



2008-09

7503.0

# VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED AUSTRALIA

EMBARGO: 11.30AM (CANBERRA TIME) FRI 18 JUN 2010

## CONTENTS

	<i>page</i>
Notes .....	2
Abbreviations .....	2
Summary of findings .....	3

## TABLES

1 Value of agricultural commodities produced .....	5
2 Gross value of agricultural commodities produced .....	6

## ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

Explanatory notes .....	7
Glossary .....	10

For further information  
about these and related  
statistics, contact the  
National Information and  
Referral Service on  
1300 135 070.

## NOTES

**ABOUT THIS PUBLICATION** This publication contains final estimates of gross and local values of production of major agricultural commodities for all states, territories and Australia for the year ended 30 June 2009.

Data at sub-state geographies (Statistical Division (SD) and Natural Resource Management (NRM) region) will be released as separate data cubes attached to this publication.

**CHANGES IN THIS ISSUE** The 2008-09 Agricultural Survey collected a greater range of agricultural commodities and livestock breakdowns than was collected in the 2007-08 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). For further details refer to the Explanatory Notes.

**INQUIRIES** For further information about these and related statistics, contact the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.

.....

**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  
Vic. Victoria  
WA Western Australia

Peter Harper  
Acting Australian Statistician

## SUMMARY OF FINDINGS

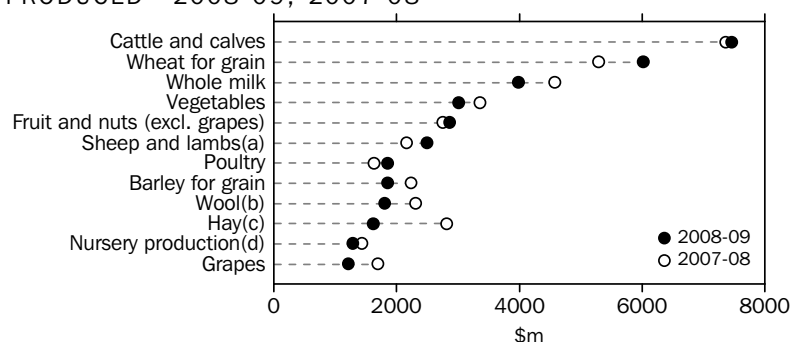
### NATIONAL ESTIMATES

In 2008-09 the gross value of total Australian agricultural production was \$41.8 billion, a decrease of 3% (or \$1.4 billion) from 2007-08.

The value of crops fell by 4% to \$22.9 billion in 2008-09, with livestock products decreasing by 15%, down to \$6.2 billion, driven by falls in the value of wool and milk. Livestock slaughterings and other disposals rose to \$12.8 billion, with increases in the value of sheep and lambs, cattle and calves and poultry.

Marketing costs accounted for \$3.1 billion (or 7%) of the total gross value of agricultural production in 2008-09.

### GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED—2008-09, 2007-08



- (a) Excludes value of wool on skins.  
 (b) Includes value of dead wool and wool on skins.  
 (c) Includes pastures, cereals and other crops for hay.  
 (d) Includes nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf.

### Crops

Increases in the production of many broadacre crops (following the drought conditions of 2007-08) were offset by price declines in 2008-09, resulting in decreased gross values.

In 2008-09 there was a \$729.1 million increase in the value of wheat for grain. Cotton values returned to pre 2007-08 levels, nearly tripling to \$650.8 million, and the value of canola increased by 54%, up to \$1.0 billion. In contrast, the decline in crop value was highlighted by falls in the gross values of barley (down by 18%), grain sorghum (down by 43%) and hay (down by 43%).

Falls in production and average prices for grapes in 2008-09 contributed to their reduced gross value, decreasing by 28% to \$1.2 billion.

### Livestock slaughterings and other disposals

In 2008-09, live animal exports contributed to a 1% increase in the total value of cattle and calves slaughterings and other disposals, up to \$7.5 billion.

