

CHAPTER 13 – Agricultural profile of Ipswich City

Introduction

The following agricultural profile includes information on the agricultural commodities produced in Ipswich City (pastures and grasses, crops, livestock, and livestock products) and information on agricultural practices (cultivation techniques, treatment of stubble, fertiliser use, and soil conditioner use).

An estimate of the number of agricultural holdings in the Ipswich City at June 2001 was 371. This estimate was derived from the Agricultural Census 2000-01.

Commodities

Pastures and grasses

Native or naturalised pastures represented 91.7% of the pastures in Ipswich City in 2000-01, sown pastures represented 4.3% and pastures cut for hay represented 4%. Pastures and grasses in Ipswich City represented 1.43% of the total agricultural holdings for the South East Queensland NRM region.

Table 13.1: Volume and value of pastures and grasses, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Pastures and grasses	Volume		Area		Value		Production of commodity as a percentage of Queensland total		
	t '000	ha '000	% of total ag. holdings in region	\$ '000	% of total ag. value in region	Vol	Area	Value	
Pastures cut for hay	8.7	1	0.06%	1,651	0%	3%	2%	3%	
Sown pastures	N/A	1	0.06%	N/A	N/A	N/A	0%	N/A	
Native or naturalised pasture	N/A	22	1.31%	N/A	N/A	N/A	0%	N/A	

N/A – Not Applicable

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Crops

The highest value of production for crops produced in Ipswich City in 2000-01 was produced by vegetable crops (\$2.4m). Soybeans (\$0.5m) produced the second largest value of production. Soybeans produced in Ipswich City in 2000-01 represented 8% of the total value of soybeans in Queensland.

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Table 13.2: Volume and value of crops, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Crops	Volume		Area		Value		Production of commodity as a percentage of Queensland total		
	t '000	ha '000	% of total ag. holdings in region	\$ '000	% of total ag. value in region	Vol	Area	Value	
Cereals for grain	2.06	0.76	0%	361	0%	0%	0%	0%	
Crops for hay	2.09	0.44	0%	N/A	N/A	1%	1%	N/A	
Soybeans	1.2	1	0%	545	0%	8%	5%	8%	
Fruit and nuts	N/A	0.03	0%	201	0%	N/A	0%	0%	
Vegetables	N/A	0.21	0%	2,466	0%	N/A	1%	0%	
Total	5.33	2.08		3,572					

N/A – Not Applicable

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Livestock

The highest value of production for livestock products in Ipswich City in 2000-01 was for cattle and calves (\$7.8m). The second highest value of production came from poultry (\$5.1m). Poultry meat produced in Ipswich City in 2000-01 represented 3% of the total value of all meat poultry produced in Queensland.

Table 13.3: Volume and value of livestock, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Livestock	Number		Value		Production of commodity as a percentage of Queensland total	
	No. of stock '000	\$ '000	% of total ag. value in region	No.	Value	
Cattle & calves	23 ^a	7,820 ^b	0.9%	0.2%	0.3%	
Sheep & lambs	0.004	ND	0%	0%	0%	
Pigs	4.96	1,753 ^b	0.2%	0.8%	1%	
Poultry	427	5,112 ^b	0.6%	4%	3%	

ND – No data or insufficient data.

(a) The number of stock for cattle and calves includes the number of meat cattle and dairy cattle combined.

(b) These values represent the value of all slaughtered animals not the value of total livestock.

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Livestock products

The most significant livestock product in Ipswich City in 2000-01 was cow's milk production. Cow's milk production (\$5.4m) produced the highest value of production for livestock products and represented 2.3% of the total value of cow's milk production in Queensland.

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Table 13.4: Volume and value of livestock products, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Livestock Products	Volume		Value		Production of commodity as a percentage of Queensland total	
	Vol '000	\$ '000	% of total ag. value in region	Vol	Value	
Wool (t)	ND	0.1	0%	0%	0%	
Cow milk production (L)	15,324	5,415	0.6%	1.8%	2.3%	
Eggs (dz)	0.01	0.02	0%	0%	0%	

ND – No data or insufficient data.

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Agricultural practices

Cultivation techniques

In total approximately 1899ha of land was prepared for cropping in Ipswich City in 2000-01, this represents 6% of all land prepared for cropping in the South East Queensland NRM region in 2000-01. One to two cultivations were used on 35.9% of the land prepared for cropping, no cultivation techniques were used on 13.6% of land prepared for cropping, and other cultivation techniques were used on 50.6% of land prepared for cropping. Cultivation techniques used in Ipswich City in 2000-01 did not represent a significant percentage of the cultivation techniques used across Queensland. This reflects the fact that only a small amount of cropping took place in Ipswich City in 2000-01.

Table 13.5: Cultivation technique, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Cultivation Technique	Area cultivated		Cultivation technique as a percentage of Queensland total
	ha '000	% of total area cultivated in region	Area
No cultivation	0.3	1%	0%
1 or 2 cultivations	0.7	2%	0%
Other cultivation technique	1.0	3%	0%

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Treatment of stubble

The main method of treating crop stubble in Ipswich City in 2000-01 was to plough the crop stubble into the soil (60.8%). The other two common methods were mulching the stubble (18%) and heavy grazing or baling the stubble (12.5%). The treatment of stubble in Ipswich City did not represent a significant percentage of the treatment of stubble in the South East Queensland NRM region or Queensland, reflecting the small amount of cropping that took place in Ipswich City in 2000-01.

