



## GIWA Crop Report December 7 2011

### WA Production estimate- tonnes

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea	State total
<b>Kwinana</b>	4,424,000	868,000	265,000	217,000	213,000	14,000	6,001,000
<b>Albany</b>	2,152,000	1,187,000	423,000	216,000	32,000	13,000	4,023,000
<b>Esperance</b>	849,000	579,000	177,000	12,000	19,000	44,000	1,680,000
<b>Geraldton</b>	2,492,000	76,000	112,000	21,000	362,000	600	3,063,600
<b>Totals</b>	<b>9,917,000</b>	<b>2,710,000</b>	<b>977,000</b>	<b>466,000</b>	<b>626,000</b>	<b>71,600</b>	<b>14,767,600</b>
<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>

●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.

### WA Yield estimate- tonnes/hectare

Port zone	Wheat	Barley	Canola	Oats	Lupins	Field pea
<b>Kwinana</b>	1.98	2.37	1.40	2.01	1.57	1.57
<b>Albany</b>	2.37	2.75	1.42	2.92	1.28	1.17
<b>Esperance</b>	1.87	2.13	0.98	1.77	1.14	1.10
<b>Geraldton</b>	2.69	2.61	1.42	2.62	2.32	1.24

Grain yields in all zones continue to pleasantly surprise growers and the industry. The GIWA total crop estimate has now risen almost 1 million tonnes since the November report.

While rain has disrupted harvest in most regions of Western Australia, grain quality is generally holding up well despite significant downgrading of quantities of wheat and barley. Wheat is achieving 85% milling grades, while barley is achieving 80% malt grades. Protein is just over 10% as a state wide average with highest protein levels in the Esperance zone. Canola has been largely unaffected by the weather and has an average oil percentage over 44%.

Over 9 million tonnes of the 2011 harvest has been received by CBH to date. However, the delays to harvest caused by the late rains means the harvest period is going to extend well into the New Year for the southern zones.

#### **Kwinana:**

Harvest is about 50 to 70% complete in the Kwinana zone.

Exceptional barley yields have been reported in the West Midlands at over 5 t/ha with about 80% achieving Malt grade with average farm yields in the 3.5 to 4 t/ha range.

Wheat quality is mixed with wheat from the Moora and Wubin to Dalwallinu regions mainly achieving only GP and feed grades. Carnamah and Magenta wheat varieties seem to be suffering worst for falling numbers, while Mace and Wyalkatchem are satisfactory. About 50% of Calingiri wheat is achieving Noodle grade.

Lupin yields look good but are being left last to harvest because they are low value, while field pea crops are also being left because they will be slow to harvest. Chickpea yields in the Wubin area have achieved 3t/ha.

Canola has been yielding above average and is mostly of good quality.

Wheat yields are generally exceptional in west and average in the east of the central wheatbelt region. In the central wheatbelt, centred 50km north and south along Great

Eastern Hwy, wheat has significant quality issues, while the Corrigin area is good. 50% of wheat in the Northam to Tammin line is failing falling numbers. Further east, only about 20% of wheat is feed grade.

Barley is yielding 10 to 15% better than wheat, with a 75% strike rate for malt grades.

#### **Albany:**

In the Lakes region, harvest is about 50% completed with wheat now the major focus. Again, Field pea and lupins have generally been left to last, even though yields for lupins harvested to date have been very good

Barley has achieved 50% malt grades. Gardiner has performed better than Buloke which has poor colour and suffered head loss from wind and armyworm. Yields have averaged 2.5 t/ha. Hindmarsh is performing best for feed grade.

Wheat is yielding over 2 t/ha. Sprouted grain is common but generally passing the falling numbers test. Protein is down on all varieties.

Oats are mostly milling quality with good colour, and have been yielding well.

Canola yields range from 800kg to 1.6t/ha with around 44% oil.

In the western and southern parts of the Albany zone, harvest has commenced, but has been severely delayed due to rain. Very little wheat has been harvested and there is concern about wheat meeting falling number quality parameters.

Canola has yielded 1.5 to 2.7 t/ha in western areas and 1 to 1.5t/ha in eastern areas, and is generally without any significant quality problems.

Barley has yielded 3.5 to 5 t/ha in western areas, to 2.5 t/ha further east. 50% is making malt grades with low protein and colour causing downgrading of the remainder of the barley deliveries. Overall, it is estimated that less than 50% will make malt grades.

#### **Esperance:**

The Esperance harvest is 65 to 70% complete with a mixed bag of yields from above average to poor.

Grain moisture is causing concern in the Mt Madden to West River areas. Grain is going into silo bags at 14% moisture and will need to be dried or mixed with dry grain for post harvest delivery.

Barley colour is borderline but of good quality otherwise.

The coastal regions are yielding up to 3.5 t/ha in wheat and 1.7 t/ha in canola. Away from the coast yields decline to average in the Scaddan region and poor in Salmon Gums. Wheat in the Hopetoun area has shown Field mould, while Armyworm has caused some head loss in barley.

#### **Geraldton:**

The Geraldton zone harvest is 75% complete. Yields are as good or better than anticipated. Quality is also generally better than expected. Delays due to delivery logistics and the current inclement weather are the biggest issues.

Additional information can be sourced from:

##### **BoM rainfall totals for WA November 2011-**

[http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/silo/rain\\_maps.cgi?map=contours&variable=totals&area=wa&period=1month&region=wa&time=latest](http://www.bom.gov.au/cgi-bin/silo/rain_maps.cgi?map=contours&variable=totals&area=wa&period=1month&region=wa&time=latest)

##### **ABARES December 2011 Crop Report**

[http://adl.brs.gov.au/data/warehouse/aucrpd9abcc003/aucrpd9abcc003201112/ACR11.4\\_Dec\\_rev1.0.0.pdf](http://adl.brs.gov.au/data/warehouse/aucrpd9abcc003/aucrpd9abcc003201112/ACR11.4_Dec_rev1.0.0.pdf)

##### **DAFWA Wheat yield forecast November 2011-**

[http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/obitwr/imported\\_assets/content/lwe/cli/wa\\_shire\\_wheat\\_yield\\_gen\\_avg\\_nov\\_01\\_2011.pdf](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/obitwr/imported_assets/content/lwe/cli/wa_shire_wheat_yield_gen_avg_nov_01_2011.pdf)

##### **DAFWA November Seasonal Update-**

[http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/obitwr/imported\\_assets/content/lwe/cli/seasonalupdatenov11.pdf](http://www.agric.wa.gov.au/obitwr/imported_assets/content/lwe/cli/seasonalupdatenov11.pdf)

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