

September 2008

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Crop and Pasture Report



RURAL SOLUTIONS SA

Prepared by Rural Solutions SA for
PIRSA Grains Industry Development



CROP AND PASTURE REPORT

SEPTEMBER 2008

COMPILED 1ST OCTOBER 2008 BY PETER FULWOOD

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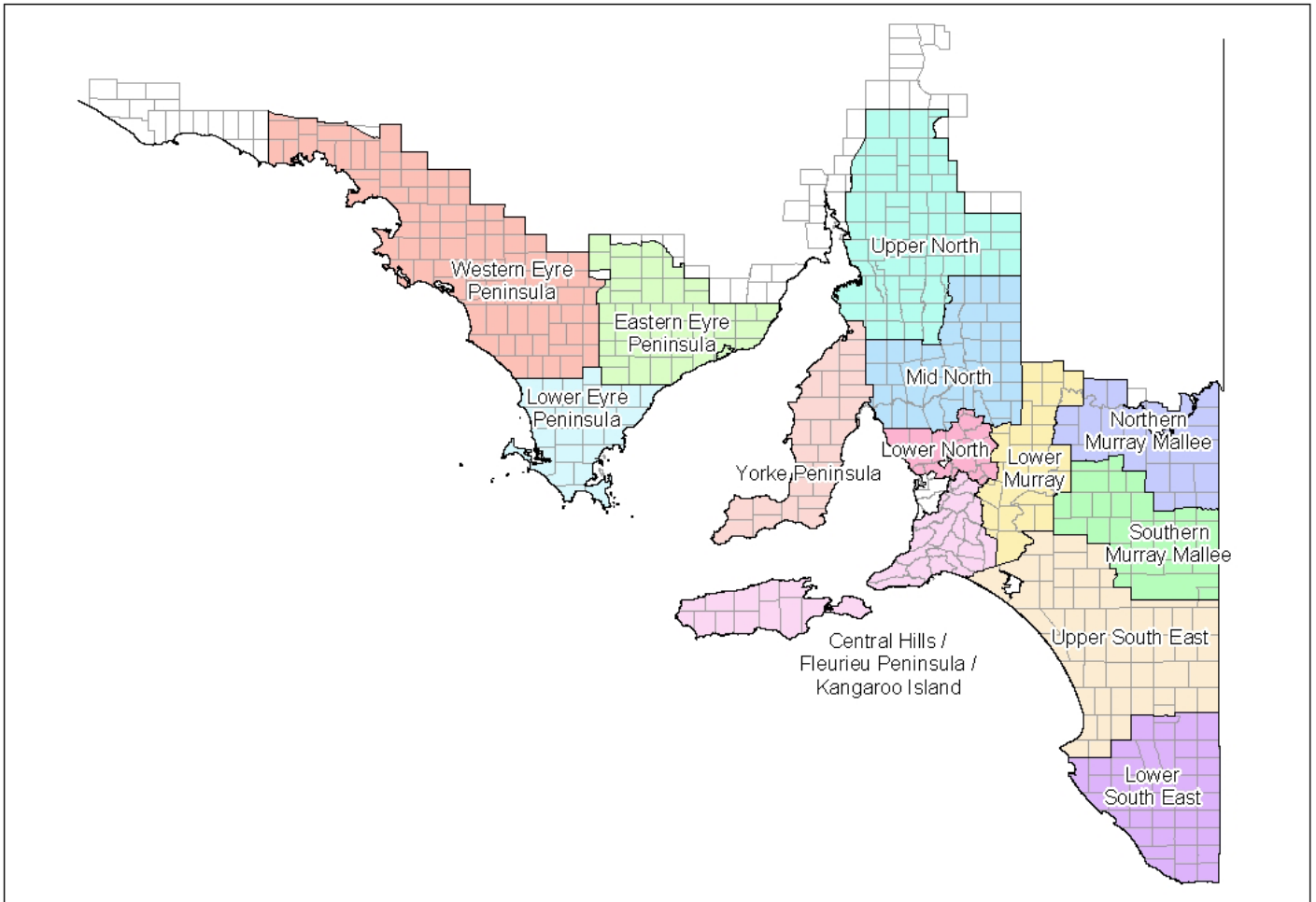
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Crop Reporting Districts



KEY LINKS

National Agricultural Monitoring System (NAMS): <http://www.nams.gov.au>

South Australia Land Condition: http://www.dwlbc.sa.gov.au/land/monitoring/current_reports.html

Drought Hotline

Phone 180 2020 or log onto <http://www.service.sa.gov.au/drought.asp>

For drought related information on support services, local rural financial counsellors, information on Centrelink payments and services, maintaining land condition, managing stock and crops in dry times, and the condition of the River Murray and Murray-Darling Basin.

