



Foreign Agricultural Service

GAIN Report

Global Agriculture Information Network

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Australia

Grain and Feed

Grains Voluntary Update - February Lockup 2002

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Report Highlights:

Post forecasts Australian wheat production for 2001/02 at 23.3 MMT, an increase of 1.25 MMT on the January forecast and slightly below production for the previous year. Barley production is now forecast at 7.4 MMT, an increase of 550TMT on the previous forecast and an increase of three percent on production for the previous year.

Includes PSD changes: No
Includes Trade Matrix: No
Unscheduled Report
Canberra [AS1], AS

Post forecasts Australian wheat production for 2001/02 at 23.3 MMT, an increase of 1.25 MMT on the January forecast and slightly below production for the previous year. ABARE's December forecast of 22.07 MMT remains unchanged with the next Crop Report now rescheduled for February 19, 2002.

The increase in forecast production for Australia has been primarily driven by large increases for South Australia (SA) and Western Australia (WA). Post has increased production only slightly for Victoria.

Post puts production for SA at 4.9 MMT, 14 percent higher than post's previous forecast. According to government reports, ongoing cooler and wetter conditions toward the end of the season created an exceptionally long ripening period increasing yields and extending harvest by several weeks.

Post puts production for WA at 7.45 MMT, around 8 percent higher than the previous forecast. Good falls of rain and cooler conditions toward the end of the season boosted yields and lifted production significantly.

Post anticipates that official area estimates for both wheat and barley will be substantially increased when final official estimates are released by ABS. Post believes this accounts for much of the under estimation of this years production.

Barley production is now forecast at 7.4 MMT, an increase of 550TMT on the previous forecast and an increase of three percent on production for the previous year. This increase is driven by a large increase in SA and smaller increases in WA, Victoria and NSW.

AUSTRALIA WHEAT: State-Level Statistics							
(Million Hectares; Tons Per Hectare; Million Tons)							
			ABARE	POST	ABARE	POST	POST
			EST.	EST.	EST.	EST.	EST.
	1999/2000	2000/2001 (R)	2001/2002	2001/2002	2001/2002	2001/2002	2001/2002
Queensland				Sep	Dec	Dec	Jan
Area	1.096	0.987	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600	0.600
Yield	1.792	1.306	1.500	1.250	1.250	1.250	1.250
Prod	1.964	1.289	0.900	0.750	0.750	0.750	0.750
New South Wales							
Area	3.425	3.877	3.400	3.400	3.400	3.400	3.400
Yield	2.512	2.161	2.118	2.147	2.118	2.147	2.147
Prod	8.602	8.380	7.200	7.300	7.200	7.300	7.300
Victoria							
Area	1.235	1.259	1.170	1.170	1.170	1.170	1.170
Yield	2.139	2.683	2.137	2.393	2.393	2.393	2.436
Prod	2.642	3.378	2.500	2.800	2.800	2.800	2.850
South Australia							
Area	1.850	2.119	2.100	2.100	2.100	2.100	2.100
Yield	1.398	2.116	1.900	2.048	2.048	2.048	2.333
Prod	2.586	4.484	3.990	4.300	4.300	4.300	4.900
Western Australia							
Area	4.556	4.753	3.900	3.900	3.900	3.900	3.900
Yield	1.976	1.306	1.400	1.769	1.795	1.769	1.910
Prod	9.004	6.209	5.460	6.900	7.000	6.900	7.450
Total							
Area	12.168	13.002	11.176	11.176	11.176	11.176	11.176
Yield	2.035	1.828	1.796	1.973	1.975	1.973	2.085
Prod	24.757	23.765	20.072	22.050	22.070	22.050	23.300
Estimates based on historical Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics reports.							
(R) ABARE revised production for 2000/01 year upwards on October 31, 2000 in line with preliminary figures from ABS.							

AUSTRALIA BARLEY: State-level Statistics							
(Million Hectares; Tons Per Hectare; Million Tons)							
			ABARE	POST	ABARE	POST	POST
			EST.	EST.	EST.	EST.	EST.
	1999/2000	2000/2001 (R)	2001/2002	2001/2002	2001/2002	2001/2002	2001/2002
Queensland				Sep	Dec	Dec	Jan
Area	0.130	0.123	0.080	0.080	0.090	0.080	0.080
Yield	1.992	1.008	1.250	1.250	1.611	1.250	1.250
Prod	0.259	0.124	0.100	0.100	0.145	0.100	0.100
New South Wales							
Area	0.450	0.643	0.530	0.530	0.525	0.530	0.530
Yield	2.338	1.997	2.102	2.358	2.114	2.358	2.453
Prod	1.052	1.284	1.114	1.250	1.110	1.250	1.300
Victoria							
Area	0.580	0.735	0.625	0.625	0.732	0.625	0.625
Yield	2.036	2.450	1.880	2.400	2.049	2.560	2.640
Prod	1.181	1.801	1.175	1.500	1.500	1.600	1.650
South Australia							
Area	0.846	1.114	0.965	0.965	0.970	0.965	0.965
Yield	1.667	2.241	2.030	2.228	2.268	2.228	2.591
Prod	1.410	2.496	1.959	2.150	2.200	2.150	2.500
Western Australia							
Area	0.530	1.050	0.950	0.950	0.970	0.950	0.950
Yield	2.113	1.394	1.600	1.789	1.856	1.842	1.947
Prod	1.120	1.464	1.520	1.700	1.800	1.750	1.850
Total							
Area	2.536	3.675	3.162	3.162	3.299	3.162	3.162
Yield	1.980	1.958	1.873	2.119	2.056	2.166	2.340
Prod	5.022	7.196	5.923	6.700	6.784	6.850	7.400
Estimates based on historical Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics reports.							
(R) ABARE revised production for 2000/01 year upwards on October 31, 2000 in line with preliminary figures from ABS.							