



GIWA Crop Report

November 5 2010

Planting estimate - hectares

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	
Kwinana	1,945,000	373,000	258,000	85,000	156,000	10,000	
Albany	749,000	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	83,000	4,000	175,000	600	State total
Totals	3,866,000	1,108,000	860,000	153,000	378,000	73,600	6,438,600

Production estimate - tonnes

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	
Kwinana	1,422,000	300,000	166,000	83,000	74,000	6,000	
Albany	696,000	483,000	257,000	55,000	14,000	9,000	
Esperance	689,000	503,000	226,000	4,000	23,000	66,000	
Geraldton	768,000	41,000	49,000	3,000	154,000	400	State total
Totals	3,575,000	1,327,000	698,000	145,000	265,000	81,400	6,091,400

Yield estimate - tonnes/hectare

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea
Kwinana	0.73	0.80	0.64	0.97	0.47	0.60
Albany	0.93	1.16	0.77	0.91	0.50	0.71
Esperance	1.59	1.79	1.21	1.03	1.22	1.33
Geraldton	1.04	1.03	0.59	0.77	0.88	0.67

Production commentary

The potential for the WA grain crop continued to decline due to no significant rain combined with warm to hot temperatures during October, for the vast majority of the state. Localised falls of 30mm over 10 days in the lower Great Southern and on the south coast were welcome.

The biggest impact on this forecast from last month is the decline in the crop condition at Esperance where a drying trend has reduced crop potential from good to average. The planted area for wheat in the north eastern Kwinana and Albany zones has been reduced by 10% based on new data now available for these areas.

Geraldton

Grain quality in all areas is average to poor. Unfortunately Crops with high biomass and high yield potential are producing poor quality grain. Conversely crops with lower potential yield have been producing slightly better quality grain.

Canola oil is being tested at 35-37% in southern districts (South Moora, Wongan Hills) and 38-41% where significant rain fell on August 31 (all areas north of Moora). Wongan Hills canola yields are around 0.3 to 0.4 t/ha, Moora 0.8 to 1 t/ha. Most canola grain is making Canola 1.

Wheat screenings are high at 15% with the variety Wyalkatchem having the lowest screenings on average. Wheat west of Wubin is yielding 0.8 to 1.4 t/ha. Barley yields are

generally good but screenings are very high at 40-60%. Some barley is making Malt 2, a smaller amount Malt 1 and the majority feed. Lupin yields are better than canola.

Kwinana

Barley yields in the east Kwinana zone are around 0.1 to 0.4 t/ha, averaging about 0.25 t/ha. Achieving malting grade quality is difficult, with most deliveries only making feed grade due to screenings. Vlamingh has lower screenings (35 to 50%) compared to Buloke mainly due to its rounder grain shape. Stirling barley screenings are similar to Vlamingh.

Canola yields have been around 50% of wheat which is lower than forecast. Oil is over 38% for all deliveries so far. Field pea is yielding 0.5 t/ha.

Albany

Low rainfall totals throughout October has seen yield potential decline further across the Albany zone. Coastal areas that showed good early potential have declined. Isolated rain was recorded from south Kojonup to Tambellup and the south Stirlings. North of the Stirlings is very dry and generally in poor condition. Wheat is at the soft dough stage and barley at hard dough. Harvest is about to commence in the Lakes area.

Esperance

Overall yield potential has declined through October with no rain. Soil moisture is very low in most districts. Soil cores in gravel and sands to 80cm away from the coast have shown limited to no moisture.

Mt Madden to Ravensthorpe crops have declined to average potential. Munglinup had 15-20mm 4 weeks ago and is still looking very good, along with Hopetoun and Jerdacuttup. Grass Patch east and the Salmon Gums region are very dry and yields will be very poor. Barley screenings are likely to be an issue. Wheat is still green and a rain may yet assist grain quality.

Crop Condition report

The crop condition report is an estimate of the crop conditions at November 4 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	80	20	0	0	0
Albany	43	38	18	0	1
Esperance	0	15	72	10	3
Geraldton	38	42	20	0	0
State ave- weighted	44	27	25	2	1

Additional information can be sourced from:

- [BoM rainfall deciles for WA October 2010](#)
- [BoM rainfall deciles for WA August to October 2010](#)
- [DAFWA predicted shire wheat yields October 2010](#)

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