



GIWA Crop Report

December 6 2010

WA 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	
Totals	3,866,000	1,108,000	860,000	153,000	378,000	73,600	6,438,600

WA Production estimate- tonnes

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	
Kwinana	1,442,000	302,000	163,000	83,000	73,000	6,000	
Albany	680,000	483,000	257,000	55,000	14,000	9,000	
Esperance	674,000	503,000	226,000	4,000	23,000	66,000	
Geraldton	768,000	41,000	49,000	3,000	154,000	400	
Totals	3,564,000	1,329,000	695,000	145,000	264,000	81,400	6,078,400

WA Yield estimate- tonnes/hectare

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea
Kwinana	0.74	0.81	0.63	0.97	0.47	0.60
Albany	0.91	1.16	0.77	0.91	0.50	0.71
Esperance	1.56	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 December production estimates are largely unchanged from the November report. The total state tonnage includes seed requirements for 2011 (400,000t). There is also a trend of increased on-farm storage of feed grain.

Occasional thunderstorms and south coastal rain disrupted harvest for small periods in November, however fine weather generally has prevailed. While yields are generally below average to poor, growers have been achieving the higher grain quality grades by blending and screening of wheat and barley.

Geraldton

Harvest is virtually complete north of Geraldton. Yields have varied from below average up to average. Quality is generally average with high levels of screenings being the greatest disappointment. Below average wheat crops that aborted some grain in response to the drying soil have produced better quality, in comparison to yields in crops which attempted to fulfill its potential.

Kwinana

Harvesting of barley has been completed resulting in average yields. Vlamingh performed best while Baudin had the highest screenings, with blending required to achieve Malt 2.

For wheat, Calingari required grading and blending to make APW, while Wyalkatchem was mostly borderline APW. Mace and Magenta both had very high screenings and have achieved only General Purpose grade.

Canola, while yielding poorly, has mostly achieved CAN1 grade.

Harvest is expected to be completed by mid December.

Albany

Harvest is in full swing in the Albany zone, with canola and barley almost finished. Canola yields were less than expected and highly variable. Frost has had a bigger impact than anticipated in the Kojonup, Katanning and Nyabing areas, perhaps stealing 50% of potential yield.

South coast yields of barley & wheat are 3-4 t/ha in places, but still highly variable within districts ranging down to 1.5 t/ha. For example in the following districts

- Woodanilling east 1.5 to 2 t/ha
- Nyabing - 0.5 to 1 t/ha.
- Pingrup/Lake Grace 200-300 kg/ha.
- Borden - 1 t/ha Canola and 2.5 t/ha wheat.
- Boyup Brook - 1.1 t/ha canola, 3.2 t/ha barley

In regard to quality, protein and screenings are high. 65% of wheat is achieving Milling Grades with some achieving H2. Barley is making Malt 2 with a smaller amount Malt 1. Wheat quality is better than expected in the driest areas as plants aborted grain in the top half of the head to produce good quality in the remainder, a typical drought response rarely seen in the southern half of the state.

Esperance

Yields are slightly better than expected in most areas with the exception of the Salmon Gums district.

- Wheat is yielding upwards of 4 t/ha at Scaddan and 2 t/ha at Grass Patch.
- Mt Madden/West River and Ravensthorpe- wheat @ 1.5/1.7 t/ha, barley 2 t/ha
- Hopetoun/Jerdacuttup/Munglinup- wheat @ 3 t/ha, barley @ 3-3.5 t/ha and canola to 1.5 t/ha.
- Cascades/Grass Patch- wheat @ 1.8 t/ha, barley 2.1/2.2 t/ha.
- Scaddan- wheat 2.8, barley 3/3.5 t/ha,
- Mallee canola 0.9/1.1 t/ha, High rainfall areas 1.5 t/ha

Quality in canola is very good at 42-46% oil. Wheat protein is higher than average, while barley screenings are high. Most barley is achieving Malt 2.

Peas are yielding 1 to 1.3 t/ha. Harvest will be mostly finished by mid Dec if the weather remains fine this week. A large volume of grain is being temporarily stored on-farm to facilitate harvest. Delivery is likely to continue into January as growers blend and screen grain to achieve the best quality grades.

Harvest tonnage into CBH

(All commodities- tonnes)

At December 6 2010

Kwinana	1,775,000
Albany	687,000
Esperance	965,000
Geraldton	1,370,000
Total	4,797,000

Additional information can be sourced from:

- [CBH Harvest Report No 4](#)
- [BoM rainfall deciles for WA November 2010](#)
- [BoM rainfall deciles for WA September to November 2010](#)
- [DAFWA predicted shire wheat yields October 2010](#)

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