

Senate Standing Committee on Economics

ANSWERS TO QUESTIONS ON NOTICE

Treasury Portfolio

Supplementary Budget Estimates

19 – 20 October 2011

Question No: SBT 221 - 222
Topic: Agricultural Ownership Statistics
Hansard Page: Written

Senator Nash asked:

221. With regard to the ABS agricultural ownership statistics – Did the ABS collect information that would allow them to show ownership of capacity and capacity utilisation? I.e. By using business turnover and taxable income as a proxy valuation.
222. Does the ABS have any data on downstream processing of agricultural outputs and information on suppliers of inputs such as fertilisers?

Answer:

221. The Australian Bureau of Statistics (ABS) did not collect data on ownership of capacity and capacity utilisation in the Agricultural Land and Water Ownership Survey. Such data were not included in the agreed information requirements for the ALWOS. See also QON SBT214.
222. The ABS produces broad level data on the downstream processing of agricultural outputs and the suppliers of inputs to the agricultural industry. The Agricultural Land and Water Ownership Survey does not contribute to the production of this data.

Data on the downstream processing of agricultural outputs and the suppliers of inputs are presented in the publication *Australian National Accounts, Input-Output tables* (catalogue no. 5209.0.55.001). These outputs provide information about the supply and use of products in the Australian economy and about the structure of and inter-relationships between Australian industries.

The Australian National Accounts, Input-Output tables do not provide the level of detail to support the identification of specific inputs, such as fertilisers, used by the agriculture industry. Fertiliser inputs used by the agriculture industry are aggregated and published in a broader 'Basic Chemical Manufacturing' product group.