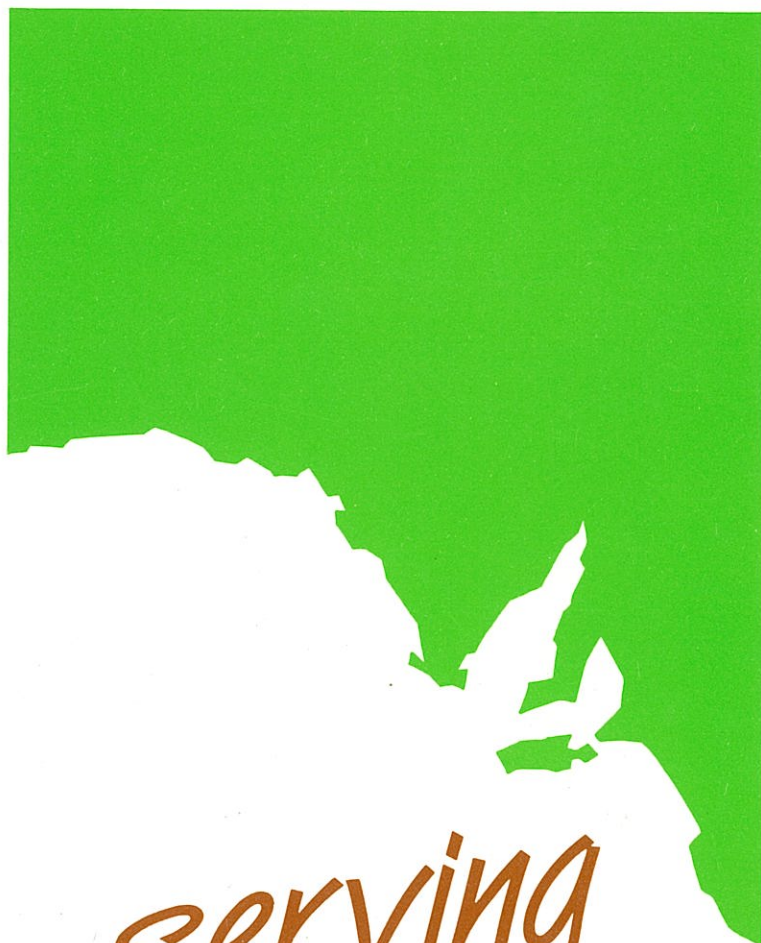

DEPARTMENT
OF
AGRICULTURE



*serving
South AUstralians*



DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE

*serving
South AUstralians*

September 1985



Department of Agriculture
South Australia

ISBN 0 7243 8671 8

AGDEX 902

© Department of Agriculture
South Australia, 1985

D.J. Woolman Government Printer

Contents

Foreword	4
Farming in South Australia	5
The Department of Agriculture — an overview	7
The Regions	9
Industry services	12
Support services	15
Statutory authorities	16
Associated rural organisations	17
Information services	18

Foreword


Agriculture in South Australia is a vital, competitive industry. It makes a significant contribution to the State's economy. About 20 per cent of the gross value of production in South Australia is from agriculture; this amounted to \$1 700 million in 1984-85.

Farmers in this State are quick to take advantage of technical opportunities, developing innovations that keep agriculture in the forefront of South Australian industries. Nevertheless, agriculture is continually changing and market forces are such that some agricultural industries must adapt to those changes.

The Department of Agriculture is an efficient, forward-looking organisation helping farmers maintain their competitive edge. This benefits all South Australians by contributing to the economy, and making high-quality agricultural produce available.

The Department has a dedicated staff with a broad range of skills and expertise, committed to providing an effective service.

This booklet describes how the Department operates and what it does, and will be of interest to all who use its services.



(John C. Radcliffe)
DIRECTOR-GENERAL OF AGRICULTURE

Farming in South Australia

Most of South Australia is arid or semi-arid. Only four per cent of the State's total area receives more than 500 mm of rain each year and only nine per cent of farm and pastoral land is under cropping or permanent improved pasture. South Australia, with mild wet winters and hot dry summers, has a climate almost identical with that of Mediterranean countries. Despite the harsh climate, South Australia contributes more than 10 per cent of the gross value of Australian agriculture.

South Australian farmers have developed a highly productive agricultural system which is based largely on the integration of cereal and livestock production. The State has three main agricultural zones.

Pastoral zone

The pastoral zone is characterised by low, unreliable rainfall and its agricultural production is based entirely on wool and beef. Livestock numbers in this area are generally referred to by the number of head per square kilometre.

Cereal zone

The cereal zone has a more reliable rainfall. Production is based on a cereal-livestock ley system, with wheat and barley crops rotated with sheep and cattle grazing on legume-based pastures. This zone accounts for about two-thirds of the annual gross value of agricultural production in South Australia.

High-rainfall zone

A wide range of activities is carried out in the high-rainfall zone, including beef, lamb, wool, dairy production and other livestock enterprises, and a variety of field cropping and horticultural production.

In South Australia, the low winter rainfall and hot, dry summer is ideal for cereal growing and this accounts for about 90 per cent of the total area cropped. Wheat is the most valuable crop, followed by barley. More than a third of the nation's barley is grown in this State. There is a lower incidence of stem rust in South Australia than in wetter wheat-producing areas of Australia.

Livestock and livestock products make up about half of the gross value of South Australia's agricultural production. Sheep grazing is predominant, with almost 90 per cent of sheep being Merinos. Pioneer breeders in South Australia developed a large-framed type of Merino that yields an exceptionally high clip of medium to strong quality wool.