Summary of Crop and Pasture Conditions in South Australia September 2008

Prepared by Peter Fulwood

WEATHER¹

South Australian rainfall data for the last month is available from the Bureau of Meteorology website:

<http://www.bom.gov.au/weather/sa/observations.shtml>

- Temperatures were mainly cool to mild with several frosts in the first half of the month; warm to hot days became more frequent particularly in northern districts later in the month.
- Several strong wind events occurred during the month.

RAINFALL

- Monthly rainfall was well below average in most districts with some centres having their lowest September rainfall on record; totals in many areas were only in the 5-25 mm range.
- Growing season rainfall to date (April-September) is now below average in the majority of districts.

PREVIOUS SEASONS

- Last season (2007) was variable, from severe drought affected areas in the north to near average crop production further south, on the back of the severe statewide drought of 2006.

SEASON TO DATE

- Seeding was largely completed during May and early June under at times marginal moisture conditions. Rapid crop growth occurred during June with relatively mild temperatures, although patchy establishment and frequent strong winds delayed emerging crops in some areas. Good rains during July and August enabled crops to maintain growth, although colder, frosty conditions did slow development. Well below average rainfall in September saw crop yield potential drop significantly in most districts and good falls are needed immediately to maintain current potential.

CROPS

- At mid month crops were generally still looking quite good, however by the end of September most crops were showing varying degrees of moisture stress, particularly on the shallower, stony soils and heavier flats, and in the worst affected areas dead and dying patches of crop were starting to show up.
- The majority of cereals range from flowering through to grain fill, with pulses and canola at flowering and podding stages of growth.
- Some pulse, cereal and canola crops have been cut for hay where yield potential was considered to be severely affected either by the dry conditions or by frost in some situations, and more are expected to be cut over the next few weeks without further rain.
- The ongoing dry conditions have limited the spread and impact of leaf diseases which were of concern at the start of the month, and in most areas further fungicide treatment would not be warranted.
- Apart from the Lower South East, crop yield potential has dropped significantly during the month and will continue to fall without immediate rainfall in all districts.
- Total crop area is estimated to be 4 million hectares with crop production currently estimated at 5.45 million tonnes.

PASTURES

- Pastures started to dry off in some areas late in the month, however most pastures would still respond to rainfall in the next couple of weeks.
- While paddock feed is generally adequate for stock requirements it is very limited on parts of Eyre Peninsula in particular, and farmers will be looking to turn stock onto crop stubbles as soon as possible.
- Farmers in a few areas have already turned stock onto failed crops.

¹ Acknowledgment

Weather information:- Climate and Consultative Services Section of the Bureau of Meteorology: Internet: <http://www.bom.gov.au>

DISTRICT REPORTS

Western Eyre Peninsula

By Neil Cordon

WEATHER

- Warming temperatures, strong, drying gale force winds and cold nights dominated the weather during September.

RAINFALL

- Gaugings were well below average for the month with the following rainfall at selected centres (averages in brackets): Streaky Bay 13 mm (36), Penong 5 mm (30), Ceduna 3 mm (25), Wurrulla 8 mm (31), Mt Cooper 16 mm (45) and Elliston 11 mm (40).

CROPS

- Crop yield potential has been reduced dramatically due to the lack of rain for September, to levels that make covering variable costs almost impossible for many farmers.
- Crops are out in head and in the process of flowering and grain development under severe moisture stress.
- Heavier soil types, stony country, tree lines and headlands are 'burning off' and are now past harvest recovery.
- The more favoured districts of Mt Cooper, Mt Damper and Elliston are now showing signs of moisture stress to a level that average yields may still be achievable.

PASTURES

- Small areas have been cut for hay, as there has not been the quantity of material to make it a worthwhile exercise.
- Paddock feed is very limited with little cover for protection against wind erosion.
- Culling of stock above normal levels is occurring, especially while prices are reasonably good.