Increases in the average prices of sheep and lambs in 2008-09 offset the continued decline in slaughterings. The gross total value of sheep and lamb slaughterings and other disposals rose by 15% to \$2.5 billion.

The gross total value of pig slaughterings and other disposals declined to \$894.7 million (down by 1%) after falling production levels were recorded in 2008-09.

The gross total value of poultry slaughterings rose by 14% to \$1.9 billion in 2008-09, following increases in production and average prices.

**SUMMARY OF FINDINGS** *continued*

*Livestock products*

In 2008-09, there were falls in the total value of production of both wool and milk, with noticeable decreases in average prices. The value of milk fell by 13% to \$4.0 billion and wool was down by 22% to \$1.8 billion.

## VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED—Year ended 30 June

	AUST.			2009							
	2007	2008	2009	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
GROSS VALUE											
Crops	17 877.1	23 818.2	22 856.6	4 925.8	4 332.1	4 883.5	2 839.5	5 231.0	556.9	83.3	4.5
Livestock slaughterings and other disposals	12 335.9	12 103.6	12 751.7	2 858.8	2 965.1	4 033.2	1 018.2	1 320.5	245.1	306.5	4.3
Livestock products	5 846.8	7 348.3	6 240.3	1 306.7	2 903.3	488.8	549.8	624.7	359.0	*—	8.0
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>36 059.7</b>	<b>43 270.2</b>	<b>41 848.6</b>	<b>9 091.3</b>	<b>10 200.5</b>	<b>9 405.5</b>	<b>4 407.5</b>	<b>7 176.2</b>	<b>1 161.0</b>	<b>389.8</b>	<b>16.8</b>
MARKETING COSTS											
Crops	1 648.2	1 864.6	1 972.6	482.0	336.9	609.5	178.1	331.0	30.0	5.0	—
Livestock slaughterings and other disposals	912.6	885.7	952.0	203.0	241.1	243.4	86.8	125.2	21.3	30.8	0.4
Livestock products	193.8	180.0	165.6	52.0	35.9	20.6	21.6	31.2	3.5	*—	0.9
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>2 754.6</b>	<b>2 930.3</b>	<b>3 090.1</b>	<b>737.0</b>	<b>614.0</b>	<b>873.4</b>	<b>286.4</b>	<b>487.3</b>	<b>54.8</b>	<b>35.8</b>	<b>1.3</b>
LOCAL VALUE											
Crops	16 228.8	21 953.6	20 884.0	4 443.8	3 995.1	4 274.0	2 661.5	4 900.0	526.9	78.3	4.5
Livestock slaughterings and other disposals	11 423.3	11 217.9	11 799.7	2 655.8	2 724.0	3 789.8	931.4	1 195.3	223.8	275.7	3.9
Livestock products	5 653.0	7 168.3	6 074.7	1 254.7	2 867.3	468.3	528.2	593.6	355.5	*—	7.1
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>33 305.1</b>	<b>40 339.8</b>	<b>38 758.4</b>	<b>8 354.3</b>	<b>9 586.5</b>	<b>8 532.0</b>	<b>4 121.1</b>	<b>6 688.9</b>	<b>1 106.2</b>	<b>353.9</b>	<b>15.5</b>