Beef cattle are produced in the northern pastoral region and in the high-rainfall area of the South East. Eradication of bovine brucellosis and tuberculosis through a major State-Commonwealth campaign is almost complete in South Australia.

The dairy industry is confined to high rainfall or irrigated areas in the Adelaide Hills, Lower South East, and Lower Murray. The industry is entering a period of structural adjustment following the collapse of world markets and difficulties in disposing of Australian production surplus to local requirements.

South Australia is famous for its wine-producing areas — the Barossa Valley, Clare, Coonawarra/Padthaway, Southern Vales and the Riverland. Grape production accounts for one-third of the value of the State's horticultural crops, and most is used for wine making.

South Australia is also known for its citrus, mostly grown in the Riverland. A wide variety of other fruit and vegetables is also grown in South Australia, including apples, peaches, pears, apricots, cherries, potatoes, onions, tomatoes, peas and a range of brassica crops. Some horticultural industries are facing severe economic problems which may lead to a change in production patterns.

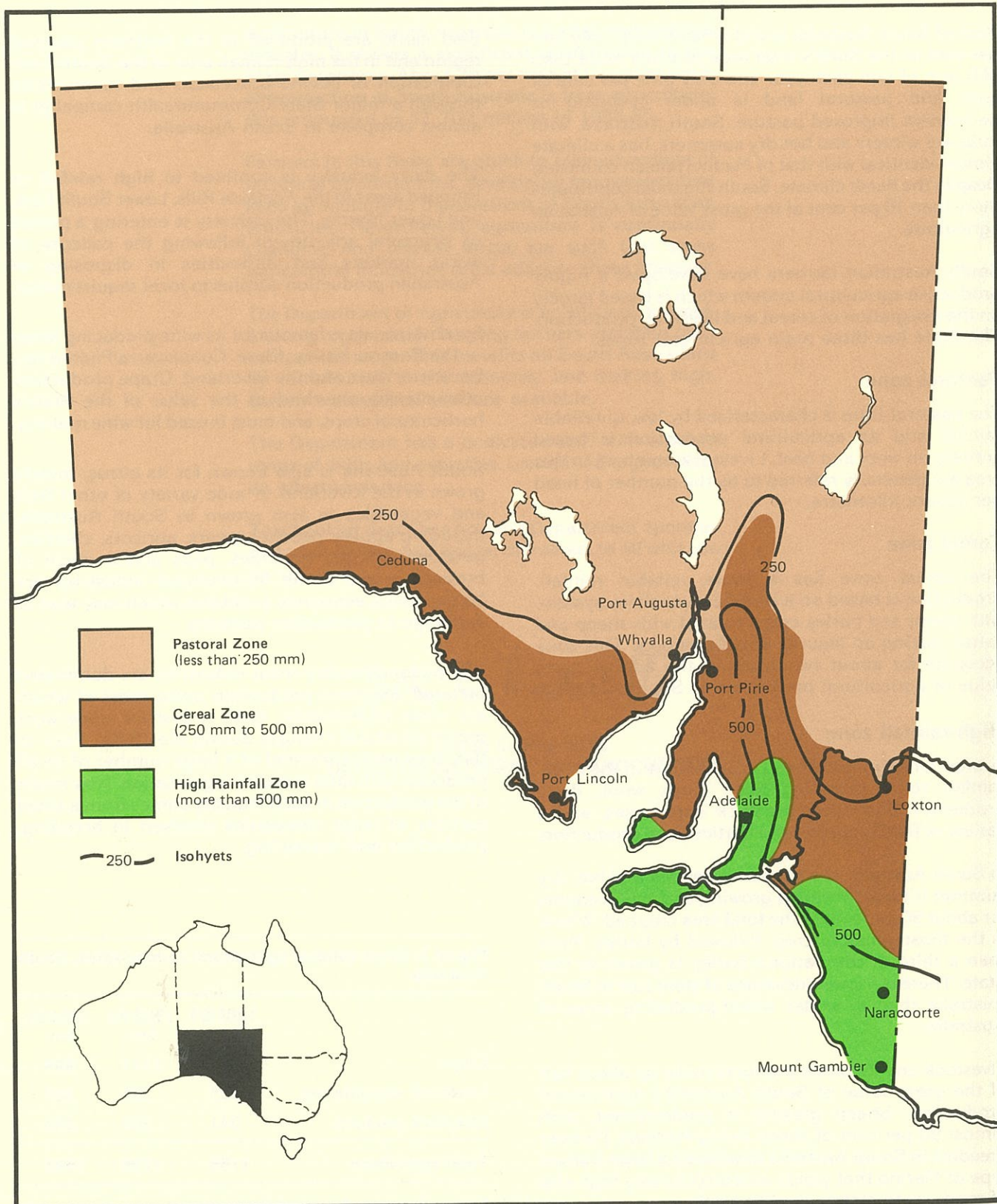
The pig and poultry meat industries are dominated by large, intensive production units, most of which are close to Adelaide. Both industries underwent major structural changes during the 1970s. Prior to this, they each consisted of a large number of small producers with little industry organisation. Now much of the production in each industry comes from a small number of large companies involved in breeding, production and marketing.

