

Grains

Key Messages

- Grain is grown in all the southern regions of the state from the far west of Eyre Peninsula to the Limestone Coast.
- About 4 million hectares of crop is sown annually, producing wheat, barley, canola, lentils, oats, peas, beans, lupins and chickpeas.
- South Australia's production of grain is sustainable and entirely rain fed (no irrigation) – with minimal inputs of fertilisers and chemicals.
- The grains industry is a significant employer in the production, storage and export of bulk and containerised grains, baking, milling, cereal manufacturing and malt and beverage sectors.
- State-of-the-art, world class research and development facilities can be found at the University of Adelaide's Waite Campus in plant breeding and plant functional genomics targeting improved plant performance and quality suited to end use of grain products.
- SARDI has a \$50 million strategic partnership with the Grains Research and Development Corporation to secure the future of grain industry research in South Australia, focusing on programs of state and national importance including farming systems for low to medium rainfall areas, crop protection and crop improvement.

Fast Facts

- South Australia's 10-year average is about 7.9 million tonnes of grain harvested per year.
- The state's revenue of field crops (including hay, seeds and grains) in 2017–18 was \$4.2 billion.¹

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

- About 85% of our grain is exported around the world, to locations including India, Indonesia and Bangladesh.
- Each year SA grows enough wheat to make about 7.6 billion loaves of bread.