



ABARES AUSTRALIAN CROP REPORT

Summary

The ABARES forecast for South Australia's 2016–17 winter crop production is 7.3 million tonnes, 2.2% above the five year average and up 1.6% (or 0.1 million tonnes) from 2015-16.

National winter crop production in 2016–17 is estimated to be 42.3 million tonnes, 3.4% above the five year average and up 6.6% (or 2.6 million tonnes) on 2015–16.

South Australian autumn rainfall was generally above average and the Bureau of Meteorology's latest 3-month outlook for June to August indicates the chance of exceeding median rainfall during this period is more than 70% for most cropping regions.

Russian wheat aphids were detected near Tarlee in late May. ABARES says it is too early to estimate the impact on wheat production from the pest. PIRSA is monitoring the situation.

Further Analysis

Australia

The start to the 2016-17 winter cropping season has been generally favourable with above average rainfall in May providing improved planting conditions. The outlook for June to August is also for above average rainfall in most cropping regions. The area planted to winter crops is forecast to rise by 0.7% in 2016-17 and production is forecast to rise by 6.6%, reflecting assumed higher average crop yields.

ABARES is forecasting modest production rises of 1 to 2% during 2016-17 for New South Wales, Queensland and South Australia. Western Australia is forecast to record a production rise of 5.6% while Victoria's production is forecast to rise by 36%, following unfavourable seasonal conditions in the past couple of years.

The 0.7% forecast rise in area planted to winter crops in 2016-17 partly reflects a rise for canola (up 4.0%) offset by declines for wheat (down 0.6%) and barley (down 1.3%).

South Australia

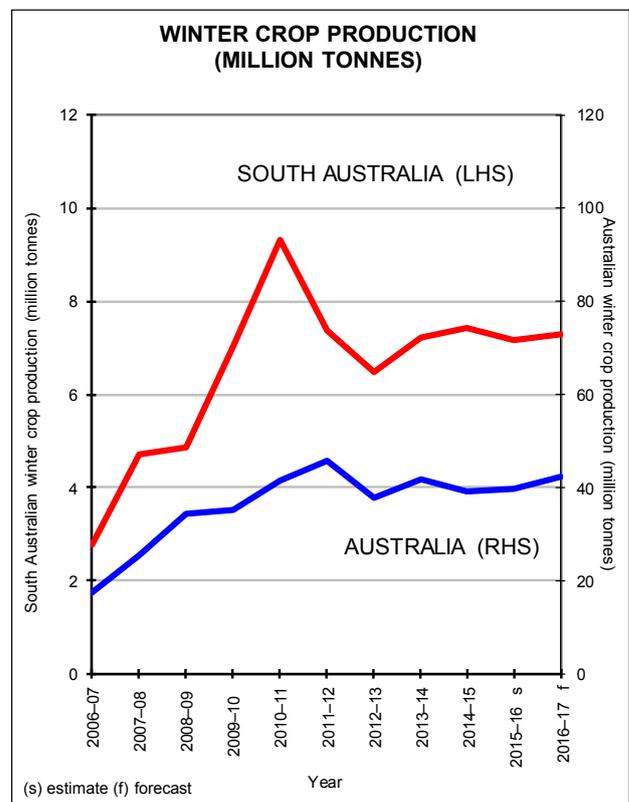
Autumn rainfall in South Australia was generally above average except in April when some regions had below average rainfall. The Bureau of Meteorology's latest outlook for June to August indicates a greater than 70% chance that median rainfall will be exceeded in most cropping zones.

The total area planted to winter crops is forecast to be unchanged in 2016-17 at 3.6 million hectares. This partly reflects a forecast rise in the area planted to canola (up 2.2%) offset by declines in the area planted to wheat (down 0.8%) and barley (down 1.2%).

Wheat production in 2016-17 is forecast to fall slightly (down 0.2%) to 4.4 million tonnes, reflecting a decline of 0.8% in the area planted outweighing a modest 0.5% rise in the yield.

Barley production is forecast to decline by 1.1% to 1.9 million tonnes, reflecting a decline of 1.2% in the area planted and a broadly unchanged yield.

Canola production is forecast to rise by 3.4% to 306,000 tonnes, reflecting a rise of 2.2% in the area planted and a 1.1% increase in the yield.



Note: State winter crops include wheat, barley, oats, lupins, canola, field peas, chickpeas, faba beans, and lentils. Australian winter crops also include triticale, linseed, safflower and vetch.