Figure 1: Gross value of agricultural commodities, South Australia

	1982/83 \$m.	1983/84 \$m.	1984/85 \$m.
Crops	522	1111	999
Livestock slaughtering	325	295	307
Livestock products	341	390	387
Total agriculture	1188	1796	1693

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics

Figure 2: Main agricultural zones



Department of Agriculture — an overview

Government and the Department

The Department of Agriculture is within the portfolio of the Minister of Agriculture. The Minister is responsible to the Government of South Australia for administering legislation concerning agriculture and for implementing Government policy on agriculture. The Minister directs the operations of the Department of Agriculture. The Director-General of Agriculture, as head of the Department, is responsible to the Minister for the management of the Department.

Services and resources

As the needs and circumstances of the people of South Australia have changed, so has the Department of Agriculture evolved since its beginnings in 1907. Today, the Department of Agriculture provides a wide range of services carried out by officers in metropolitan, regional and district offices, research centres and laboratories. There are about 1 100 people working for the Department of Agriculture. More than one-third of these are professional agricultural scientists or veterinarians. About 1 000 individual projects involving research, regulation and extension are being carried out in various disciplines relating to agriculture. These are conducted from more than 50 locations across South Australia. The department is funded by the South Australian Government, and receives additional support from the Commonwealth Government, industry bodies and other special funding bodies.

Extension services are provided throughout the State by specialist staff who work together as multi-disciplinary teams. Research is conducted at research centres and laboratories, and on farmers' properties. Diagnostic work is carried out on animal disease, and for soil, plant and water analyses. The Department administers Acts and Regulations on behalf of the South Australian and Commonwealth Governments and advises on codes of practice. Staff are employed to ensure regulatory standards are maintained, mostly through extension activities, rather than by taking a legalistic approach. Staff of a number of statutory authorities, including the Pest Plants Commission, Vertebrate Pests Control Authority and Meat Hygiene Authority are integrated with the Department of Agriculture.

Management and policy

The Department of Agriculture consults farmer groups and industry organisations to ensure that all

interests are considered when advising the Minister and Parliament on policy issues.

In January 1984, the Department of Agriculture changed its machinery for making policy decisions by establishing a Board of Management. This allows for a more direct and participative approach to development and implementation of departmental policy by senior managers.

The Board of Management meets every month and is advised by several permanent committees such as the Research Management Committee, the Extension Policy and Planning Committee and the Corporate Planning Group. In addition, review committees are established as the need arises to examine specific aspects of the Department's operations. These review committees generally include outside representatives of industries most closely related to the review, and comments are sought from agricultural organisations and individuals for consideration before final decisions are reached.

National agricultural policy

Responsibilities for agricultural policy are divided between the State and the Commonwealth Governments. The States have constitutional powers relating to agricultural production and domestic marketing arrangements. The Commonwealth Government is responsible for issues relating to overseas marketing, quarantine services for overseas imports, health and quality standards of agricultural exports, and provision of rural credit and financial incentives that are uniform throughout Australia.

To minimise conflicts that could arise through having these divided responsibilities, a forum for developing nationwide policy issues exists through the Australian Agricultural Council. The Council is consultative only, and while it recommends proposals its resolutions are not binding on either the Commonwealth or the State Governments.

The Council is supported by a permanent technical committee called the Standing Committee on Agriculture. This committee in turn is supported by a number of specialist technical committees and sub-committees, some of which are established for specific tasks and disbanded after completion of their tasks.

The Australian Agricultural Council and the Standing Committee on Agriculture meet twice each year. The

Australian Agricultural Council is made up of Commonwealth and State Government ministers responsible for agriculture, and Standing Committee members are the permanent heads of the relevant departments involved with agriculture.

Organisation, functions and services

The Department is organised into regions and divisions. Regional activities are tailored to local needs through a network of district offices, research centres and laboratories. The divisions are based in head office in Adelaide, and provide industry and support services on a Statewide basis.

The Regions

The Department operates through five Regions: Central, Eyre, Northern, Murray Lands, and South East. The Regions give policy advice on regional issues, undertake some Statewide activities and conduct research, extension and regulatory services. Regions consist of regional headquarters, district offices, and research centres and laboratories. The district office is the Department's front door through which contact is made with the farming community and the public.

Extension work is carried out from the 23 district offices throughout the State. Each office has staff with specialist skills reflecting the agricultural activities of the district. Staff work together in multi-disciplinary teams to provide a range of services.

Some research is carried out by district office staff in response to immediate local problems. Regulatory work such as stock inspection is also conducted from district offices. Soil and plant analyses, soil and water conservation planning and design, and veterinary diagnostic tests are some of the services that can be obtained through a district office.

Most of the Department's research centres and laboratories are managed on a regional basis. Those within the Adelaide metropolitan area have an emphasis on research and services with Statewide application and are managed by the Plant Services and Animal Services Divisions.

The Department's research centre network was reviewed recently, and is being rationalised to provide a service fitted to the State's agricultural needs for the remainder of this century.

Central Region

Central Region provides research, extension and regulatory services to a wide variety of industries in the region. It provides Statewide services and policy advice in the areas of temperate viticulture and horticulture, horticultural marketing, potatoes, and agricultural engineering.

Central Region headquarters is based in Flinders Street, Adelaide. The Region stretches from Jamestown in the north to Victor Harbor in the south, and also includes Yorke Peninsula and Kangaroo Island.

Most of the area is in the cereal zone with cereal-livestock farms, but there are significant horticultural

areas in the Adelaide Hills, Barossa Valley, Northern Adelaide Plains, Southern Vales and the Clare Valley. Most of the Metropolitan Milk Board area (which provides market milk for Adelaide) is situated in Central Region in the Adelaide Hills and Fleurieu Peninsula.

