

GIWA Crop Report July 6 2012

WA Planting area estimate (hectares)

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	State total
Kwinana	2,483,000	422,000	331,000	117,000	94,000	9,000	3,456,000
Albany	687,000	341,000	265,000	94,000	20,000	8,000	1,415,000
Esperance	386,000	250,000	220,000	3,000	16,000	34,000	909,000
Geraldton	962,000	34,000	95,000	5,000	150,000	1,000	1,247,000
Totals	4,518,000	1,047,000	911,000	219,000	280,000	52,000	7,027,000
<i>2011</i>	<i>4,501,000</i>	<i>1,098,000</i>	<i>749,000</i>	<i>197,000</i>	<i>333,000</i>	<i>60,000</i>	<i>6,938,000</i>

WA Grain production estimate (tonnes)

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	State total
Kwinana	3,836,000	774,000	341,000	208,000	124,000	12,000	5,295,000
Albany	1,334,000	757,000	379,000	272,000	28,000	10,000	2,780,000
Esperance	705,000	467,000	303,000	5,000	18,000	45,000	1,543,000
Geraldton	1,740,000	68,000	77,000	10,000	193,000	700	2,088,700
Totals	7,615,000	2,066,000	1,100,000	495,000	363,000	67,700	11,706,700
<i>2011</i>	<i>11,082,000</i>	<i>2,805,000</i>	<i>1,182,000</i>	<i>467,000</i>	<i>705,000</i>	<i>70,600</i>	<i>16,311,600</i>

●Note: Estimate is for total farm production, and includes grain retained on-farm for seed and stock feed, and direct private sales to end users and packers.

June rainfall across WA was widespread and has provided good levels of soil moisture in most zones.

The majority of crops have now germinated. Generally, crops have established well and are clean and free of pests and diseases. Cold temperatures in the last half of June have slowed early growth.

The planted area estimates for the 2012 crop have been reduced slightly since last month based on reports of decreased plantings due to the late break in some low rainfall regions.

Attention is now focused on yield potential. Crops are 2 to 4 weeks behind the desired schedule for yield potential. The cold temperatures are also adversely affecting yield potential.

GIWA currently estimates the total WA crop is likely to only achieve average yields in 2012.

Kwinana: Patchy crop conditions exist across the Kwinana port zone. Crops sown on more than 15mm of rainfall in early May are in good condition, while those sown on less than 15mm are average to poor.

Rainfalls of between 60 to 100mm across the West Midlands region in June has all crops germinated but early growth is slow to stagnant.

Generally, 10% of the canola and cereal area is in very good condition while the remainder is in poor condition. Canola is 6 weeks behind the desired schedule and cereals 3 weeks behind. Districts with good growth include New Norcia to the west of Bolgart and west Wongan Hills. Cereals have germinated well and are at the 2 to 2½ leaf stage. Post emergent Nitrogen applications are being delayed until growth reaches the required stage. Crops are generally clean of weeds after a good knockdown at seeding.

In the central grainbelt, from Northam to Southern Cross, there are islands of good crop growth. However, 70% of crops are rated in below average to poor condition. The districts of Pingelly, Brookton and Wickpin are in good condition. However all districts have mixed conditions with a few good paddocks, many poor paddocks and some area already abandoned.

In the eastern districts, 10 to 15% of the intended wheat area has not been sown. This is mainly on the heavier soils where poor summer weed control exhausted the available sub soil moisture. Lupin plantings in these districts are down 25 to 30% on the 2011 area.

Albany: Across the north east Albany port zone, soil moisture is adequate despite rainfall being only 70% of the average June rainfall.

Lupins are in good condition where they were early sown. Barley and wheat crops are also in good condition. South of Pingaring has average to good crop yield potential, while north of Pingaring it is average at best. The Kulin, Kondinin and Hyden districts areas were dry but have now recovered with the June rainfall. Dry sown crops are looking best although 30% of the planted area is patchy. Around 30 to 40% of the canola area was dry sown with the remainder of the canola sown after rain having much lower yield potential.

