

Australia's agriculture: Student worksheet

What are the eight main 'commodities' (agricultural products) that Australia produces?

According to the National Farmers Federation, there are eight main 'commodities' or agricultural products. The values for each of the commodities are given in millions of Australian dollars. The data is from the last available year (July 2010 to June 2011).

What percentage of the total of each of the eight main commodities is used in Australia?

Fill the gaps in the table.

Product	Total value (100%) (\$million)	Value of exports (\$million)	Percentage of total exported	Value of Australian use (\$million)	Percentage of total used in Australia
Wheat	4 765	5 526			
Beef	7 270	4 328			
Wool	1 900	2 376*			
Wine		1 887		1 245	
Dairy (not cheese)		1 614**	45%		
Sugar		1 492***		874	
Barley		1 295			4.5%
Lamb meat			50%	513	

Data source: *Farm Facts 2012*. www.nff.org.au/get/2107.pdf

Some questions

- * Of the exported wool, 73% goes to China. How many dollars does this earn?
- ** Of the exported dairy products, 19% goes to Japan. How many dollars does this earn?
- *** Of the exported sugar, 34% goes to Korea. How many dollars does this earn?

How could you explain the values for wool?

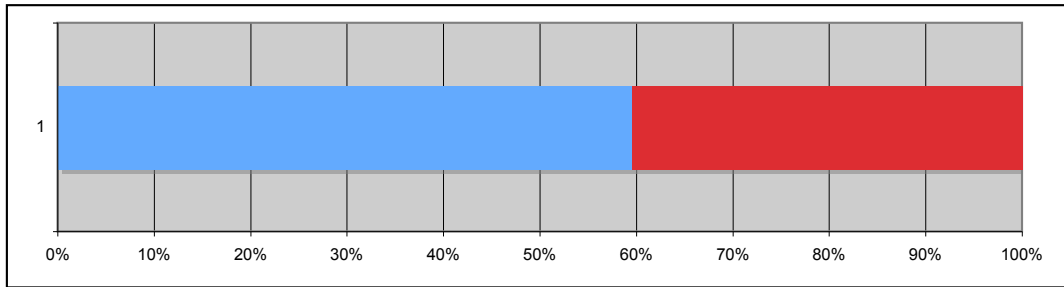
Which commodity is used most in Australia?

Which commodity has the greatest value of Australian use?



Extension

Draw a 100% stacked bar graph to compare Australian use with export value. Here is an example for the beef data created on Excel.



Blue: exported. Red: Australian.