District offices are located at Kadina, Jamestown, Clare, Nuriootpa, Adelaide and Mount Barker, with smaller offices at Port Pirie, Virginia, Kingscote and Victor Harbor.

Research is conducted at the Cape Borda Research Farm (sheep genetics), Kingscote Research and Advisory Centre (sheep, pastures), Lenswood Research Centre (apples, pears, cherries, berries, vegetables), Nuriootpa Research and Advisory Centre (grapes) and Turretfield Research Centre (beef genetics, sheep and goat husbandry and genetics, cereals, legumes, oilseeds, pasture).

Murray Lands Region

Murray Lands Region provides research, extension and regulatory services to River Murray irrigators and dryland farmers. It provides Statewide services and policy advice on the horticultural and agricultural industries associated with the River Murray.

Murray Lands Region encompasses an area from the SA-Victorian border in the east to the Mt Lofty Ranges in the west, and from the River Murray in the north to the Upper South East in the south. It includes the areas traditionally known as the Riverland, Murray Mallee and Murray Plains. The regional headquarters is at Loxton and district offices are at Loxton, Murray Bridge, Renmark, Berri, Waikerie and Lamerloo.

The region is a significant producer of horticultural crops including almost all of the State's citrus, canned fruit and dried fruit as well as about two-thirds of the State's winegrapes. Production of other crops such as vegetables, nut crops and other alternatives is expanding.

Dairying is the other major irrigation industry. It is located on the Murray Swamps and contributes about one-third of the State's dairy production.

The largest area of the region is devoted to mixed cereal-livestock farming with wheat, barley and sheep being the main enterprises.

The Loxton Research Centre is the largest regional research facility in the State and is devoted to work

Figure 3: Department of Agriculture — offices and regional boundaries



in viticulture, citrus, stone fruit, alternative crops, vegetables, irrigation and salinity, and weed, pest and disease management.

The Wanbi Agriculture Centre conducts research and demonstrations on cereals, pastures, tillage, farming systems, sheep and cattle.

South East Region

The South East Region provides research, extension and regulatory services to the grazing and cropping industries. It provides policy advice and services to the beef and sheepmeat industries.

South East Region encompasses the five counties between Coonalpyn and Mt Gambier and includes over two million hectares of highly productive agricultural land. The region provides nearly a quarter of the State's total gross value of agricultural production. Rainfall ranges from 840 mm in the south to 450 mm in the north. Good supplies of underground water are available throughout the region.

Regional headquarters, which is located at Struan, administers and provides specialist support to district offices at Keith, Naracoorte and Mt Gambier, to research centres at Kybybolite and Struan, and to the regional veterinary laboratory.

Staff at district offices supply advisory and regulatory services for agriculture in their areas. Sheep and cattle grazing predominates in the region which contains about half of the State's beef cattle, a third of its dairy cows and a quarter of its sheep. Cropping is increasing with an estimated 150 000 hectares under a wide range of plantings, including oilseeds, cereals, vegetables and pasture seed crops. Major wine grape-growing areas are located at Coonawarra, Padthaway and Keppock.

Kybybolite Research Centre is noted for its pasture and sheep investigations. Struan Research Centre's work with beef cattle is also well known. Some specialist soil and crop trials are conducted at both centres, and on farms throughout the South East.

The Regional Veterinary Laboratory at Struan provides services to veterinary practitioners in the region and is also involved in a variety of animal health investigations.

Eyre Region

Eyre Region provides research, extension and regulatory services to the grazing and cropping industries. It also provides policy advice on regional matters.

Eyre Region headquarters is based in Adelaide place, Port Lincoln. The Region takes in all of the

agricultural area of Eyre Peninsula as far west as Nundroo.

Cereal production is the major industry in the region where wheat production provides, on average, 42 per cent of the total State production. The farming systems are cereal-livestock combinations with higher livestock intensity in the Lower Eyre district.

District offices are located at Port Lincoln, Cleve, Streaky Bay, Lock (to be established in 1985-86) and at Minnipa where there is a research farm of 1 200 hectares. A fruit fly road block is located at Ceduna, on the Eyre Highway, where all vehicles travelling from Western Australia are intercepted to monitor the entry of Mediterranean fruit fly host produce.

Research is conducted at the Minnipa Research Centre and also extensively on farms across the region. Research is carried out on sheep genetics, sheep lice control, cereal varieties, pastures, legumes, oilseeds, weed control, fertiliser usage related to plant nutrition, and salt-affected soil reclamation.

The Region provides a soil conservation service along with agronomic, livestock and farm management extension.

Northern Region

Northern Region provides extension and regulatory services to the pastoral areas of South Australia. It provides policy advice on disease eradication programs in those areas. The Northern Region headquarters is located at Port Augusta.

The Region encompasses the semi-arid zone of the State and is the largest of the Department's five Regions.

Borders of the Region extend north from Port Augusta to the Northern Territory border, east to the New South Wales and Queensland borders and west to the Western Australian border.

Most properties within the Region are large pastoral leases grazing beef or sheep, although there are some livestock-cereal properties in the Region.

Departmental activities in the Region focus on extension and regulatory programs associated with the livestock industries, but also include the control of vertebrate and plant pests.

There is no research centre; however, two research officers will be located in the Region in 1986. These officers will carry out research projects on a number of pastoral leases.

