

The ABARES forecast for South Australia's 2018-19 winter crop production is 5.3 million tonnes, 24% lower than the 2017-18 winter crop and 31% below the five-year average. While this forecast represents a small upward revision of 0.05 million tonnes since December 2018, the forecast production is the lowest since 2008-09.

National winter crop production in 2018-19 is forecast to be 30.4 million tonnes, 20% lower than in 2017-18 and 29% lower than the five-year average. The national crop forecast represents a 4% upward revision to the December 2018 forecast, due to better than expected production in Western Australia.

## FURTHER ANALYSIS

### AUSTRALIA

ABARES notes that harvesting of 2018-19 winter crops is largely complete with better than expected yields in Western Australia boosting production above the December 2018 forecast. ABARES also comments that crop yields in other states are estimated to have been well below average.

ABARES is forecasting production declines in 2018-19 in all states except Western Australia—see Table 1.

**Table 1: Winter Crop Production 2018-19**

	Million Tonnes	Change from previous year (%)
NSW	2.9	-60.3
VIC	3.7	-51.1
QLD	0.7	-51.0
<b>SA</b>	<b>5.3</b>	<b>-24.1</b>
WA	17.7	21.2
<b>AUST</b>	<b>30.4</b>	<b>-19.9</b>

### SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Winter crop area in South Australia is estimated to have fallen by 5.4% to 3.3 million hectares, largely due to some areas planted to cereal crops for grain production being cut for hay. This mainly occurred in the regions of upper Eyre Peninsula, upper Yorke Peninsula, lower to mid north, southern Mallee and upper southeast.

Commercial and Economics Branch

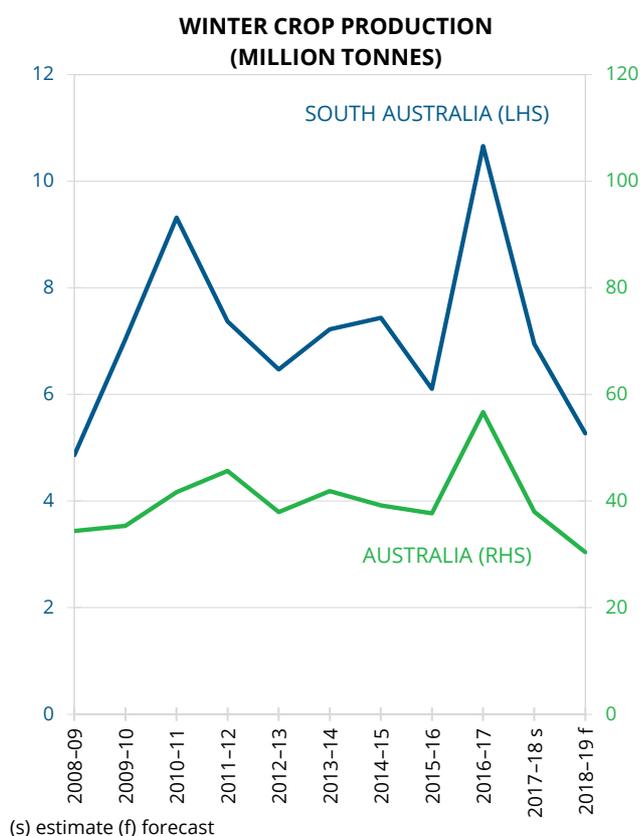
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Wheat production in 2018-19 is forecast to fall (down 28%) to 3.0 million tonnes, reflecting a 23% decrease in the yield and a 6.1% decrease in the area planted.

Barley production is forecast to fall by 15% to 1.5 million tonnes, reflecting a 17% decrease in the yield and a small rise of 3.1% in the area planted.

Canola production is forecast to fall by 19% to 260,000 tonnes, reflecting a 20% fall in the area planted and a 1.6% increase in the yield.



Next release of ABARES Crop Report is 12 June 2019



Government of South Australia

Department of Treasury and Finance