Eastern Eyre Peninsula

By Neil Cordon

WEATHER

- Early in the month the weather was cold and dry with an odd shower, whilst later on temperatures began to rise together with dry winds.

RAINFALL

- Well below average recordings for the month with gaugings at selected centres (averages in brackets) being: Cleve 13 mm (42) and Kimba 7 mm (37).

CROPS

- Crop growth stages range from head emergence through to grain filling, with crops suffering from moisture stress especially on the heavier soil types and stony ground.
- The warm, drying weather and advanced growth stages have reduced the spread and virulence of stripe rust, with a resultant cessation of foliar fungicides.
- Growth on light, sandy rises is thin and poor and still prone to wind erosion from the continual windy events.
- Crop yield potential has been severely reduced from a good season to below average status. The final yields could move drastically either way depending on weather conditions in the next few weeks.

PASTURES

- Paddock feed is generally holding up well, and with stubbles coming on line most farmers should be able to carry through their normal stock numbers.
- Hay cutting is almost finished with the majority for on-farm domestic use.

Lower Eyre Peninsula

By Kieran Wauchope

WEATHER

- This month has really changed the season for the worse. After great conditions in August temperatures rose in conjunction with strong winds from the north and yield potential was damaged.
- Soil moisture levels have dropped due to these conditions, with most areas having little to no available moisture at the crucial flowering and grain fill stages.

RAINFALL

- No significant falls were received this month with the greatest being around 8 mm over a weekend mid month.
- Each fall seemed to be followed with warm, windy days so little benefit was felt from these falls in marginal areas.
- Cummins, Tumby Bay and Coles Point are now all on a decile 2 year, with Port Lincoln running on a decile 3 year.

CROPS

- Most crops now are flowering or at grain fill.
- Weather conditions have reduced yield potential and some areas that were targeting above average now will be happy to get average or just below.
- The area from north and east of the Tumby Bay flats and the line from Lipson through to Yeelanna will now be struggling to fill grain, with many considering cutting wheat, barley, canola and beans for hay. A small area of cereal crops has already been cut for hay.
- A slight frost around the Cummins area at the end of the month may further reduce yield potential.
- Warm winds have devastated a lot of the lupin and bean crops, and canola crops also lost flowers and hence yield potential.
- A few native budworms are being found and farmers will soon need to make the decision to spray or not.
- Some aphid spraying in canola occurred.
- Disease levels have not been an issue with the warm to hot conditions.
- A good rain soon will keep yield potential up in the areas where crops haven't died off.

PASTURES

- Some farmers have turned stock onto failed crops.
- Feed quality dropped dramatically during the month, but there still is some good bulk in the more reliable areas.
- Low feed levels in some areas are causing concern regarding keeping cover on paddocks.

Yorke Peninsula

By Peter Fulwood

WEATHER

- Temperatures were mainly cool to mild, with several warm to hot days later in the month.
- Isolated, light frosts in some northern areas.
- Strong to gale force winds on several occasions in the second half of the month.

RAINFALL

- Monthly rainfall was variable but generally well below average, with totals ranging from 6 mm (Paskeville) to 31 mm (Minlaton).
- Growing season rainfall to date (April-September) is now below average throughout the district.

CROPS

- By mid month most crops were still looking quite good, however with very little rainfall in the second half of the month crops had started to show signs of moisture stress, particularly on the shallower, stony soils and some of the heavier flats.

- By the end of the month a few dead or near dead patches were starting to show up in the worst affected crops, although the total area so far is quite small.
- The earliest cereal crops have now started grain fill.
- A few cereal crops were cut for hay on northern Yorke Peninsula later in the month.
- Some bean crops were affected by moisture stress and strong winds causing stems to weaken and snap, with a few crops being cut for hay.
- There were reports of bean crops with poor / late podding and chickpeas with few / aborted early flowers, possibly caused by the cold weather during August.
- The risk from foliar diseases, particularly stripe rust and net form net blotch, has now declined and in most areas it is too late in the season to warrant further fungicide treatment.
- Cowpea aphids have been reported on some lentil crops.
- Crop yield potential has dropped significantly during the month and good falls are needed in the next couple of weeks to maintain current yield potential.

