

ABARES AUSTRALIAN CROP REPORT

Summary

The ABARES forecast for South Australia's 2016–17 winter crop production is 8.0 million tonnes, 12% above the five year average and up 12% (or 0.8 million tonnes) from 2015-16. The 2016–17 winter crop production forecast is the third highest on record.

National winter crop production in 2016–17 is estimated to be 46.1 million tonnes, 13% above the five year average and up 16% (or 6.5 million tonnes) on 2015–16.

Very favourable seasonal conditions over winter and the favourable outlook for spring rainfall, has seen forecast winter crop production in 2016-17 revised upwards from the ABARES forecast in June 2016. Forecast production has been revised up in all major producing states.

ABARES comments the forecast production will only be achieved if spring rainfall is sufficient and timely. Also some regions of Australia have developed relatively shallow root systems, which will not readily access stores of lower layer soil moisture, and upper layer soil moisture disappearing quickly in hot and dry conditions.

Further Analysis

Australia

The 16% rise in winter crop production is largely driven by significant increases in forecast production for Victoria (up 61%) and Western Australia (up 17%).

ABARES is forecasting a 5.5% increase in production for New South Wales, a 2.4% increase for Queensland and 12% rise for South Australia.

Wheat production is forecast rise by 16% to 28.1 million tonnes. Barley production is estimated to increase by 11% to 9.5 million tonnes and canola production by 23% to around 3.6 million tonnes. Wheat and barley production are both forecast to be the second highest on record and canola production to be the third highest.

For the first time since 2007–08 winter crop production is forecast to rise across all states.

South Australia

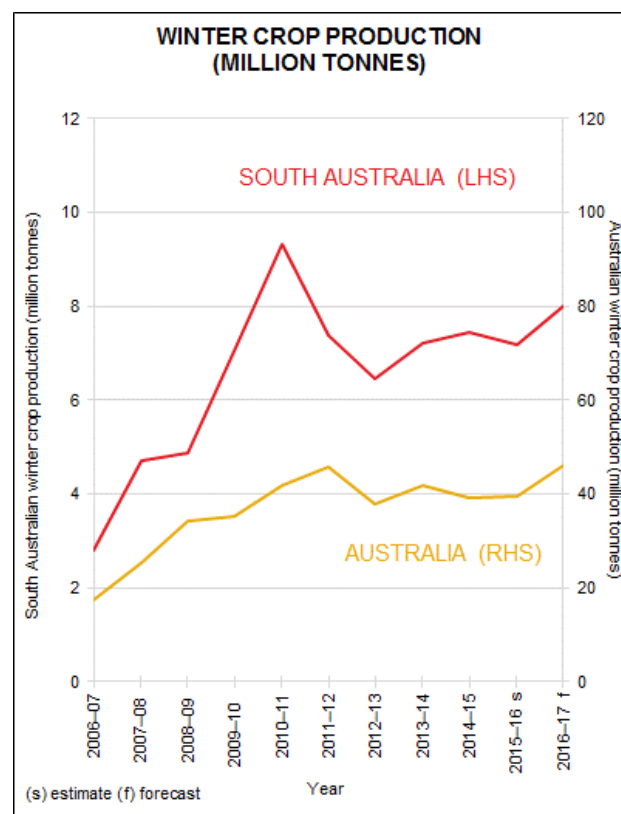
The state recorded average to above average winter rainfall in its major cropping regions. Soil moisture levels were generally around average by the end of winter. Sufficient and timely spring rainfall will be important to ongoing crop development.

The total area planted to winter crops is estimated to have risen by 2.6% to 3.7 million hectares.

Wheat production in 2016-17 is forecast to rise by 14% to 5.0 million tonnes, reflecting a 5.0% increase in the area planted and an 8.8% rise in the yield.

Barley production is forecast to decline by 1.6% to 1.9 million tonnes, reflecting a 3.7% decline in the area planted partly offset by a 2.1% rise in the yield.

Canola production is forecast to rise by 18% to 350,000 tonnes, reflecting a rise of 2.2% in the area planted and a 16% increase in the yield.



13 September 2016

Next release of ABARES Crop Report is 6 December 2016