Industry services

Statewide industry services are provided by the Animal Services Division and the Plant Services Division. These Divisions give policy advice and co-ordinate Statewide activities, including some extension. They control regulatory activities, provide specialist advice to regional staff, conduct research, provide diagnostic services, and consult industry on Statewide and national issues.

Plant Services Division

The Division conducts research and provides diagnostic services and specialised extension and regulatory support to the Department, other Government agencies and the public in the following areas.

- Soil management
- Water management
- Field crops and pastures
- Horticulture
- Plant quarantine and export
- Plant inspection
- Plant protection
- Pest control

Soil management

The Soil Management Section covers the State's soil resources by operations in soil conservation, tillage methods, soil fertility and land degradation. Erosion research, land use planning, salinity research and revegetation research are included. A service to farmers is provided through group conservation projects funded by both State and Commonwealth Governments.

Water management

The Water Management Section conducts research into needs and methods of irrigating a range of horticultural crops, field crops, and pastures from rivers and underground water basins. Other aspects of water research such as the effect of farming practices on catchments supplying reservoirs, the use of waste water and effluent disposal are also studied. Some of this work is done in co-operation with the Engineering and Water Supply Department.

Field crops and pastures

The Farming Systems Section carries out research into cropping systems, rotation methods, and evaluates the suitability of new crop and pasture species for different environments. It aims to develop total management practices for farmers.

Plant nutrition

The Plant Nutrition Section is concerned with specific field and laboratory research into the relation between nutrient supply, fertiliser need, and yield. It also provides through district offices a diagnostic testing service of the nutritional content of soil and plant samples provided by farmers so that advice on fertilisers can be given.

Seed industry services

A seed certification scheme is operated by the Seed Services Section. Officers make field inspections of seed crops and the seed is tested in the seed laboratory to certify that it meets the requirements of appropriate Acts and agreements. The Department maintains the genetic resource for *Medicago* species as part of the National Genetic Resources Program.

Plant breeding

Breeding programs for field crops and pasture species are conducted. Major plant improvement programs in oats, pasture medics, peas and lucerne are among the more significant activities. Breeding for disease resistance in cereals is carried out in co-operation with other institutions.

Horticulture

The Horticulture Section works with regional managers and industry to determine research and extension priorities and to co-ordinate these activities. The Section conducts research, development and extension in postharvest technology, plant nutrition and varietal performance of fruit and vegetables, and in ornamental horticulture. The Section advises on fruit and vegetable industry affairs in conjunction with a regionally based horticultural marketing service aimed at increasing South Australian exports. Horticultural crop research is carried out by other sections working in entomology, plant pathology and virology.

Plant quarantine and plant inspection

Inspection and regulatory services are conducted on behalf of the Australian Government in quarantine and export quality control for a range of commodities and grain crops. Inspection of fruit and vegetables from interstate is also carried out under State Acts.

Plant protection

The Plant Protection Unit assists with advice on the registration of agricultural chemicals and provides a

specialist advisory service to district extension officers on the application and safe use of agricultural chemicals. Consultation is maintained with the agricultural chemical industry. Pesticide residues and pest infestations in stored products are also monitored.

Plant and vertebrate pests

Various State Acts on noxious pests and diseases of plants are administered by the Plant Services Division. The Division is also responsible for eradication, control, education and research programs for fruit fly, plague locust, phylloxera, European wasp and Portuguese millipede infestations. Various State Acts on noxious pests and diseases of plants are administered by the Plant Services Division.

Pest control

The Plant Biology Section provides diagnostic services, advice and training to regional staff and other sections of the Department on pest plants, plant diseases and weeds. Research and development are conducted by specialised units in entomology, plant pathology, virology and weeds by working with regional staff, crop specialists and regulatory officers.

Animal Services Division

This Division has four branches: Animal Health, Animal Industry, Animal Research, and Central Veterinary Laboratories.

The Animal Services Division gives advice to Government on industry matters, conducts research and provides diagnostic services and specialised extension and regulatory supervision to the Department, other Government agencies and the public in the following fields.

- Meat
- Dairy
- Sheep and wool
- Pigs
- Poultry
- Bees
- Veterinary diagnosis and research
- Agricultural and veterinary chemicals
- Epidemiology and preventive medicine
- Brucellosis and tuberculosis eradication
- Quarantine and exports
- Brands
- Animal health regulations

Meat

The Meat Section provides specialist policy advice, industry liaison and an advisory service to regional officers on aspects of beef and sheep meat production and marketing. It is participating in the development of standards for national carcass classification and has been promoting livestock 'sale-by-description'. Beef research is carried out in regional research centres.

Dairy

The Dairy Section provides policy advice to the Government and maintains industry contact. It also

has a direct extension and regulatory role in dairy production, herd recording and dairy technology. Dairy production and technology research are conducted at Northfield Research Centre.

Sheep

The Sheep and Wool Section provides specialist technical advice to the Government, other sections of the Department and industry. It helps co-ordinate Statewide sheep extension activities. Sheep research of both State and national importance is conducted by the Division, in addition to research activities in the regions.

Pigs

Pig research is carried out at the Pig Research Unit at Northfield. The Meat Section provides policy advice, industry liaison and specialist advice to regional officers on production and marketing of pig meat.

Poultry

The Poultry Services Section provides policy advice to the Department and the Government, maintains industry liaison, and provides a specialised health and husbandry advisory service to departmental officers and poultry producers. Poultry research is conducted at the Parafield Poultry Research Centre. It also maintains the nation's primary genetic collection of laying breeds.