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

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

## GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED—Year ended 30 June

	AUST.			2009							
	2007	2008	2009	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT
	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m	\$m
Cereals for grain											
Wheat	2 618.5	5 291.9	6 021.0	1 845.2	501.9	535.6	618.0	2 510.1	10.2	—	^—
Oats	180.5	422.5	251.0	66.1	53.8	*3.0	^ 18.8	107.9	^ 1.4	—	*—
Barley	1 038.9	2 244.0	1 849.8	372.0	407.5	43.3	332.1	686.7	8.2	—	—
Sorghum	273.7	977.4	552.5	196.0	**0.4	355.7	—	0.4	*—	0.1	—
Rice	^ 55.0	7.3	^ 34.5	^ 34.5	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Other	241.0	na	298.9	105.5	^ 34.5	77.8	23.3	56.1	^ 1.8	—	—
Cotton(a)	506.7	227.3	650.8	325.6	—	^ 325.2	—	—	—	—	—
Fruit and nuts (excluding grapes)	3 499.2	2 757.5	2 871.0	453.2	810.1	947.4	327.3	217.9	86.0	29.1	*0.1
Grapes	1 137.8	1 693.6	1 213.0	223.7	^ 360.2	^ 23.9	504.2	81.7	16.0	^ 3.2	0.2
Hay(b)	1 618.6	2 817.9	1 619.8	240.9	792.9	136.9	195.5	181.9	61.9	9.4	^ 0.3
Legumes for grain											
Lupins	124.9	221.5	198.1	^ 15.9	^ 8.2	0.1	^ 18.6	155.1	^ 0.1	—	—
Other	254.3	na	424.8	151.7	58.2	78.1	106.2	^ 30.0	^ 0.6	**—	—
Nursery production(c)	1 447.9	1 432.8	1 294.9	300.7	392.0	297.0	^ 58.2	^ 196.8	33.8	^ 12.5	^ 3.7
Oilseeds											
Canola	227.2	658.6	1 011.4	126.9	^ 125.7	**1.1	107.9	648.6	1.2	—	—
Other	^ 19.9	na	87.3	^ 51.2	**0.1	^ 36.1	—	**—	—	—	—
Sugar cane for crushing	1 221.4	861.0	1 020.8	^ 53.2	—	967.6	—	—	—	—	—
Vegetables	3 164.6	3 362.7	3 012.3	322.0	652.4	951.6	476.3	341.0	240.7	28.2	*0.1
All other crops(d)	247.0	842.1	^ 444.7	^ 41.8	*134.2	^ 103.1	^ 53.1	^ 16.8	94.9	^ 0.8	—
<b>Total crops</b>	<b>17 877.1</b>	<b>23 818.2</b>	<b>22 856.6</b>	<b>4 925.8</b>	<b>4 332.1</b>	<b>4 883.5</b>	<b>2 839.5</b>	<b>5 231.0</b>	<b>556.9</b>	<b>83.3</b>	<b>4.5</b>
Livestock slaughtering and other disposals											
Cattle and calves	7 987.9	7 353.3	7 451.7	1 490.8	1 308.2	3 365.6	254.1	557.1	169.9	303.4	2.5
Sheep and lambs(e)	2 057.1	2 167.9	2 492.2	512.8	938.1	59.6	405.7	528.9	45.6	—	1.5
Pigs	943.6	901.7	894.7	215.0	154.0	241.7	np	np	np	—	—
Poultry	1 294.1	1 636.6	1 861.5	629.5	550.7	350.5	np	np	np	—	0.3
Other livestock	53.3	44.2	51.6	10.8	14.1	15.9	2.3	5.5	—	3.0	—
<b>Total livestock slaughtering and other disposals</b>	<b>12 335.9</b>	<b>12 103.6</b>	<b>12 751.7</b>	<b>2 858.8</b>	<b>2 965.1</b>	<b>4 033.2</b>	<b>1 018.2</b>	<b>1 320.5</b>	<b>245.1</b>	<b>306.5</b>	<b>4.3</b>
Livestock products											
Wool(f)	2 281.6	2 309.0	1 805.7	617.6	383.9	86.9	250.6	408.1	57.6	—	1.1
Whole milk	3 177.6	4 571.7	3 987.6	558.2	2 396.4	293.0	280.3	167.6	292.2	—	—
Eggs	387.6	467.6	446.9	130.9	123.1	109.0	18.8	49.0	9.2	*—	6.9
<b>Total livestock products</b>	<b>5 846.8</b>	<b>7 348.3</b>	<b>6 240.3</b>	<b>1 306.7</b>	<b>2 903.3</b>	<b>488.8</b>	<b>549.8</b>	<b>624.7</b>	<b>359.0</b>	<b>*—</b>	<b>8.0</b>
<b>Total agriculture</b>	<b>36 059.7</b>	<b>43 270.2</b>	<b>41 848.6</b>	<b>9 091.3</b>	<b>10 200.5</b>	<b>9 405.5</b>	<b>4 407.5</b>	<b>7 176.2</b>	<b>1 161.0</b>	<b>389.8</b>	<b>16.8</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) Includes value of cotton lint and cotton seed.

