



GIWA Crop Report

17 September 2010

WA Planting estimate- hectares*

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	
Kwinana	2,004,000	373,000	258,000	85,000	156,000	10,000	
Albany	771,000	415,000	332,000	60,000	28,000	13,000	
Esperance	432,000	280,000	186,000	4,000	19,000	50,000	
Geraldton	740,000	40,000	82,000	4,000	175,000	600	State total
Totals	3,947,000	1,108,000	858,000	153,000	378,000	73,600	6,517,600

WA Production estimate- tonnes

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	
Kwinana	1,713,000	364,000	181,000	105,000	88,000	8,000	
Albany	1,043,000	609,000	368,000	84,000	27,000	12,000	
Esperance	878,000	600,000	261,000	5,000	29,000	71,000	
Geraldton	839,000	45,000	57,000	3,000	180,000	500	State total
Totals	4,473,000	1,618,000	867,000	197,000	324,000	91,500	7,570,500

Production commentary

Dry and warming conditions across the state in the last fortnight have produced strong downward pressure on crop yield potential in the Kwinana and Albany zones. Good soil moisture in the northern Geraldton zone and for most of the Esperance zone has maintained yield potential.

Accentuating the dry conditions is the delayed maturity of most crop species. The cold frosty conditions in June and early July may be a contributing factor in producing delayed flowering in wheat and barley. Weather models are all predicting fine and warm weather for the remainder of September, indicating that the production estimates may fall further in October.

The state predicted production is down 1.57 million tonnes from the start of September. Wheat has especially declined by 909,000 tonnes. Grain buyers should be aware that the total grain for purchase/marketing is reduced by a further 390,000 tonnes (excluding canola) for on-farm use; principally for seed.

Geraldton

Yield potential remains similar to the last report for most of the Geraldton zone with soil moisture adequate for grain filling except in the Moora, Dandaragan, Victoria Plains and Wongan Hills districts which are suffering moisture stress. Yield predictions for these areas have declined.

Kwinana

There has been no substantial rainfall cross the Kwinana zone in recent weeks and crops in all districts are under moisture stress. In the northern and eastern areas, rain now will be too late to make a significant difference. Western areas are declining markedly in yield potential.

*Primary Source for planted hectares - DAFWA- collated by Cindy Parsons, Narrogin. Further input industry sources

Albany

The northern half of the Albany zone continues is also desperate for rain. Yield potential has slipped markedly and a below average result is most likely.

All areas east of Brookton to Hyden are drought affected, with Narrogin to Lake Grace districts under severe moisture stress. The south coast continues in above average condition. One significant rain will deliver a good finish and ensure good grain quality.

Esperance

The Esperance zone remains on track for above average production, given the current soil moisture profile, cool moist growing conditions, low disease and insect levels. An exception is the Salmon Gums area north of Grass Patch which is dry and will be below average. Increases to the zone total yield are likely from continuing recovery of previously waterlogged southern crops area crops.

The estimate for planted field pea in the zone has been lifted by 10,000 ha to 50,000ha.

Crop Condition report

The crop condition report is an estimate of the crop conditions at September 16 across the four port zones as advised by experienced agronomists based in each zone. It is a snapshot of the current condition of crops and does not take account of weather forecasts. The WA total is weighted against the proportion of grain produced in each zone.

WA Crop Conditions – weighted by the production average for each zone

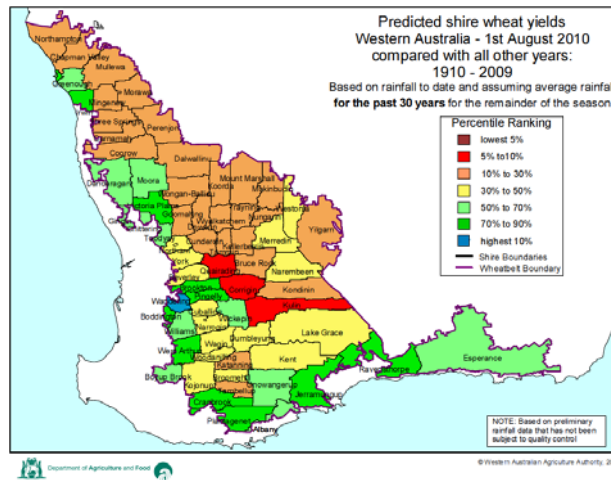
Port zone	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Kwinana	58	38	4	0	0
Albany	6	34	48	8	4
Esperance	0	3	9	64	24
Geraldton	38	42	20	0	0
State ave- weighted	25	29	21	17	7

Additional information can be sourced from:

[BoM rainfall deciles for WA August 2010](#)

[BoM rainfall deciles for WA June to August 2010](#)

[DAFWA predicted wheat yields by shire- August 2010](#)



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Mission: "To identify issues, develop policy and communicate solutions for the WA grain supply chain"