



Australian
Farming

in Brief

2013

**NUMBER OF BUSINESSES WITH AGRICULTURAL ACTIVITY,
BY INDUSTRY(a), 2011–12**

Nursery production	874
Turf growing	255
Floriculture production	629
Mushroom growing	^101
Vegetable growing	4,380
Grape growing	4,966
Other fruit and tree nut growing	4,291
Apple and pear growing	686
Citrus fruit growing	975
Sheep farming (specialised)	11,944
Beef cattle farming plus beef cattle feedlots (specialised)	38,752
Sheep-beef cattle farming	6,526
Grain-sheep or grain-beef cattle farming	11,552
Rice growing	645
Other grain growing	13,053
Sugar cane growing	3,476
Cotton growing	736
Other crop growing n.e.c.	1,897
Dairy cattle farming	8,203
Poultry farming (meat)	747
Poultry farming (eggs)	301
Deer farming, horse farming, beekeeping plus other livestock farming n.e.c.	5,417
Pig farming	575
Total agriculture	120,980
All other industries	14,711
Total all industries	135,692

(a) Count of agricultural businesses with an EVAO of \$5,000 or more.

LAND USE ON FARMS, at 30 June

		2010	2011	2012
Number of agricultural businesses engaged in agricultural activity(a)	no.	134,553	135,654	135,692
Total area of agricultural businesses	'000 ha	398,580	409,673	405,474
Area of crops(b)	'000 ha	25,968	32,078	31,993
Total area of Australia	'000 ha	769,202	769,202	769,202

(a) Count of agricultural businesses with an EVAO of \$5,000 or more.

(b) Excludes pastures and grasses.

LIVESTOCK NUMBERS, at 30 June

	2010	2011	2012
	'000	'000	'000
Dairy cattle	2,542	2,570	2,733
Meat cattle and calves	24,008	25,936	25,685
Sheep and lambs	68,085	73,099	74,722
Pigs	2,289	2,285	2,138
Chickens for meat	71,290	77,633	80,842
Chickens for eggs(a)	11,734	13,111	13,379

(a) Including hens in moult.

LIVESTOCK SLAUGHTERINGS AND PRODUCTS

		2010	2011	2012
Livestock slaughterings (no.)				
Cattle	'000	7,461	7,369	7,201
Calves	'000	903	729	672
Sheep	'000	7,333	5,340	5,175
Lambs	'000	19,478	17,880	18,879
Pigs	'000	4,561	4,643	4,732
Chickens(a)	'000	465,677	549,891	551,339
Meat production (carcass weight)				
Beef	'000 t	2,057	2,089	2,074
Veal	'000 t	52	44	41
Mutton	'000 t	162	123	120
Lamb	'000 t	413	391	419
Pig meat	'000 t	331	342	351
Chicken meat (dressed weight)(a)	'000 t	834	1,015	1,030
Wool receivals	'000 t	353	368	348
Whole milk factory intake(b)	ML	9,023	9,100	9,480

(a) Excludes Tas., NT and ACT.

(b) Data collection is based on farm location.