(b) Includes pastures, cereals and other crops cut for hay.

(c) Includes nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf.

(d) In 2007-08, component commodity items not collected separately. Refer to the Explanatory Notes for further information.

(e) Excludes value of wool on skins.

(f) 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 information 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 have been collected from the 2008-09 Agricultural Survey. Remaining commodity data (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 data for individual states or territories have been suppressed for reasons of confidentiality, they have been included in relevant totals.
- 5** Where data have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.
- 6** The estimates for earlier years shown in this publication have been revised where necessary, for example, when a new price becomes available for a commodity after the previous publication date.
- 7** A wider range of commodity items was collected from the 2008-09 Agricultural Survey in comparison to the 2007-08 Agricultural Resource Management Survey (ARMS). Care should be taken when comparing estimates over time for Australia, state/territory and regional levels as not all categories directly align between years. Further information is available upon request.
- 8** As a result of the reduced range of commodities collected in the 2007-08 ARMS, it was necessary to estimate the values of the non-reported commodities for the groups, 'All other crops', 'All other orchard fruit' and 'All other fruit'. For each of these commodity groups, only a total area was collected in 2007-08. To derive approximate 2007-08 production quantities for the commodities in these groups, production quantities for each of the groups from the 2006-07 Agricultural Survey were adjusted on a pro-rata basis to the 2007-08 reported commodity group areas. Average 2007-08 market prices were applied to these estimated 2007-08 production quantities to produce commodity values for 2007-08. These commodity values contributed to the 'All other crops' category in 2007-08, and not to 'Other cereals for grain', 'Other legumes for grain' or 'Other oilseeds'. Further information is available upon request.
- 9** In 2006-07 and 2008-09, 'Other cereals for grain' included maize and triticale, 'Other legumes for grain' included chickpeas, field peas, faba and other field beans, lentils, vetches, etc., and 'Other oilseeds' included safflower, soybeans and sunflowers.
- 10** 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

- 11** The production statistics used in deriving the final value estimates relate to years ended 30 June 2009, 2008 and 2007.

## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### SAMPLE ERROR

**12** The estimates for 2008-09 gross value of most crops are based on information obtained from respondents to the 2008-09 Agricultural Survey, which was a sample survey drawn from the total agricultural business population in scope of that collection. These estimates are therefore subject to sampling variability. That is, they may differ from the figures that would have been produced if all agricultural businesses had been included in the Agricultural Survey.

**13** 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 agricultural businesses had been reported for, and about nineteen chances in twenty that the difference will be less than two SEs.

**14** 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.

**15** 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.

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

RELATIVE STANDARD ERRORS, Gross values of selected commodities—Year ended 30 June 2009

	Aust.	NSW	Vic.	Qld	SA	WA	Tas.	NT	ACT
	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%	%
Barley for grain	2.60	6.10	4.30	9.30	3.30	5.50	5.50	—	—
Wheat for grain	1.60	3.60	4.60	5.50	2.60	2.10	9.80	—	21.50
Lupins for grain	3.80	12.90	15.10	—	16.70	4.20	10.10	—	—
Sugar cane for crushing	5.80	12.10	—	6.10	—	—	—	—	—
Total crops	0.80	1.80	2.60	1.80	1.10	1.60	1.90	3.50	9.20
Total livestock slaughterings	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Total livestock products	0.20	0.90	0.20	1.00	0.20	0.40	0.10	26.30	—
Total agriculture	0.50	1.00	1.10	0.90	0.70	1.20	0.90	0.70	2.50

— nil or rounded to zero (including null cells)

### ABS DATA AVAILABLE ON REQUEST

**17** Data at sub-state geographies, specifically Statistical Divisions (SD) and Natural Resource Management (NRM) regions, will be released as separate datacubes attached to this publication.

