



GIWA Crop Report August 10, 2011

WA Planting estimate- hectares

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	State total
Kwinana	2,235,000	366,000	195,000	105,000	136,000	9,000	
Albany	907,000	431,000	299,000	74,000	24,000	11,000	
Esperance	454,000	271,000	200,000	7,000	17,000	40,000	
Geraldton	925,000	29,000	79,000	8,000	156,000	500	
Totals	4,521,000	1,097,000	773,000	194,000	333,000	60,500	6,978,500

WA Production estimate- tonnes

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	State total
Kwinana	3,353,000	659,000	226,000	205,000	176,000	10,000	
Albany	1,542,000	944,000	328,000	148,000	22,000	10,000	
Esperance	937,000	626,000	229,000	12,000	20,000	50,000	
Geraldton	2,220,000	79,000	98,000	19,000	312,000	1,000	
Totals	8,052,000	2,308,000	881,000	384,000	530,000	71,000	12,227,000
<i>2010</i>	<i>4,584,000</i>	<i>1,323,000</i>	<i>708,000</i>	<i>130,000</i>	<i>280,000</i>	<i>51,000</i>	<i>7,077,000</i>

WA Yield estimate- tonnes/hectare

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea
Kwinana	1.50	1.80	1.16	1.95	1.29	1.09
Albany	1.70	2.19	1.10	2.00	0.94	0.90
Esperance	2.06	2.31	1.15	1.74	1.18	1.26
Geraldton	2.40	2.74	1.25	2.41	2.00	1.60

The 2011 season in Western Australia is progressing well, with favourable conditions throughout July contributing to a very optimistic outlook. Provided spring rainfall and temperatures are favourable, Western Australia is on track to record a substantial harvest.

After a dry June, the central wheatbelt, Upper Great Southern and Lakes districts, approximately 25% of the crop, was in poor to below average condition. Above average July rain in all areas, combined with above average temperatures and few frosts, has lifted the expected yields in these areas to close to average.

The Geraldton port zone continues to be in excellent condition. The lower Great Southern and south coast regions are also in good condition with above average yield prospects.

Generally, pests and diseases have had a minimal impact. Weed control has also been very good.

If yields are as large as currently predicted there could be a decline in protein in wheat and barley compared to 2010, with a greater proportion of wheat likely to meet the APW and ASW grades and less qualifying for the Hard grades.

Kwinana: Average to above average rainfall in July was recorded throughout the zone. Warm temperatures through July, only 1 frost event against 9 for the same month in 2010, has promoted excellent growth.

- East of Merredin crops will be harvestable after a poor start. The Yilgarn shire will achieve 50% of average yield and Westonia 70% average yield. Merredin will be 90-95% of average yields.
- Nungarin 25% above average
- Mukinbudin, Mt Marshall, Koorda, Trayning, Kellerberrin average yields
- Northam, York, Toodyay, 20% above average yields.

Soil moisture is good in the central wheatbelt and wet in the west and south. Wheat is at flag leaf to ear peep stage in the northern part of the zone-in an area stretching from Northam to Moora.

Powdery Mildew has been controlled in barley. Barley yields will be above average while canola is 10-50% flowered. Diamond Back Moths are causing concern in Canola.

Albany: The lack of frosts has pushed crop development through July. Biomass and crop development is excellent. Warm temperatures have counteracted the impact of waterlogging to some extent. Yields are likely to be well above average with frost the real risk in spring.

Crops in the Western districts are in very good condition. The south Stirlings district has only average crop potential. East Tambellup is only average, while the Wagin district is very good. Potential district wheat yield estimates at this stage are for:

- Corrigin / Quairading shire up to 2t/ha for wheat.
- Yealering: 2-2.2 t/ha
- East Wickepin paddock: 2.2 – 2.3 t/ha

Trafficability of paddocks in some areas is a now a problem with some late nitrogen unable to be applied where needed. Powdery mildew has been controlled, but insects have had no impact and weed control is very good. Lupin crops are generally poor, while canola are generally in good condition.

In the Lakes district, 68-70mm of rainfall was recorded for July and crops have improved enormously. Eastern districts, Kulin/Kondinin/Nyabing, are in good condition after a dry June.

Average yields are now possible for the district. Lupins have poor growth and have below average potential. Canola is behind the desired stage of development for this time in the season but much improved. Field peas are in good condition.

Esperance: The Esperance zone has experienced a very up and down season as far as rainfall is concerned for the season to date, but most areas have received 45-50mm of July rain and it is continuing into August, The mallee and east of Esperance districts improved in July.

April sown crops are relatively weed free, with the dry June helping to keep weeds out. There were some sizable outbreaks of powdery mildew but this has been controlled. Crops in the Lake King to Mt Madden district are in good condition. The Hopetoun district was too wet early but is now good. East of Esperance and Salmon Gums crops are still behind in development by comparison. However, subsoil moisture is improving.

Geraldton: Crops in the Geraldton zone are generally in exceptional condition. However, despite growers applying 20% more nitrogen than budgeted, yields in eastern areas may be less than those from 2008 when residual nitrogen after the droughts drove yields to near record levels.

Western sandplain crops have improved in condition with the almost constant July rain. Potential Zone wheat yield estimates at this stage are for:

- Low rainfall Heavy soils- 2.2 to 2.5 t/ha
- Medium rainfall Sandplain- 2.8 to 3.2 t/ha
- High rainfall Sandplain- 3 t/ha
- Heavy soils near the coast 4 t/ha

Wheat is at head emergence to flowering in 80% of crops. Mace and Calingari varieties are showing some impact from Yellow spot, but fungicide applications have been effective and 80% of all crops have had a fungicide application.

Canola crop yield potential is currently estimated at 1.3 t/ha. Sclerotinia is affecting canola crop development in coastal districts north of Geraldton to south at Greenough. Anthracnose is affecting albus lupin with yield losses of around 20-30%. However, there is no significant effect in narrow leaf lupin crops..

Additional information can be sourced from:
[BoM rainfall totals for WA July 2011](#)

Crop condition Report

August 9 2011

Crop Condition report- weighted by the production average for each zone

Port zone	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Kwinana	0	16	51	25	8
Albany	0	8	49	38	6
Esperance	0	13	48	30	10
Geraldton	0	6	15	23	56
State Totals	0	11	41	29	19

Kwinana regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
East	0	30	50	20	0
North	0	5	25	40	30
Central	0	10	60	30	0
Southern	0	20	70	10	0
Total	0	16	51	25	8

Albany regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Northern	0	10	50	40	0
West	0	0	30	50	20
Eastern	0	10	50	40	0
Coastal	0	10	65	20	5
Total	0	7.5	48.75	37.5	6.25

Esperance regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Mallee	0	20	50	30	0
East coastal	0	20	60	20	0
North western	0	10	50	40	0
West coastal	0	0	30	30	40
Total	0	12.5	47.5	30	10

Geraldton regions	Very Poor	Poor	Average	Good	Excellent
Northern	0	0	0	10	90
Eastern	0	0	0	10	90
Southern	0	10	30	35	25
South eastern	0	15	30	35	20
Total	0	6.25	15	22.5	56.25

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