Bees

The Apiaries Section provides advice to beekeepers on all matters of bee management, advises and trains beekeepers in disease identification and control, advises seedgrowers on management of honeybees for pollination and implements the provisions of the Apiaries Act.

Veterinary diagnosis and research

The Central Veterinary Laboratories Branch conducts veterinary research. It also provides a range of diagnostic services to this Department, other Government departments, private veterinarians and other agencies. The Branch's animal production unit provides specific pathogen-free laboratory animals for education and research.

Agricultural and veterinary chemicals

All agricultural and veterinary chemicals sold in this State are registered by the Department. Registration requirements are specified to ensure that, when used according to label direction, agricultural and veterinary chemicals will effectively control the diseases and pests of crops, livestock and produce while avoiding hazard to the user, non-target species, the consumer and the environment. An advisory service on the use of chemicals is provided to the Government, district officers and the public.

Epidemiology and preventive medicine

It is planned to create a new section which will be responsible for the collection and analysis of epidemiology data and the co-ordination of Statewide

animal health programs in the prevention and spread of animal disease. It will also be responsible for the co-ordination of South Australian disease eradication and prevention in the national scene.

Brucellosis and tuberculosis eradication

The Brucellosis and Tuberculosis Eradication Campaign is a national program, with the South Australian component being run by the Department. Eradication is well advanced in most of the livestock-producing areas in this State and the South Australian campaign should be completed by 1992.

Quarantine and exports

The Animal Quarantine and Exports Section administers the Commonwealth Quarantine Act, as it relates to animal and animal products, on behalf of the Commonwealth Department of Health. This Section also performs certification for the export of animals on behalf of the Australian Bureau of Animal Health.

Brands

A register of brands is maintained by the Animal Services Division for livestock industries.

Economics Division

A team of economics specialists offers services in economics, farm management and marketing.

Rural Assistance Branch

The Rural Assistance Branch administers the Rural Adjustment Scheme and relief measures in natural disasters.

International Division

This Division provides management and administrative support for the Government-owned company, Sagric International, which is involved in the transfer of agricultural technology to other countries.

Support services

The Department of Agriculture's primary activities in extension, research, regulation and diagnostic services are backed by a number of key support groups. In addition to administrative and clerical support which ensures smooth and efficient operation of the Department, specialist scientific and technical support is provided to managers, research workers and extension officers.

Scientific and technical

Research and extension staff are given support in mathematics, statistics, experimental design, computing, information provision and processing, artwork, journalism, and social survey design.

Mathematics and computing

A specialist unit is located at head office for mathematical and computing services. Expert assistance is provided in design and statistical analysis of experiments and surveys in research and extension. The unit also offers assistance and advice on the purchase and evaluation of computing technology for the Department and on planning and development of computerised information systems.

Library services

A network of libraries and book collections in departmental offices and research centres throughout the State is provided for the Department and the public.

Publications and media

Specialist staff at head office assist in the production, distribution and promotion of departmental publications, including audio-visual, photographic and display materials and written publications.

Extension research

The Extension Research and Evaluation Unit helps extension officers design surveys using social survey techniques. It also provides training in survey methods for departmental officers.

Management and administrative

The support includes management and administration of resources, clerical assistance to officers in research, extension, diagnostic and regulatory work, and staff development and training activities.

Administrative, clerical and typing

Staff are located throughout the Department to provide administrative support, typing services and receptionist duties. Word-processing facilities are being extended throughout the Department. Telex facilities are also located in head office and several regional centres. A correspondence section is responsible for distributing all correspondence and maintaining a central filing system. Services are also provided at head office and regional centres for managing and maintaining departmental land, buildings and plant, motor vehicles, and farm machinery and equipment.

Finance and accounting

Services are provided by the Accounting Section in financial management and general accounting.

Staff management and training

The Management Services Section provides advice and assistance to departmental managers on personnel matters and staff training courses.

Statutory authorities

A number of statutory authorities are supported by and operate from offices of the Department of Agriculture. These authorities include the Pest Plants Commission, the Vertebrate Pests Control Authority and the Meat Hygiene Authority. The proposed amalgamation of the Pest Plants Commission and the Vertebrate Pests Control Authority will ultimately enable a more effective pest control service to be provided.

Meat Hygiene Authority

There are more than 100 abattoirs and slaughterhouses in South Australia. The Meat Hygiene Authority is responsible for licensing slaughtering premises, co-ordinating Commonwealth meat inspection services, inspecting slaughterhouse and pet food premises, providing technical advice to the slaughtering industry, and co-ordinating the carcass classification scheme.

Pest Plants Commission

Responsibility for controlling weeds in South Australia is shared between landholders, local government (through Pest Plant Control Boards), and State

Government (through the Pest Plants Commission and the Department of Agriculture). The role of Pest Plant Control Boards includes local publicity, extension, surveys and enforcement. The role of State Government is in Statewide co-ordination, publicity, education, research and financial management. Pest Plant Commission staff maintain the Department of Agriculture herbarium and provide a plant identification service.

Vertebrate Pests Control Authority

This Authority, with some limited involvement in native species, assists in the control of rabbits, dingoes, foxes, mice and feral goats. Only rabbits, dingoes and foxes are proclaimed under the Vertebrate Pests Act. As with pest plants, the administration of vertebrate pest control is a co-operative effort of State and local government, with landholders having primary responsibility for control. The Vertebrate Pests Control Authority is conducting research programs into the biology and control of rabbits and feral goats, particularly in the pastoral country, and of the house mouse in relation to protection of cereal crops.