Canola crop yield for the Albany Zone is down on last month's estimates due to slowing growth as a result of the recent cold weather. The potential cereal yields for the Zone remain average to above average.

The western and south coast districts are in excellent condition and the eastern coastal areas have improved in the last two weeks.

Esperance: Esperance has had good rainfall for June and generally growers are optimistic of the seasonal prospects. The Mallee districts received 40mm and the coastal areas about 70mm, which is about the June median rainfall for the Zone.

Crops on the heavy soils have germinated and are at the 2 to 3 leaf stage. Early germinated cereals are at the early to mid tillering stage. Canola is at early bolt stage. Crops are clean of weeds after effective early weed control and disease pressures are very low. Early Nitrogen has been applied. Further applications of Nitrogen will depend on growth of the crop and rainfall in July.

70% of the Mt Madden to Ravensthorpe area is in average condition and 30% below average. Hopetoun to Munglinup is looking very good. The area from North Cascades to Grass Patch is in good condition. Salmon Gums and east of Esperance is below average.

Geraldton: Areas north of Geraldton are dry and crops are struggling. Wheat is in the 5 leaf stage to mid tillering and wilting with no moisture. The Yuna district is also dry.

Yield potential in the north Midlands region, from Mingenew to Watheroo, is mostly below average, with about 40% of the cropped area just making average yield potential.

Crops around Perenjori and to the north and west of Morawa are very late and many are just in the 1 to 2 leaf stage. Below average yields are the most likely result in these districts.

The outlook for lupins is poor. This season, 50% of the sown lupins are patchy with 50% late germinated. Some paddocks, with non wetting soils, have lupins at the 10 leaf stage mixed with fresh germinations.

Canola crops are poor condition with some areas re-sown.

Overall 40% of wheat crops are in average to good condition, 40% is below average, and 20% is in poor condition. Nitrogen levels at depth and Yield Prophet are indicating there is adequate soil Nitrogen for current yield potential in most paddocks, demonstrating the value of using these tools in a tough year like 2012.

Crop Condition report; July 3 2012

weighted by the production average for each zone

Port zone	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Kwinana	26	36	29	9	0
Albany	0	11	44	38	8
Esperance	0	34	31	30	5
Geraldton	25	34	30	8	4
State Totals	14	28	34	20	4

Kwinana regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
East	50	40	10	0	0
North	15	35	45	5	0
Central	30	40	20	10	0
Southern	10	30	40	20	0
Total	26	36	29	9	0

