

KEY POINTS

The ABARES forecast for South Australia’s 2021–22 winter crop production is 7.1 million tonnes, 16% lower than the 2020-21 winter crop and 4.9% below the five-year average.

National winter crop production in 2021-22 is forecast to be 46.8 million tonnes, 15% lower than in 2020-21 but 10% above than the five-year average.

FURTHER ANALYSIS

AUSTRALIA

National winter crop production is estimated to have increased by 84% in 2020–21 to 55.2 million tonnes, but is forecast to fall by 15% in 2021-22 to 46.8 million tonnes.

The winter crop season was promising in many large producing regions with favourable late summer and autumn rainfall in most cropping regions in Western Australia, New South Wales and Queensland.

However, planting conditions in most cropping regions in Victoria and South Australia were unfavourable during autumn. Most crops in these two states will rely on winter rainfall for crop establishment and development and will be vulnerable to below average winter rainfall.

ABARES is forecasting well above average production nationally, but with regional variation in 2021-22—see Table 1.

Table 1: Winter Crop Production 2021-22

	Million Tonnes	Change from previous year (%)
NSW	13.1	-29.9
VIC	6.9	-28.1
QLD	2.2	29.3
SA	7.1	-16.0
WA	17.5	4.2
AUST	46.8	-15.3

SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Planting conditions for winter crops were generally unfavourable at the beginning of the 2021-22 winter crop season in South Australia. A significant area of crops was sown dry, which rainfall in May

helped germinate. Sufficient and timely winter rainfall will be required to realise planting intentions and germinate and develop many crops.

According to the latest three month rainfall outlook (June to August) issued by the Bureau of Meteorology on 3 June, above average winter rainfall is likely in most cropping regions in South Australia.

Winter crop production in South Australia is estimated to have increased by 52% in 2020-21 to 8.4 million tonnes, but is forecast to fall by 16% to 7.1 million tonnes in 2021-22.

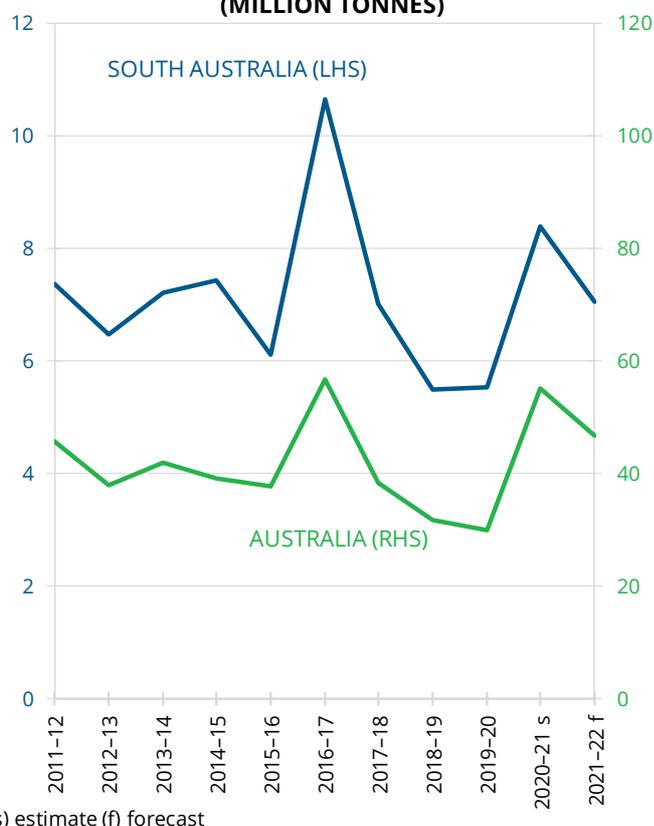
The total area planted to winter crops is forecast to remain largely unchanged.

Wheat production in 2021-22 is forecast to fall by 15% to 4.1 million tonnes, reflecting a 15% decline in the yield and no change in the area planted.

Barley production is forecast to fall by 21% to 1.9 million tonnes, driven by a 21% fall in yield with no change in the area planted.

Canola production is forecast to fall by 15% to 320,000 tonnes, reflecting a 2.2% fall in the area planted and a 13% fall in the yield.

WINTER CROP PRODUCTION (MILLION TONNES)



Next release of ABARES Crop Report is 14 September 2021