PASTURES

- Pastures started to hay off in some areas late in the month, however most pastures would still respond to rainfall in the next couple of weeks.
- Paddock feed is currently adequate for stock requirements.

Lower North

By Peter Fulwood

WEATHER

- Temperatures were mainly cool to mild, with a few warm to hot days late in the month.
- Several strong wind events in the second half of the month.

RAINFALL

- Monthly rainfall was generally well below average, with totals ranging from 11 mm (Robertstown) to 37 mm (Greenock).
- Growing season rainfall to date (April-September) varies from below average to near average in parts.

CROPS

- Most crops were still looking quite good by mid month, however with very little rainfall in the second half of the month and rising temperatures crops started to show signs of moisture stress, particularly on the poorer soil types.
- By the end of the month a few crops were starting to patch out in the worst affected areas.
- The earliest cereal crops have now started grain fill.
- A few cereal crops were cut for hay, particularly in northwestern parts of the district later in the month.
- Bean crops affected by moisture stress and strong winds had stems weaken and snap, with a few crops being cut for hay.
- There were reports of bean crops with poor or late podding and chickpeas with few or aborted early flowers, possibly caused by the cold weather during August and a lack of bee activity.
- The risk from stripe rust has now declined and in most areas further fungicide treatment is unwarranted.
- Crop yield potential has dropped during the month and rain is needed in the next couple of weeks to maintain current yield potential.

PASTURES

- Pastures are starting to dry off in some areas, however most pastures would still respond to rainfall in the next couple of weeks.
- Paddock feed is currently adequate for stock requirements.

Mid North

By Tom Yeatman

WEATHER

- Temperatures were moderate to warm with a very warm day over 30°C on the 27th.
- The month was notable for its high incidence of windy days, as well as very little rainfall.

RAINFALL

- Only a few days of rain were recorded with only a moderate shower bringing anything of significance on the 23rd.

CROPS

- Cereal crops were flowering to early grain fill in the earliest areas to the flag stage in the later areas.
- Pulses were flowering and filling pods.
- The winds together with warm weather had a marked affect on crops.
- Most cereal crops are showing signs of moisture stress, especially in the western plain areas of the district which vary from burnt awns to dying crop in the heavier soil areas in particular. Yield potential is now greatly reduced.
- Pulses have been badly affected. Crops have had flowers burnt from plants, lentils in particular. Beans have been necked by the strong winds and yields are expected to suffer greatly in all crops.
- Crops including pulse, cereal and canola are being cut for hay where it is thought yield has been depressed too greatly. Although much greater than is normal, the area cut is relatively small at present, but is expected to grow over the next few weeks without rain.
- Frost has also affected some crops to a slight extent.
- Bacterial blight in peas has affected many pea crops in the hilly areas in particular.
- The dry conditions have greatly limited the spread and impact of leaf diseases which were starting to cause concern at the start of the month.
- With little subsoil moisture and without further substantial rain in the near future, yield potential is expected to further markedly decline.

PASTURES

- Pastures are maturing rapidly in the warm, dry conditions with production less than was expected.
- Hay from cut crops is expected to be in demand for feeding stock.

Upper North

By Michael Wurst

WEATHER

- Mild to warm days with cold nights and several widespread frosts were recorded across the district.
- Several hot north winds followed by a cool change with minimal rainfall.

RAINFALL

- Rainfall for September has been well below average across the whole district.

CROPS

- Only light falls of rain were received during the month.
- Crops in all parts of the district have developed quickly, with those in the western part at grain filling.
- Wheat crops around Crystal Brook are beginning to tip, but the bottom of the head is filling.
- Rainfall from now on is likely to be of minimal benefit to crops in the western part of the district, but would greatly benefit crops in the east.
- All crops in the northern part of the district are suffering severe moisture stress with headlands and shallow heavy soil areas beginning to hay off.
- Oaten hay has been cut two weeks earlier than normal.
- Some well grown crops on the heavier soils around Crystal Brook, Booleroo Centre and Gladstone have been cut for hay.

- Pea crops in the Jamestown and Pekina areas have been affected by bacterial blight following frosts in July and August.
- Large areas of crop on the Willowie Plain will not be reaped and are likely to be grazed off.
- There are reports of bean and canola crops being cut for hay in the Crystal Brook area.