MAJOR CROPS

			2010	2011	2012
Crops for grain					
Barley	Production	'000 t	7,865	7,995	8,221
	Area	'000 ha	4,422	3,681	3,718
Grain sorghum	Production	'000 t	1,508	1,935	2,239
	Area	'000 ha	498	633	659
Lupins	Production	'000 t	823	808	982
	Area	'000 ha	692	756	689
Oats	Production	'000 t	1,162	1,128	1,262
	Area	'000 ha	850	826	731
Rice	Production	'000 t	197	723	^919
	Area	'000 ha	19	76	^103
Wheat	Production	'000 t	21,834	27,410	29,905
	Area	'000 ha	13,881	13,502	13,902
Other crops					
Canola	Production	'000 t	1,907	2,359	3,427
	Area	'000 ha	1,695	2,078	2,461
Cotton lint	Production	'000 t	352	844	973
	Area	'000 ha	196	588	596
Sugar cane for crushing	Production	'000 t	31,235	25,182	25,957
	Area	'000 ha	389	308	339
Fruit					
Apples	Production	'000 t	264	300	289
	Trees(a)	'000	7,501	8,859	8,224
Bananas	Production	'000 t	302	203	286
	Bearing area	'000 ha	12	11	13
Mangoes	Production	'000 t	44	37	45
	Trees(a)	'000	1,178	1,416	1,220
Oranges	Production	'000 t	391	291	390
	Trees(a)	'000	6,791	7,466	6,802
Pears (incl. Nashi)	Production	'000 t	95	123	119
	Trees(a)	'000	1,427	1,625	1,669
Vegetables					
Carrots	Production	'000 t	267	225	319
	Area	'000 ha	5	5	6
Onions	Production	'000 t	260	331	347
	Area	'000 ha	5	6	7
Potatoes(b)	Production	'000 t	1,278	1,128	1,288
	Area	'000 ha	36	32	34
Tomatoes(b)	Production	'000 t	472	302	^372
	Area	'000 ha	8	8	7

(a) Trees of bearing age. (b) Includes Processing and Fresh Market.

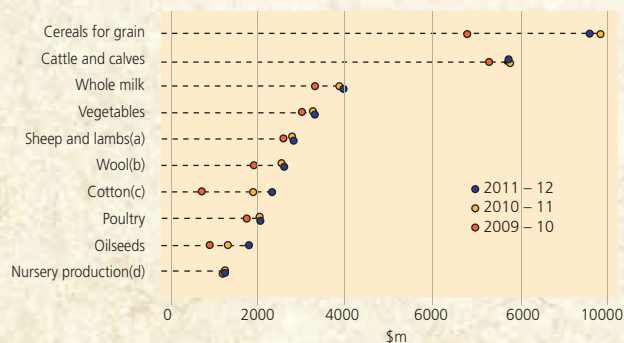


GROSS VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED

	2010	2011	2012
	\$m	\$m	\$m
Crops			
Cereals for grain	6,806	9,845	9,610
Cotton(a)	754	1,902	2,346
Legumes for grain	725	953	907
Grapes	1,110	1,013	1,041
Nursery production(b)	1,324	1,263	1,272
Oilseeds	906	1,328	1,819
Sugar cane cut for crushing	1,382	950	1,128
Vegetables	3,023	3,338	3,339
Total crops	21,260	25,048	25,586
Livestock slaughterings and other disposals			
Cattle and calves	7,268	7,824	7,785
Sheep and lambs(c)	2,627	2,862	2,900
Pigs	965	919	934
Poultry	1,785	2,077	2,078
Other livestock	77	113	101
Total livestock slaughterings and other disposals	12,721	13,795	13,797
Livestock products			
Wool(d)	1,928	2,673	2,734
Whole milk	3,371	3,932	3,986
Eggs	428	572	583
Total livestock products(e)	5,726	7,177	7,304
Total agriculture	39,707	46,020	46,687

- (a) Includes value of cotton lint and cotton seed.
 (b) Includes nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf.
 (c) Excludes value of wool on skins.
 (d) Includes value of dead wool and wool on skins.
 (e) Excludes gross value of honey and beeswax.

Gross value of agricultural commodities produced



- (a) Excludes value of wool on skins
 (b) Includes value of dead wool and wool on skins.
 (c) Includes value of cotton lint and cotton seed.
 (d) Includes nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf.