Associated rural organisations

The Department of Agriculture provides executive and administrative support to the Agricultural Bureau, the Women's Agricultural Bureau, the Rural Youth Movement and their governing bodies.

The Agricultural Bureau

This is a voluntary organisation of farmers and people allied to or interested in agricultural development and education. It was founded in 1888 and currently has 153 branches around the State, with about 4 100 members. Membership is open to men and women. It is a non-party-political, non-sectarian and non-concession-seeking organisation. The governing body of the Agricultural Bureau is the Advisory Board of Agriculture, which is required to consider matters referred to it by the Minister of Agriculture, to make recommendations on them to the Minister, and to bring to the Minister's attention any technical agricultural matter on which the Board wishes to comment.

Women's Agricultural Bureau

The Women's Agricultural Bureau was formed in 1917 and has 76 branches around the State with about 1 800 members. This organisation encourages self-development and informal education in the areas of agricultural knowledge, home management, cultural interests, community service and responsible

citizenship. It is a non-party-political, non-sectarian and non-concession-seeking organisation. The governing body is the Women's Agricultural Bureau Council. The Women's Agricultural Bureau is a member society of the Associated Country Women of the World.

Rural Youth Movement

Formed by the Department of Agriculture in 1951, the Movement aims to encourage members to become self-reliant, responsible and effective citizens. The Movement is increasingly concerned about issues affecting young people in the rural community. Approximately 1 000 members, aged between 15 and 26 years, come from 60 clubs spread across the seven areas into which the State is divided. Rural Youth is affiliated with the Australian Council of Rural Youth.

South Australian Rural Advisory Council

This ministerial advisory body began operating in July 1984. The Council is made up of representatives of the Women's Agricultural Bureau, the Rural Youth Movement and the Agricultural Bureau. The aims of the Council are to consider and advise on matters as requested by the Minister of Agriculture, and to submit to the Minister recommendations on any matters the council may consider to be in the interests of the rural community.

Information services

Publications

Publications available by subscription or individual sale may be obtained at district offices and from the publications and information counter on the ground floor of the Grenfell Centre, 25 Grenfell Street, Adelaide.

Fact sheets

Fact sheets are two- to four-page sheets of concise technical information for farmers and the general public. All aspects of primary production are covered, as well as home garden information, recipes, farm economics and farm safety. They are published and updated as needed and are available by individual sale or through subscription service.

The State of Agriculture

The State of Agriculture gives monthly reports on the State's seasonal conditions and agricultural activities, current agricultural research, economic and market analysis and seasonal farm management advice. Available by individual sale or through subscription service.

Farming Forum

Farming Forum is a quarterly publication on farm management economics and farming trends in South Australia. Available by individual sale or through subscription service.

Bulletins

Bulletins are detailed technical information booklets for farmers and others covering a range of topics. Available by individual sale only.

Books

Books are stocked on specialist topics such as hobby farming and home gardening. Available by individual sale only.

Other information services

These include departmental reports of study tours, seminars, workshops, research projects and

departmental reviews. They are provided in limited numbers for specialist use.

Technical reports and papers

Technical reports and technical papers on research projects and other studies are produced by departmental officers and are available through subscription.

Scientific papers

Scientific papers are published in national and international scientific journals and conference proceedings.

Media releases

Media releases on policy matters are issued from the office of the Minister of Agriculture. The Director-General of Agriculture authorises media releases on departmental administration. District news releases, regular features and information on technical issues are authorised by departmental journalists and other officers.

Farm costs and returns

Farm costs and returns is a detailed analysis of costs and returns that is prepared by the Department and published in the 'Stock Journal' each March.

Audio visuals

The Department of Agriculture has films, video tapes, slide-tape sets, slide sets, audio cassettes and meeting kits available for loan. Items are available on application. However, certain items can only be presented by an officer of the Department of Agriculture. Topics include animal health, animal husbandry, farm management, quarantine, pest plants and land management practices.

Videotex

The Department is planning a videotex information system for use by its officers and by members of the public.

Department of Agriculture, South Australia

HEAD OFFICE

25 Grenfell Street
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone: 227 9911

Research centres and laboratories

Northfield Laboratories and
Research Centre
Fosters Road
NORTHFIELD SA 5085
Telephone: 266 8333

Central Veterinary Laboratories
Veterinary Sciences Division
IMVS Building
Frome Road
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone: 228 7226

Gilles Plains Animal Resource
Centre
Cnr Blacks Road and Grand
Junction Road
GILLES PLAINS SA 5086
Telephone: 261 1033

Parafield Poultry Research Centre
230 Salisbury Highway
PARAFIELD GARDENS SA 5107
Telephone: 258 1244

Field Crop Plant Pathology Unit
Waite Agricultural Research
Institute
Private Mail Bag 1
GLEN OSMOND SA 5064
Telephone: 79 9416

Cape Borda Research Farm
PMB 249
Rocky River Service
via KINGSCOTE SA 5223
Telephone: (0848) 9 3253

Fruit and plant inspection depots

Adelaide Airport
Telephone: 352 6687

Outer Harbour
Telephone: 248 3265

East End Market
Telephone: 223 1615

Mile End South
Telephone: 227 4191
227 4192

Port Adelaide
131 Lipson Street
PORT ADELAIDE SA 5015
Telephone: 47 5133

Pest Eradication Unit

46 Prospect Road
PROSPECT SA 5082
Telephone: 269 4500

Plant Introduction Centre

230 Salisbury Highway
PARAFIELD GARDENS SA 5107
Telephone: 258 2307

Transport Depot

Churchill Road
PROSPECT SA 5082
Telephone: 269 1526

Quarantine depots

Railway Yards
MILE END SOUTH SA 5031
Telephone: 227 4191 (Plants)