PASTURES

- Pasture growth has begun to hay off quickly in the northern part of the district.
- There is good pasture growth in the southern part of the district, which would respond to rain early in October.

Central Hills, Fleurieu Peninsula and Kangaroo Island

By Tim Prance

WEATHER

- Fortunately temperatures have been mild.

RAINFALL

- Rainfall has been well below average (less than half) throughout the district, varying from 25-40 mm.

CROPS

- Crops are still growing well, but with minimal if any soil moisture.
- Most crops are in early heading stage.
- Soil moisture levels were adequate and subsoil moisture levels were starting to fill up last month. Unfortunately soil moisture is now borderline, due to very low September rainfall and increasing evaporation rates.
- Crop yield potential is now only average (was above average end of August), and could drop further to below average if reasonable rainfall is not received by mid October.

PASTURES

- Pasture growth has picked up to between 40 and 60 kg/ha/day dry matter, due to warmer conditions and increased day length.
- Pasture feed is adequate for livestock.
- Graziers and dairy farmers have shut up above average areas for hay / silage, with the aim of replenishing on farm stocks and reducing reliance on purchasing grain for supplementary feed.
- Outlook for spring pasture growth is now only average to below average (compared to average to above average last month), and will depend on rainfall in the next two weeks.
- Lack of run-off into farm dams will be an issue this coming summer.

Northern Murray Mallee

By Chris McDonough

WEATHER

- There have been numerous days of strong winds.

RAINFALL

- The Northern Mallee received almost no significant rain in September, with 2.4 mm being the highest gauging at Loxton in a total of 5.8 mm for the month (28 mm average).
- Most areas have only received between 115 mm and 140 mm for the season.

CROPS

- Cereal crops are mostly out in head and starting to fill grain.
- The dry September and warm weather is causing many crops to suffer and lose yield potential, particularly on heavy and stony soils.
- In some areas that were sown early crops are still hanging on, and with another good rain could still produce well.

- While there have been numerous reports of stripe rust across the Northern Mallee, it appears this will have little impact this season. There was some spraying of mainly susceptible varieties earlier in the month.
- While it is remarkable what has been grown on such limited rain, farmers are disappointed in yet another well below average growing season.

PASTURES

- The feed situation is generally good at present.
- Although much of the grasses are out in head, spring medic growth is coming through slowly.

Southern Murray Mallee

By Tanja Morgan

WEATHER

- Mild to warm days and nights were common with some hot days experienced at the end of the month.

RAINFALL

- Rainfall was patchy and below average across the entire district.
- Lack of rainfall and windy, hot days have had a devastating effect on crop yield potential.

CROPS

- Crop maturity has been hastened by warm temperatures and many crops are in head, flowering and beginning grain fill.
- Later sown crops are struggling to reach head emergence.
- Crops have become patchy and are showing signs of moisture stress, in particular crops sown on heavier soils which are now dying out in patches.
- Canola and lupin crops are flowering and podding, but yields are expected to be very poor.
- Some hay cutting has started earlier than normal in response to crops browning off.

PASTURES

- Paddock feed is adequate, but green feed is beginning to dry off for the season due to high temperatures and lack of adequate rainfall.
- As a result of the current situation farmers will be looking to turn stock onto crop stubbles as soon as possible, and it is likely a desperate feed shortage over summer will eventuate.

Lower Murray

By Keith Bolto

WEATHER

- Temperatures have been more than 1°C above average for September.
- Wind erosion has been minimal.
- Most areas have been frost-free.

RAINFALL

- Total rainfall for September in Murray Bridge was 20 mm, which is well below the average of 36 mm.
- The most significant fall was 7 mm on the 23rd of September.

CROPS

- Crops are suffering from moisture stress as a result of the warm, dry weather.
- Most crops are at flowering to grain-fill stage, maturing quickly in response to the weather conditions.
- There have been few crop pests reported.
- Moisture stress is most apparent in crops affected by *Rhizoctonia* and those on heavy textured soils.
- If no rain is received soon yields will be reduced.

PASTURES

- The majority of producers have sufficient pasture feed.

- There has been a significant reduction in the quality of pasture feed.
- Pastures are setting seed while suffering from moisture stress.