**18** 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 the National Information and Referral Service on 1300 135 070.



## EXPLANATORY NOTES *continued*

### GENERAL ACKNOWLEDGMENT

**19** 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

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

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

*Agricultural Commodities: Small Area Data, Australia* (cat. no. 7125.0)

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

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

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

*Value of Principal Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia, Preliminary*  
(cat. no. 7501.0)

*Vineyards Estimates, Australia* (cat. no. 1329.0.55.002)

**21** For more information on other products released by the ABS, please refer to the ABS website <<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.

## GLOSSARY

<b>Agricultural business</b>	A business which is engaged mainly in agricultural activities.
<b>Average gross unit value</b>	Calculated by dividing the gross value of each commodity produced by the total production of each corresponding commodity. It includes any relevant subsidy and bounty payments based on production.
<b>Broadacre crops</b>	Crops that are typically grown on a broad scale. They include cereals for grain, cotton, hay, legumes for grain, oilseeds, sugar cane for crushing and all other crops.
<b>Dead wool</b>	Wool gathered or plucked from sheep that have been dead for some time.
<b>Disposal</b>	Refers to the stage in livestock production, usually in the pork and poultry industries, where animals are grown on a contract basis for others and then disposed of (not sold) when finished.
<b>Estimated value of agricultural operations (EVAO)</b>	An estimation of agricultural activity undertaken by an agricultural establishment. Three-year average weighted prices are applied to livestock sales and livestock numbers on the farm, and to area and production data for crops. The resultant aggregation of these commodity values is the EVAO. It is not an indicator of the value of receipts of individual farms but rather the extent of agricultural activity.
<b>Gross unit value (GUV)</b>	See Average gross unit value.
<b>Gross value of agricultural commodities produced</b>	The value placed on recorded production at the wholesale prices realised in the market place.
<b>Livestock slaughterings and other disposals</b>	<p>Values are published as one figure but include two distinct components:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ value of livestock slaughtered.</li> <li>■ value of net exports, i.e. the total value of livestock intended for slaughter in adjacent states and territories 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.</li> </ul>
<b>Local value of agricultural commodities produced</b>	The value placed on commodities at the point of production (i.e. farm gate). It is calculated by deducting marketing costs from the gross value of commodities produced. Gross and local value of agricultural commodities produced involve some duplication as they include certain agricultural commodities which are consumed as raw materials to produce other agricultural commodities (e.g. hay consumed by livestock).
<b>Marketing costs</b>	Represent the difference between gross and local values. Although there are difficulties in obtaining complete information on marketing costs, (which include freight, cost of containers, commission and other marketing charges) the information provides a perspective on the marketing costs of major commodities. Significant differences in the marketing costs for individual commodities may occur as a result of different marketing arrangements.
<b>Market place</b>	Generally the metropolitan market in each state and territory. 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 places.
<b>Value of agricultural commodities produced (VACP)</b>	The value placed on recorded production at wholesale prices realised in the market place. Generally referred to as gross value of production.



## FOR MORE INFORMATION . . .

### INTERNET

**www.abs.gov.au** the ABS website is the best place for data from our publications and information about the ABS.

## INFORMATION AND REFERRAL SERVICE

Our consultants can help you access the full range of information published by the ABS that is available free of charge from our website. Information tailored to your needs can also be requested as a 'user pays' service. Specialists are on hand to help you with analytical or methodological advice.

### PHONE

1300 135 070

### EMAIL

client.services@abs.gov.au

### FAX

1300 135 211

### POST

Client Services, ABS, GPO Box 796, Sydney NSW 2001

## FREE ACCESS TO STATISTICS

All statistics on the ABS website can be downloaded free of charge.

### WEB ADDRESS

**www.abs.gov.au**