

## South Australia, Victoria & Southern New South Wales

Pulse crops yields in South Australia, Victoria and southern New South Wales were affected by a very dry September and October, aided only by some slight reprieve of mild temperatures and modest rains that fell in mid-October.

Rainfall for the 3 months August to October was less than decile 3 in the major pulse producing areas in south-eastern Australia. Similarly, growing season rainfall for the 6 months May to October was decile 3 or less in all parts of the southern region with the exception of southern Victoria (decile 5). Moisture in soil profiles through spring was very low in most cases.

The relatively slow dry down of crops last spring helped yields, and quality. Hot winds can increase shattering and pod loss, hence harvestable yields, and there were several of these events during harvest.

Despite the dry spring, crop yields were quite respectable in the major pulse production areas of Yorke Peninsula, Lower to Mid North, Lower Eyre Peninsula, the SE of South Australia, south-eastern New South Wales, and the Wimmera in Victoria. Areas such as the Upper Eyre Peninsula, the Upper North and Mallee areas of South Australia, Victoria and south-western New South Wales were more affected by low soil moisture and minimal spring rainfall and yields were below average.

## Queensland & Northern New South Wales

There has been only minor changes in final production figures for the various crops in the northern region from the November report and this one.

This is as expected given that the bulk of the northern harvest 70 to 90% had occurred by the time that the November report was compiled.

The primary differences is a reduction in the total Desi chickpea reduction of 5%.

## Western Australia

Harvest conditions in Western Australia were damp in southern regions which did cause some quality defects in cereals. Generally pulses were unaffected as they had been harvested before most of the wet weather arrived.

The Geraldton port zone received rain in mid to late November after most lupin crops had been harvested. In the Kwinana zone field peas were off before rain arrived. The area of lupin was small and the rain had little effect on yield or quality.

The Albany zone received extensive harvest rain in late November and into December. This disrupted harvest but again, pulses were mostly harvested early and received little damage.

The Esperance port zone had an above average winter followed by a dry spring which reduced yield potential to average. The harvest rain in November was normal for the region and little damage was noted in all crops.

## Final Estimated Pulse Production in Australia for 2012 (tonnes)

State	Chickpea		Beans		Field Pea	Lentil	Lupin		Total	% of 2011
	Desi	Kabuli	Faba	Broad	Dun	Red & Green	Sweet Lupin	Albus Lupin		
New South Wales	310,800	15,700	123,400	-	65,700	500	30,200	33,000	<b>579,300</b>	<b>119%</b>
Victoria	11,200	41,000	112,000	14,300	65,000	80,000	26,100	200	<b>349,800</b>	<b>90%</b>
Queensland	307,200	2,000	-	-	-	-	-	-	<b>309,200</b>	<b>218%</b>
South Australia	2,500	19,000	88,600	33,000	130,000	103,000	74,000	-	<b>450,100</b>	<b>84%</b>
Western Australia	3,700	300	5,900	-	59,000	-	294,400	800	<b>364,100</b>	<b>50%</b>
<b>Total 2012 (t)</b>	<b>635,400</b>	<b>78,000</b>	<b>329,900</b>	<b>47,300</b>	<b>319,700</b>	<b>183,500</b>	<b>424,700</b>	<b>34,000</b>	<b>2,052,500</b>	<b>90%</b>
<b>% of 2011</b>	<b>158%</b>	<b>95%</b>	<b>123%</b>	<b>113%</b>	<b>105%</b>	<b>64%</b>	<b>51%</b>	<b>56%</b>	<b>90%</b>	
<b>Total 2011 (t)</b>	<b>403,000</b>	<b>82,400</b>	<b>268,200</b>	<b>42,000</b>	<b>303,900</b>	<b>288,000</b>	<b>840,400</b>	<b>60,200</b>	<b>2,288,100</b>	

## Major projects funded by