Upper South East

By Craig Bell

WEATHER

- Temperatures were generally mild to warm for the month with high temperatures towards the end of the month.
- One mild frost event was recorded on the 9th at Padthaway.
- Mean daily maximum temperatures were around 1°C warmer than the long-term averages.
- Wind speeds were high, up to 94 km/h before cold fronts and rain on the 15th around Keith and Padthaway.

RAINFALL

- Rainfall totals were around half or below the average across the district.
- Most areas received rain throughout the month, but totals were well below the long-term average.
- The highest recordings were late in the month with 6.8 mm at Meningie on the 23rd and 5.4 mm at Keith.

CROPS

- Despite the lower than average rainfall crops are still looking reasonable with good yield potential.
- Lighter soils are again performing well, however heavy flats and shallow stony areas are beginning to suffer.
- Paddock activity has slowed considerably with completion of in-crop herbicide applications and few nitrogen applications due to low rainfall.
- Pulses and canola are flowering and beginning early podding.
- Soil moisture levels have been significantly reduced following poor September rainfall.
- The lower than average rainfall will have reduced yields back to around or below average, and good rain is needed to help finish crops off and avoid further yield losses.

PASTURES

- Feed growth has been maintained with scattered showers throughout the month.
- Grasses are near seeding and will require spray topping which will reduce feed a little.
- Feed supplies have increased with warmer weather, but rainfall is needed to sustain this growth.
- Medic pastures are well into flowering.

Lower South East

By Peter Fulwood

WEATHER

- Temperatures were mainly cool to occasionally mild with several frosts in the first half of the month and a few warmer days later on.
- Several strong to gale force winds mid month.

RAINFALL

- Monthly rainfall was below average, with totals ranging from 31 mm (Frances) to 58 mm (Lucindale).
- Growing season rainfall to date (April-September) generally remains below average.

CROPS

- Crops continue to look very good and have made good growth during the month despite below average rainfall.
- Growth stages for the majority of cereals range from booting through to head emergence.
- Most canola and pulse crops are at full flowering.
- A few growers applied a preventative fungicide for stripe rust to susceptible varieties, however no outbreaks have been reported
- Preventative fungicide sprays were applied to bean crops.

- Foliar diseases continue to remain at low levels.
- Crop yield potential remains above average, however ongoing timely rainfall and mild temperatures will be needed during October to maintain this potential.

PASTURES

- Pastures continued to put on growth and paddock feed supplies are generally quite good, however favourable weather conditions during October will be required to maintain pasture growth.
- In some areas paddock feed supplies are not overly abundant, as increased cropping has led to higher stocking rates.

