

Horticulture

Key Messages

- South Australia is a major producer of horticulture and recognised for its excellence in environmentally clean, safe and advanced agricultural production.
- Potatoes, citrus, almonds and tomatoes are the largest of a vast range of fruit and vegetable crops produced in South Australia, in farmgate production value.
- In 2017–18, the farmgate values for tomatoes was \$150 million, potatoes was \$145 million, almonds was \$108 million, citrus was \$110 million, cucumbers was \$62 million¹.
- In 2017–18, South Australia produced 380,000 tonnes of potatoes, 186,511 tonnes of citrus, 90,000 tonnes of onions, 60,000 tonnes of tomatoes, 59,200 tonnes of carrots and 40,141 tonnes of apples.
- In fact, South Australia is the largest producer of potatoes in Australia, producing 380,000 tonnes in 2017–18.
- South Australia is the largest producer of onions in Australia, producing 90,000 tonnes in 2017–18.
- South Australia is home to the world-class 60-hectare National Almond Centre of Excellence. Research at the site is focusing on the evaluation of superior almond varieties and rootstock, and the development of best practices for improved orchard, soil and water management.
- The Riverland Pest Free area is recognised by the United States, China, Thailand, Japan and New Zealand. This enables produce from the Riverland to be exported direct to country without treatment for fruit fly, reducing costs and improving time to market across the supply chain.

¹ PIRSA, *Primary Industries Scorecard 2017–18*, December 2018.

- Our premium Riverland citrus industry also adheres to strict protocols and is recognised as pest-free for exporting to key markets including United States and Japan.
- South Australia has the largest area of protected cropping in Australia which enables protection from extreme weather events to provide consumers with a quality product every time.
- These initiatives will help to ensure high value greenhouse crops can be grown year-round with further opportunities available to develop sustainable horticulture.
- Though the South Australian River Murray Sustainability Program (SARMS) program, which has been in operation from 2015 to 2019, industry has been increasing their water use efficiency to ensure that we are world leaders in water management.

Fast Facts

- In 2017–18, horticulture – including fruit, nuts and vegetables – generated \$1.6 billion in primary industries and agribusiness revenue.²
- Although a significant amount of horticulture production is for local consumption, \$123 million worth of almonds and \$131 million worth of citrus were exported from South Australia in 2017–18.³
- Major overseas export destinations for South Australian horticultural produce include Japan (19%), New Zealand (9%) and China (8%).⁴
- 15,429 tonnes of almonds were exported in 2017–18, from 16,000 tonnes produced.
- Citrus fruit – including oranges, mandarins, lemons and limes – is the largest horticultural export in South Australia, with approximately 85,000 tonnes exported in 2017–18.
- South Australia produces more than 181,000 tonnes of citrus, including oranges, mandarins, lemons, limes, tangelos, tangerines and grapefruit.

² PIRSA, *Primary Industries Scorecard 2017–18*, December 2018.

³ ABS Trade Data, September 2018.

⁴ ABS Trade Data, September 2018.

- South Australia produces 380,000 tonnes of potatoes in 2017–18 with a farmgate value of \$145 million.