130 Lipson Street
PORT ADELAIDE SA 5015
Telephone: 47 5133 (Plants) or
47 3922 (Animals)

CENTRAL REGION — Adelaide

Regional Headquarters

Adelaide
3rd Floor
Savings and Loans Building
52 Flinders Street
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone: 227 3799

District offices

Adelaide
3rd Floor
Savings and Loans Building
52 Flinders Street
GPO Box 1671
ADELAIDE SA 5001
Telephone: 227 3799

Clare
Box 324
30 Beare Street
CLARE SA 5453
Telephone: (088) 42 3900

Jamestown
17 Irvine Street
Box 145
JAMESTOWN SA 5491
Telephone: (086) 64 1408

Kadina
35 Frances Terrace
Box 145
KADINA SA 5554
Telephone: (088) 21 1555

Mount Barker
25 Wellington Road
PO Box 361
MOUNT BARKER SA 5251
Telephone: 391 0155

Victor Harbor
3 Eyre Terrace
Box 4
VICTOR HARBOR SA 5211
Telephone: (085) 52 3366

Virginia
Box 522
Port Wakefield Road
VIRGINIA SA 5120
Telephone: 380 9562

Port Pirie
6 Norman Street
Box 519
PORT PIRIE SA 5540
Telephone: (086) 32 3530

Research and advisory centres

Kingscote Research & Advisory
Centre
Council Chambers
Dauncey Street
KINGSCOTE SA 5223
Telephone: (0848) 22464
22222

Nuriootpa Research & Advisory
Centre
Research Road
Box 245
NURIOOTPA SA 5355
Telephone: (085) 62 1355

Research centres

Lenswood Research Centre
LENSWOOD SA 5240
Telephone: 389 8302

Turretfield Research Centre
ROSEDALE SA 5350
Telephone: (085) 25 8017

Fruit fly roadblock

Oodla Wirra
Telephone: Oodla Wirra 3U

SOUTH EAST REGION
— Struan

Regional Headquarters
Struan
Penola Road
Box 618
NARACORTE SA 5271
Telephone: (087) 64 7419

District offices
Keith
Box 81
Anzac Terrace
KEITH SA 5267
Telephone: (087) 55 1844

Mount Gambier
PMB 124
3-5 Helen Street
MOUNT GAMBIER SA 5290
Telephone: (087) 24 1511

Naracoorte
6a McRae Street
NARACORTE SA 5271
Telephone: (087) 62 1855

Research centres and laboratories
South East Region Veterinary Laboratory
Struan
Penola Road
Box 618
NARACORTE SA 5271
Telephone: (087) 64 7419

Kybybolite
Box 2
KYBYBOLITE SA 5262
Telephone: (087) 64 2002
64 2008

Struan
Penola Road
Box 618
NARACORTE SA 5271
Telephone: (087) 64 7419

MURRAY LANDS REGION
— Loxton

Regional Headquarters
Loxton
Kokoda Terrace
Box 411
LOXTON SA 5333
Telephone: (085) 84 7241

District offices
Berri
Wade Street
Box 6
BERRI SA 5343
Telephone: (085) 82 1166

Lameroo
Railway Terrace
LAMEROO SA 5302
Telephone: Lameroo 345

Loxton
Kokoda Terrace
Box 411
LOXTON SA 5333
Telephone: (085) 84 7241

Murray Bridge
Bridge Street
MURRAY BRIDGE SA 5253
Telephone: (085) 32 2266

Renmark
Ral Ral Avenue
Box 1014
RENMARK SA 5341
Telephone: (085) 86 6761

Waikerie
Kingston Road
WAIKERIE SA 5330
Telephone: (085) 41 2622

Research centres
Loxton
Box 544
LOXTON SA 5333
Telephone: (085) 84 7317

Wanbi Research Centre
WANBI SA 5310
Telephone: (085) 87 4151

Fruit inspection depots
Pinnaroo
Telephone: Pinnaroo 321
Yamba
Telephone: (085) 85 5026

NORTHERN REGION
— Port Augusta

Regional Headquarters
Port Augusta
12 Tassie Street
Box 357
PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700
Telephone: (086) 42 3722

District office
Port Augusta
12 Tassie Street
Box 357
PORT AUGUSTA SA 5700
Telephone: (086) 42 3722

EYRE REGION — Port Lincoln

Regional Headquarters
Port Lincoln
Adelaide Place
Box 11
PORT LINCOLN SA 5606
Telephone: (086) 82 0200

District offices
Cleve
Fourth Street Box 156
CLEVE SA 5640
Telephone: (086) 28 2091
28 2098

Port Lincoln
Adelaide Place
Box 11
PORT LINCOLN SA 5606
Telephone: (086) 82 0200

Streaky Bay
Bay Road
STREAKY BAY SA 5680
Telephone: Streaky Bay
(086) 76 1339
76 1108

Research centre
Minnipa
Box 31
MINNIPA SA 5654
Telephone: Minnipa (086) 80 5106

Fruit fly roadblock
Ceduna
Penong Road
Box 183
CEDUNA SA 5690
Telephone: Ceduna (086) 78 2108