Crop Production Estimates

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES SOUTH AUSTRALIA - FIELD CROP PRODUCTION ESTIMATES Pg 1

September 2008

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CROP	Western Eyre Peninsula	Lower Eyre Peninsula	Eastern Eyre Peninsula	Yorke Peninsula	Upper North	Mid North	Lower North	Subtotal	
WHEAT	465,000	129,000	363,000	148,000	208,000	216,000	42,000	1,571,000	<i>ha</i>
	280,000	270,000	381,000	305,000	267,000	381,000	106,000	1,990,000	<i>t</i>
DURUM	0	0	600	30,000	12,000	6,700	4,500	53,800	<i>ha</i>
	0	0	500	57,000	20,000	13,000	10,400	100,900	<i>t</i>
BARLEY	116,000	93,000	118,000	208,000	135,000	139,000	39,000	848,000	<i>ha</i>
	81,000	196,000	136,000	450,000	190,000	259,000	100,000	1,412,000	<i>t</i>
OATS	12,500	3,200	4,900	5,000	9,000	8,000	2,000	44,600	<i>ha</i>
	6,200	4,200	3,200	8,000	11,000	13,000	3,500	49,100	<i>t</i>
RYECORN	400	0	500	0	0	0	0	900	<i>ha</i>
	200	0	300	0	0	0	0	500	<i>t</i>
TRITICALE	1,700	900	4,500	2,100	2,800	4,000	1,000	17,000	<i>ha</i>
	900	1,600	3,800	3,500	5,000	6,700	2,200	23,700	<i>t</i>
PEAS	8,800	8,100	7,000	41,000	20,000	23,000	11,500	119,400	<i>ha</i>
	4,800	9,800	5,300	54,000	29,000	27,000	18,000	147,900	<i>t</i>
LUPINS	1,500	24,000	5,000	1,500	3,200	2,900	900	39,000	<i>ha</i>
	700	24,000	3,000	1,700	4,000	3,400	1,000	37,800	<i>t</i>
BEANS	900	6,900	200	12,000	6,200	13,000	6,000	45,200	<i>ha</i>
	400	7,600	100	18,000	5,500	13,000	9,000	53,600	<i>t</i>
CHICKPEAS	0	700	800	6,000	550	2,000	800	10,850	<i>ha</i>
	0	550	400	6,000	550	1,900	700	10,100	<i>t</i>
LENTILS	200	1,300	0	34,000	2,000	4,400	3,000	44,900	<i>ha</i>
	100	1,500	0	46,000	2,000	4,000	3,600	57,200	<i>t</i>
VETCH	200	700	500	2,000	5,000	2,600	300	11,300	<i>ha</i>
	50	300	200	1,600	2,500	1,900	300	6,850	<i>t</i>
CANOLA	1,500	45,000	3,000	15,000	13,000	32,000	7,000	116,500	<i>ha</i>
	600	58,000	1,700	18,000	17,000	35,000	10,000	140,300	<i>t</i>
HAY	7,500	6,000	7,500	25,000	30,000	32,000	16,000	124,000	<i>ha</i>
(not included in total)	6,000	14,000	12,000	63,000	110,000	116,000	56,000	377,000	<i>t</i>
TOTAL ha	608.700	312.800	508.000	504.600	416.750	453.600	118.000	2,922,450	<i>ha</i>
TOTAL t	374,950	573,550	535,500	968,800	553,550	758,900	264,700	4,029,950	<i>t</i>

PRIMARY INDUSTRIES AND RESOURCES SOUTH AUSTRALIA - FIELD CROP PRODUCTION ESTIMATES Pg 2

September 2008

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CROP	Kangaroo Island	Central Hills & Fleurieu	Lower Murray	Nth Murray Mallee	Sth Murray Mallee	Upper South East	Lower South East	TOTALS	
WHEAT	5,000	6,000	63,000	190,000	115,000	69,000	24,000	2,043,000	ha
	11,000	12,000	70,000	170,000	115,000	149,000	79,000	2,596,000	t
DURUM	0	300	800	700	0	3,500	0	59,100	ha
	0	400	700	500	0	7,500	0	110,000	t
BARLEY	3,000	9,500	60,000	55,000	125,000	92,000	18,000	1,210,500	ha
	6,000	19,000	63,000	45,000	125,000	182,000	55,000	1,907,000	t
OATS	3,000	1,500	3,000	3,000	4,000	8,500	4,500	72,100	ha
	6,000	3,000	2,700	2,500	3,600	13,400	13,000	93,300	t
RYE	0	0	1,200	4,000	4,000	900	0	11,000	ha
	0	0	1,000	3,000	3,400	600	0	8,500	t
TRITICALE	600	2,300	10,000	18,000	28,000	7,800	2,000	85,700	ha
	1,200	4,500	9,500	15,600	25,000	11,600	5,500	96,600	t
PEAS	200	1,100	1,600	0	2,000	3,800	400	128,500	ha
	300	1,700	1,200	0	1,000	5,900	1,000	159,000	t
LUPINS	2,000	1,500	1,000	1,500	8,000	17,500	3,500	74,000	ha
	3,200	2,700	600	800	3,200	23,000	6,100	77,400	t
BEANS	200	300	100	0	100	12,500	15,000	73,400	ha
	300	500	60	0	40	20,000	40,000	114,500	t
CHICKPEAS	0	0	0	0	0	300	400	11,550	ha
	0	0	0	0	0	280	600	10,980	t
LENTILS	0	0	0	0	0	1,500	100	46,500	ha
	0	0	0	0	0	1,700	150	59,050	t
VETCH	0	0	200	0	4,000	400	0	15,900	ha
	0	0	100	0	1,600	400	0	8,950	t
CANOLA	4,000	1,200	2,000	3,000	6,000	26,000	8,500	167,200	ha
	8,000	1,900	1,300	1,000	2,700	35,000	16,600	206,800	t
HAY	7,000	24,000	13,000	4,000	8,000	55,000	48,000	283,000	ha
(not included in total)	28,000	96,000	30,000	6,000	14,000	162,000	202,000	915,000	t
TOTAL ha	18,000	23,700	142,900	275,200	296,100	243,700	76,400	3,998,450	ha
TOTAL t	36,000	45,700	150,160	238,400	280,540	450,380	216,950	5,448,080	t

