INTRODUCTION

- 1** The value estimates in this publication are derived by the multiplication of price and quantity estimates of agricultural commodities.
- 2** Price data refers to the average unit value of a given commodity realised in the market place. Price information for livestock slaughterings and wool is obtained from Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) collections. Price information for other commodities is obtained from non-ABS sources, including marketing authorities and industry sources.
- 3** Quantity data for most crops and for eggs have been collected from the 2006–07 Agricultural Survey (AS). The basis of the collection of these agricultural commodities was changed with the introduction of a new frame for the 2005–06 Agricultural Census. Details of the change are included in the Technical Note in last year's edition of this publication. Remaining commodity data (apples, grapes, livestock disposals and livestock products excluding eggs) are obtained from other ABS collections, with some information from non-ABS sources, and continue to be comparable across time.

### GENERAL

- 4** Where figures for individual states or territories have been suppressed for reasons of confidentiality, they have been included in relevant totals.
- 5** Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.
- 6** The method of collection of relevant prices and the costs of marketing for agricultural commodities varies considerably between states and between commodities. Where a statutory authority handles marketing of the whole or a portion of a product, data are usually obtained from this source. Information is also obtained from marketing reports, wholesalers, brokers and auctioneers. For all commodities, values are in respect of production during the year (or season) irrespective of when payments are made. For that portion of production not marketed (e.g. hay grown on farm for own use), estimates are made from the best available information and, in general, are calculated on a local value basis.

### PERIOD COVERED

- 7** The production statistics used in deriving the preliminary value estimates for 2006–07 and estimates for 2005–06 relate to the years ended 30 June.

### DEFINITIONS OF TERMS USED

- 8** The following are brief definitions of the terms used:
  - *Gross value of commodities produced* is the value placed on recorded production at the wholesale prices realised in the market place.
  - *Market place*, in general, is the metropolitan market in each state. In cases where commodities are consumed locally, or where they become raw material for a secondary industry, these points are presumed to be the market place.
  - *Livestock slaughterings and other disposals values* are published as one figure but include two distinct components:
    - value of livestock slaughtered; and
    - value of net exports, i.e. the total value of livestock intended for slaughter in adjacent state(s) where available (at present these can only be identified between the Northern Territory and adjacent states) and livestock exported overseas whether for slaughter or breeding, minus the value of imports of livestock.

### SAMPLE ERROR

- 9** The estimates for 2006–07 gross value of most crops and for eggs are based on information obtained from respondents to the 2006–07 AS, which was a sample survey drawn from the total farm population in scope of that collection. Similarly, the estimates for 2005–06 gross value of most crops and for eggs are based on production information provided by respondents to the 2005–06 Agricultural Census. Since not all units responded, the estimates may differ from those that would have been produced if all units had responded. Both of these estimates are therefore subject to sampling

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SAMPLE ERROR *continued*

variability; that is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all farms had been included in the AS or all agricultural businesses had responded to the Agricultural Census.

**10** One measure of the likely difference is given by the standard error (SE) which indicates the extent to which an estimate might have varied by chance because only a sample was taken or received. There are about two chances in three that a sample estimate will differ by less than one SE from the figure that would have been obtained if all establishments had been reported for, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two SEs.

**11** The estimates of gross value of livestock slaughterings and other disposals, wool and milk are based on data obtained from censuses and are therefore not subject to sampling variability.

**12** In this publication, sampling variability of the estimates is measured by the relative standard error (RSE) which is obtained by expressing the SE as a percentage of the estimate to which it refers. Most published estimates have RSEs less than 10%. For some states with limited production of certain commodities, RSEs are greater than 10%. Estimates that have an estimated relative standard error between 10% and 25% are annotated with the symbol '^'. These estimates should be used with caution as they are subject to sampling variability too high for some purposes. Estimates with an RSE between 25% and 50% are annotated with the symbol '\*', indicating that the estimate should be used with caution as it is subject to sampling variability too high for most practical purposes. Estimates with an RSE greater than 50% are annotated with the symbol '\*\*' indicating that the sampling variability causes the estimates to be considered too unreliable for general use. Separate indication of the RSEs of all estimates is available on request.

**13** A table with RSEs for selected estimates of gross values follows:

RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS, Gross Values of Selected Commodities—At 30 June 2007

	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT	Aust.
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Barley for grain	5.4	4.7	18.8	2.6	3.3	7.2	na	67.0	2.0
Grain sorghum	8.2	59.6	8.4	—	—	na	38.5	na	6.2
Wheat for grain	3.9	4.7	9.8	2.2	2.5	9.5	na	43.5	1.7
Lupins for grain	17.5	17.1	53.8	7.3	5.8	48.7	na	—	5.1
Canola	12.1	11.0	77.4	5.8	6.5	19.3	na	na	4.5
Sugar cane for crushing	12.8	na	4.4	na	4.0	na	na	na	4.1
Apples	—	—	—	—	—	—	na	—	—
Grapes	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Potatoes	13.2	9.6	9.1	4.8	11.2	6.9	—	—	3.3
<b>Total crops</b>	<b>1.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>1.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.3</b>	<b>1.9</b>	<b>4.1</b>	<b>9.6</b>	<b>0.6</b>
<b>Livestock</b>									
<b>slaughterings</b>	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..	..
<b>Livestock products</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>1.1</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>1.0</b>	—	—	—	<b>0.3</b>
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>0.7</b>	<b>0.4</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>0.5</b>	<b>0.8</b>	<b>0.9</b>	<b>1.0</b>	<b>2.2</b>	<b>0.3</b>

.. not applicable

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

na not available

ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON  
REQUEST

**14** As well as the statistics included in this and related publications, the ABS may have other relevant data available on request. Inquiries should be made to either Geoff Ellerton on Hobart (03) 6222 5856 or the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.



## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**15** ABS publications draw extensively on information provided freely by individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated: without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

### RELATED PUBLICATIONS

**16** A range of publications relevant to the Agriculture sector are produced by the ABS, including:

*Agricultural Commodities, Australia*, cat. no. 7121.0

*Livestock and Meat, Australia*, cat. no. 7218.0.55.001

*Livestock Products, Australia*, cat. no. 7215.0

*Natural Resource Management on Australian Farms*, cat. no. 4620.0

*Principal Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary*, cat. no. 7111.0

*Selected Agricultural Commodities, Australia, Preliminary*, cat. no. 7112.0

*Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia*, cat. no. 7503.0

*Value of Selected Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, Preliminary*, cat. no. 7502.0

*Water Use on Australian Farms, Australia*, cat. no. 4618.0

**17** Current publications and other products released by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications and Products* (cat. no. 1101.0). The Catalogue is available from any ABS office or the ABS web site <<http://www.abs.gov.au>>. The ABS also issues a daily Release Advice on the web site which details products to be released in the week ahead.





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