

**AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS ACT 1975: sub-section 6(3)**

**PROPOSAL NO. 3 OF 2023**

**BY THE AUSTRALIAN BUREAU OF STATISTICS**

**VALUE OF AGRICULTURAL COMMODITIES PRODUCED**

The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) proposes to collect information for the purpose of providing comprehensive statistics on the Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced (VACP).

The information will be collected:

- on an annual basis
- from approximately 60 traders, purchasers, handlers and producers of agricultural commodities;
- by self-enumeration (paper form mail out/mail back)
- from businesses across Australia.

Information will be collected on a range of characteristics including:

- marketing costs for transport, container prices and storage prices for agricultural commodities;
- marketing costs of egg production and purchase of shell eggs for human consumption;
- provider business details, including contact name, telephone number and email address, in the event the ABS needs to contact the business to resolve any queries;
- the value, and quantity purchased, of cotton.

The information collected will be used by the ABS in the compilation of the *Value of Agricultural Commodities Produced, Australia* (cat no. 7503.0) and the *Australian System of National Accounts* (cat no. 5204.0) publications.

The ABS expects to make statistical and related information from the collection available by June on an annual basis.

The principal users of the information the ABS produces will be:

- the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences;
- the Department of Agriculture and Water Resources;
- state and territory government departments;
- industry bodies; and
- research and educational institutions.

Results from the collection will be used to assist in policy formulation and in forecasting future industry activity.

To assist in determining the feasibility of the collection and to understand and manage respondent burden consistent with the Government's Regulator Performance Framework, the ABS:

- has considered what existing information is available;
- has used its consultation with a range of stakeholders regarding their agricultural data needs to develop the VACP collection; and
- is reviewing its processes and procedures to further minimise respondent burden.

This collection was last conducted in 2021-22 and was previously tabled in Parliament as Proposal 7 of 2019.

This collection has been reduced from 16 forms and 450 recipients in 2021-22 by identifying existing data sources which replace all but 4 of these forms. The use of existing public and private data sources to improve the timeliness, consistency and regional detail of agricultural statistics and reduce burden on farmers is part of *ABS' Modernisation of Agricultural Statistics* (<https://www.abs.gov.au/statistics/detailed-methodology-information/information-papers/modernising-abs-agricultural-statistics>).

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