South Australian Field Crops

Area sown for grain, grain production, five year average and current year estimates

Crop	Unit	2003/04	2004/05	2005/06	2006/07	2007/08	5yr Av	2008/09
Wheat	Area (ha)	1,906,100	1,906,000	1,977,400	2,035,781	2,101,227	1,985,300	2,043,000
	Prod (t)	3,484,900	2,511,700	3,699,700	1,481,974	2,250,970	2,685,800	2,596,000
Durum	Area (ha)	91,500	68,750	59,850	50,250	54,750	65,000	59,100
	Prod (t)	194,850	132,600	154,300	25,700	95,400	120,600	110,000
Barley	Area (ha)	1,063,000	1,077,500	1,170,500	1,154,060	1,225,163	1,138,000	1,210,500
	Prod (t)	2,449,900	1,774,100	2,545,900	1,029,030	1,776,660	1,915,100	1,907,000
Oats	Area (ha)	86,100	83,000	72,300	82,383	85,659	81,900	72,100
	Prod (t)	132,350	105,600	119,400	44,362	95,457	99,400	93,300
Rye	Area (ha)	8,950	7,650	10,000	8,600	9,000	8,800	11,000
	Prod (t)	7,850	4,550	11,900	2,700	4,800	6,400	8,500
Triticale	Area (ha)	85,900	88,900	83,400	89,880	93,967	88,400	85,700
	Prod (t)	146,850	98,000	125,500	53,379	97,649	104,300	96,600
Peas	Area (ha)	111,600	119,800	143,130	145,190	146,874	133,300	128,500
	Prod (t)	151,850	147,700	257,910	91,084	152,909	160,300	159,000
Lupins	Area (ha)	63,750	62,200	72,420	84,792	83,372	73,300	74,000
	Prod (t)	93,750	71,050	121,460	46,795	77,898	82,200	77,400
Beans	Area (ha)	91,700	93,800	70,420	73,607	70,877	80,100	73,400
	Prod (t)	191,750	134,800	168,540	39,398	105,494	128,000	114,500
Chickpeas	Area (ha)	3,650	2,950	1,590	4,640	5,993	3,800	11,550
	Prod (t)	4,180	2,580	2,230	2,173	5,075	3,200	10,980
Lentils	Area (ha)	68,550	55,900	54,410	57,620	54,603	58,200	46,500
	Prod (t)	88,730	57,675	101,890	23,456	55,952	65,500	59,050
Vetch	Area (ha)	22,200	24,200	14,520	16,431	15,756	18,600	15,900
	Prod (t)	16,200	9,400	15,243	3,639	8,629	10,600	8,950
Canola	Area (ha)	189,000	193,500	147,600	157,672	163,351	170,200	167,200
	Prod (t)	311,900	228,850	213,400	72,938	152,989	196,000	206,800
Hay (not included in total)	Area (ha)			277,700	170,000	220,000	222,600	283,000
	Prod (t)			1,084,800	250,000	520,000	618,300	915,000
TOTAL	Area (ha)	3,792,000	3,784,200	3,877,500	3,960,900	4,110,600	3,905,000	3,998,500
TOTAL	Prod (t)	7,275,100	5,278,600	7,537,400	2,916,600	4,879,900	5,577,500	5,448,100

Notes:

Current year estimates assume average rainfall and temperature conditions for the remainder of the growing season.

Grain estimates are for total grain production and include grain delivered for immediate sale and warehousing plus grain retained on farm for seed, feed and future sale.

Hay estimates are for total hay production and include all pasture, cereal and other crops cut for hay, both dryland and irrigated.

The estimates are based on information provided by Rural Solutions SA District Reporters from a variety of sources, and are updated throughout the season as conditions change and further information becomes available.

They are intended to be used only as estimates of crop area and grain production and are current at the time of preparation of the report.

The estimates have been updated using recently available ABS census data.

Prepared by Peter Fulwood 30 September 2008