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Table 13.6: Treatment of stubble, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Treatment	Area treated		Stubble treatment as a percentage of Queensland total
	ha '000	% of total area treated in region	Area
Stubble ploughed into soil	1.1	4%	0%
Stubble mulched	0.3	1%	0%
Stubble left intact	0.1	0%	0%
Stubble removed by hot burn	0.03	0%	0%
Stubble removed by cool burn	0.1	0%	0%
Stubble removed by baling or heavy grazing	0.2	1%	0%
All other methods	0.01	0%	0%

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Fertiliser used

The volume of fertiliser used in Ipswich City in 2000-01 represented 4.8% of the total amount of fertiliser used in the whole of the South East Queensland NRM region. Urea was the most common fertiliser used in Ipswich City in terms of both volume used and area treated.

Totals for hectares treated have not been included in Table 13.7 below; if more than one fertiliser was used on one hectare that hectare was counted twice in the agricultural census 2000-01, the total for hectares treated would therefore overestimate the number of hectares treated with fertiliser in the region.

Table 13.7: Fertiliser used, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Fertiliser	Quantity used	Area treated	Fertiliser use as a percentage of Queensland total	
	t	ha	Area	Vol
Urea	922.0	1936.8	0%	0%
Ammonium Sulphate	11.3	170.1	0%	0%
Ammonium Nitrate	5.8	16.2	0%	0%
Single Superphosphate	54.5	200.5	0%	0%
Triple Superphosphate	2.5	12.7	0%	0%
Muriate of Potash	60.1	295.2	0%	0%
Potassium Sulphate	259.1	179.7	1%	3%
Mono Ammonium Phosphate	7.0	29.7	0%	0%
Di Ammonium Phosphate	17.5	128.5	0%	0%
Other	436.6	1273.1	0%	0%
Total	1777.8			0%

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

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Soil conditioner used

The most common reason that soil conditioners were used in Ipswich City was to treat the soil for acidity (76.2%). The most common soil conditioner used to treat soil acidity was lime (74.8%). Gypsum (23.8%) was the most common soil conditioner used to physical soil problems. Soil conditioners used in Ipswich City did not represent a significant percentage of soil conditioners used across Queensland.

Table 13.8: Soil conditioner used, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Soil conditioner	Quantity used		Area treated		Soil conditioner use as a percentage of Queensland total	
	t'000	ha'000	% of total ag. holdings in region		Area	Vol
Lime - to correct or stabilise soil acidity	0.26	0.14	0.01%		0.4%	0%
Dolomite - to correct or stabilise soil acidity	0.01	0	0%		0%	0%
Gypsum - to correct physical soil problems	0.1	0	0%		0%	0%

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Area irrigated

The total area of agricultural holding for Ipswich City in 2000-01 was 43,360ha; of this area 3,302ha was irrigated. The area irrigated represents only 7.1% of the total area of land irrigated in the South East Queensland NRM region. The area irrigated in Ipswich City did not represent a significant percentage of land irrigated in Queensland.

Table 13.9: Area irrigated, Ipswich City, 2000-01

	Area		Area irrigated as a percentage of Queensland total
	ha '000	% of total ag. holdings in region	Area
Total area of holding	43	3%	0%
Irrigated - total area	3	7.1%	1%
Non-irrigated - total area	40	2.4%	0%

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Natural resource management profile

Fencing to exclude grazing

Most fencing constructed to exclude grazing in Ipswich City in 2000-01 was to protect undefined areas (95.8%). The other two reasons were to protect planted trees and shrubs (1.9%) and to protect creeks and rivers (2.3%). Fencing constructed in Ipswich City in 2000-01 to exclude grazing represented a high percentage (28.4%) of all the fencing constructed to exclude grazing in the South East Queensland NRM region.

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Table 13.10: Fencing to exclude grazing, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Reason	Length		Fencing to exclude grazing as a percentage of Queensland total
	km	% of total length of fencing constructed in region in 2000-01	Length
To protect planted trees and shrubs	4	0%	1%
To protect creeks and rivers	5	0.7%	0%
To protect other areas	206	27%	6%
Total fencing for all reasons	215	28.4%	

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).

Tree seedlings planted

The majority of tree seedlings planted in Ipswich City in 2000-01 were planted for timber and wood pulp production (93%). Tree seedlings were also planted for nature conservation (0.6%), for the enhancement of production (6.1%), and for other undefined purposes (0.3%). The total number of tree seedlings planted in Ipswich City in 2000-01 represented 3.2% of the total number of tree seedlings planted in the South East Queensland NRM region in 2000-01.

Table 13.11: Tree seedlings planted, Ipswich City, 2000-01

Purpose of Planting	Number planted		Area planted		Seedlings and trees planted as a percentage of Queensland total	
	No. '000	% of seedlings planted in region in 2000-01	ha	% of total ag. holdings in region	No.	Area
Seedlings planted for nature conservation	0.1	0%	3	0%	0%	0%
Seedlings planted for timber and wood pulp	8	3%	5	0%	2%	1%
Seedlings planted for enhanced production	1	0.2%	523	0%	0%	0%
Seedlings planted for all other purposes	0.03	0%	1	0%	0%	0%

Source: ABS data, Agricultural Census, 2000-01 (as reported in QRBIS).