EXPORTS OF SELECTED COMMODITIES(a)



		2010	2011	2012
Crops				
Barley				
Quantity	'000 t	3,533	3,931	5,804
Value	\$m	702	996	1,523
Canola				
Quantity	'000 t	1,238	1,471	2,323
Value	\$m	583	866	1,344
Cotton lint				
Quantity	'000 t	395	504	994
Value	\$m	755	1,367	2,736
Rice(b)				
Quantity	'000 t	2	29	18
Value	\$m	4	18	14
Wheat				
Quantity	'000 t	13,591	18,348	22,972
Value	\$m	3,636	5,482	6,351
Livestock				
Live cattle				
Quantity	'000	958	805	683
Value	\$m	701	660	651
Live sheep				
Quantity	'000	3,060	2,916	2,562
Value	\$m	298	348	345
Livestock products				
Beef(c)				
Quantity	'000 t	934	981	995
Value	\$m	4,109	4,527	4,685
Mutton and lamb				
Quantity	'000 t	277	259	278
Value	\$m	1,389	1,516	1,493
Wool (greasy)				
Quantity	'000 t	307	331	299
Value	\$m	1,762	2,346	2,437

(a) Value of exports are on a free on board (f.o.b.) basis.

(b) Excludes milled rice.

(c) Includes veal and buffalo meat.

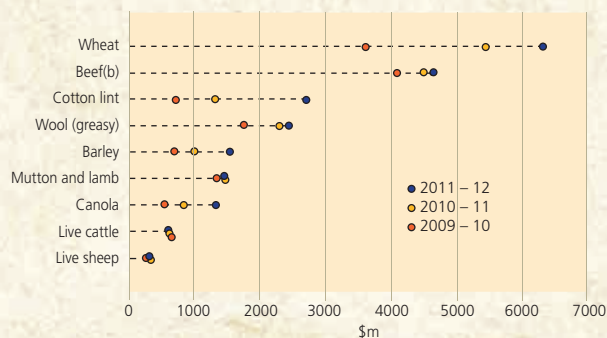
Source: ABS data available on request, International Trade.

IRRIGATION ACTIVITY

	2010	2011	2012
Agricultural businesses (no.)(a)	134,553	135,654	135,692
Agricultural businesses irrigating (no.)	40,816	38,752	34,911
Area of agricultural land ('000 ha)	398,580	409,673	405,474
Area irrigated ('000 ha)	1,841	1,963	2,141
Volume applied (ML)	6,596,040	6,645,375	8,174,320
Application rate (ML/ha)(b)	3.6	3.4	3.8

(a) Refers to the total number of businesses that operated during the financial year.
 (b) Averaged across all irrigated pastures and crops.

Value of exports of selected commodities(a)



(a) Value of exports are on a free on board (f.o.b.) basis.
 (b) Includes veal and buffalo meat.

Source: ABS data available on request, International Trade.



ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

Individuals, businesses, governments and other organisations freely provide information on which ABS publications are based. Their continued cooperation is very much appreciated; without it, the wide range of statistics published by the ABS would not be available for general use by the community. Information received by the ABS is treated in strict confidence, as required by the *Census and Statistics Act 1905*.

SYMBOLS AND ABBREVIATIONS USED

ABR	Australian Business Register
ABS	Australian Bureau of Statistics
ACT	Australian Capital Territory
EVAO	estimated value of agricultural operations
f.o.b.	free on board
ha	hectares
incl.	including
m	million
ML	megalitre
ML/ha	megalitres per hectare
na	not available
n.e.c.	not elsewhere classified
no.	number
NT	Northern Territory
RSE	relative standard error
t	tonnes
Tas.	Tasmania
wt	weight
'000	thousands
\$m	million dollars
^	relative standard error (RSE) between 10% and less than 25%

NOTES

The reference period for 2010, 2011 and 2012 was the year ending 30 June, unless otherwise indicated.

The scope of the 2010, 2012 Agricultural Surveys and the 2011 Agricultural Census was agricultural businesses with an EVAO of \$5,000 or more.

FOR MORE INFORMATION

Agricultural Commodities, Australia (cat. no. 7121.0)
Water Use on Australian Farms, Australia (cat. no. 4618.0)
Livestock Products, Australia (cat. no. 7215.0)
Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced (cat. no. 7503.0)
Agricultural Resource Management Practices, Australia (cat. no. 4630.0)
Land Management and Farming in Australia (cat. no. 4627.0)

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