

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)

PROPOSAL NO. 6 OF 2014

BY

AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS

LAND MANAGEMENT AND AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES SURVEY 2013-14

The Australian Bureau of Statistics proposes to conduct a Land Management and Agricultural Commodities Survey (LMACS) which will collect information from the 2013-14 financial year.

The LMACS will be enumerated from July 2014 through to November 2014. The survey will provide respondents with the option to respond using paper or electronic forms. The collection will be taken from a sample of approximately 17,000 agricultural businesses across Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of land management practices and agricultural commodities including:

- pasture and crop cultivation;
- crop management;
- crop stubble and trash management;
- livestock management;
- pasture management;
- vegetation management;
- fertiliser use;
- soil management;
- animal waste management;
- water for agricultural production and irrigation expenditure;
- wetlands, rivers and creeks management;
- farm management;
- land use;
- livestock;
- horticulture crops; and
- broadacre crops.

The purpose of the collection is to provide information on land management practices undertaken by agricultural businesses and on the production of core agricultural commodities across Australia.

Results from the collection will be published at national, state, and regional levels.

The collection has been designed to bring together information from two current collections, the 2013-14 Land Management Practices Survey (LAMPS) and Rural Environment and Agricultural Commodities Surveys (REACS) to reduce the impact on agricultural providers who may be selected in both of these collections.

The information proposed to be collected has been developed in consultation with major users including the Department of Agriculture and industry bodies. The data will contribute to informed decision-making in relation to the agriculture industry and in relation to environmental issues associated with the production of agricultural commodities. It will also be used by the Australian Bureau of Statistics in the compilation of the Australian National Accounts.

The information that will be collected has been field tested to ensure that the required data are readily available. No significant adverse respondent reaction is expected. The collection will be required to be cleared through the Statistical Clearing House before it goes into the field.

Final results from the 2013-14 collection are expected to be published from mid-2015.

This collection forms part of the Australian Bureau of Statistic's program of agricultural statistics and the Australian Bureau of Statistics expects to conduct the collection biennially up to and including the 2015-16 reference period.

Jonathan Palmer  
Acting Australian Statistician

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