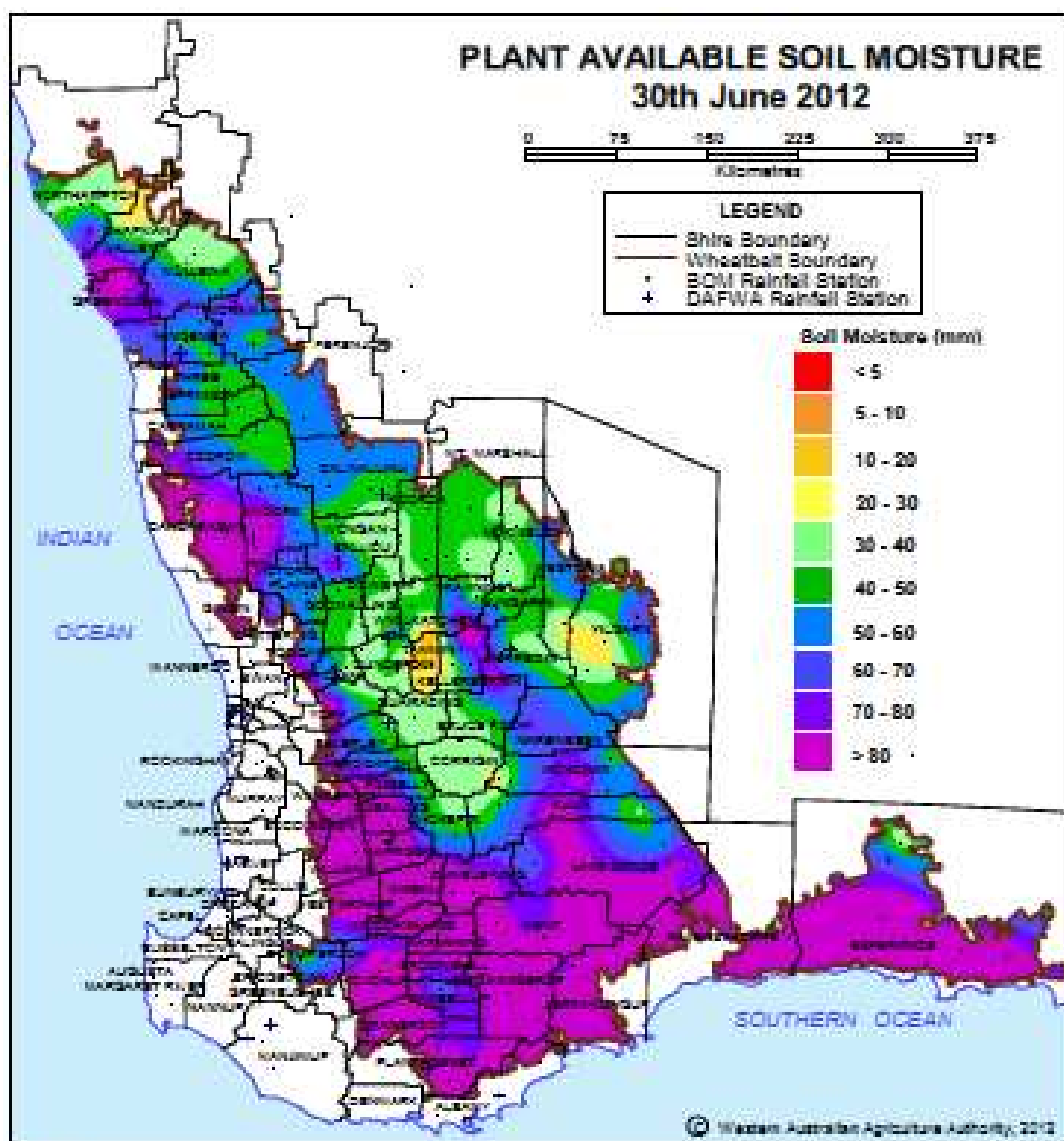
Albany regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Northern	0	10	40	40	10
West	0	20	50	20	10
Eastern	0	10	35	45	10
Coastal	0	5	50	45	0
Total	0	11.25	43.75	37.5	7.5

Esperance regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Mallee	0	45	55	0	0
East coastal	0	80	20	0	0
North western	0	10	30	60	0
West coastal	0	0	20	60	20
Total	0	33.75	31.25	30	5

Geraldton regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Northern	20	35	25	15	5
Eastern	20	30	25	15	10
Southern	30	35	35	0	0
South eastern	30	35	35	0	0
Total	25	33.75	30	7.5	3.75

Disclaimer: The information herein has been obtained from sources considered reliable but its accuracy and completeness cannot be guaranteed. Any advice has been prepared without taking into account specific objectives, financial situation or needs. No liability or responsibility is accepted for any errors or for any negligence, omissions in the contents, default or lack of care for any loss or damage whatsoever that may arise from actions based on any material contained in this publication. Readers who act on this information do so at their own risk. Consult your adviser before making crop, marketing or investment decisions.

GIWA would like to acknowledge the support of DAFWA and contribution from industry consultants in the production of this report



Department of Agriculture and Food



Additional information can be sourced from:

- **[BoM rainfall deciles for WA June 2012](#)**
- **[BoM rainfall deciles for WA April to June 2012](#)**
- **[DAFWA Statistical Seasonal forecast](#)**
- **[BoM- WA Seasonal Rainfall Outlook: probabilities for June to August 2012](#)**
- **[DAFWA Seasonal Update July 2012](#)**
- **[BoM month to date rainfall for WA](#)**

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