

DEPARTMENT OF
PRIMARY INDUSTRIES

PAEC Budget Estimates 2006-07 Agriculture Portfolio



Hon Bob Cameron, MP

15 June 2006

The Agriculture Portfolio

Agriculture

- Victoria's agriculture sector produces goods valued at around \$9 billion per year
- 6.4 billion litres of milk – 65% of Australia's milk and a 13% share of world dairy trade

Fishing

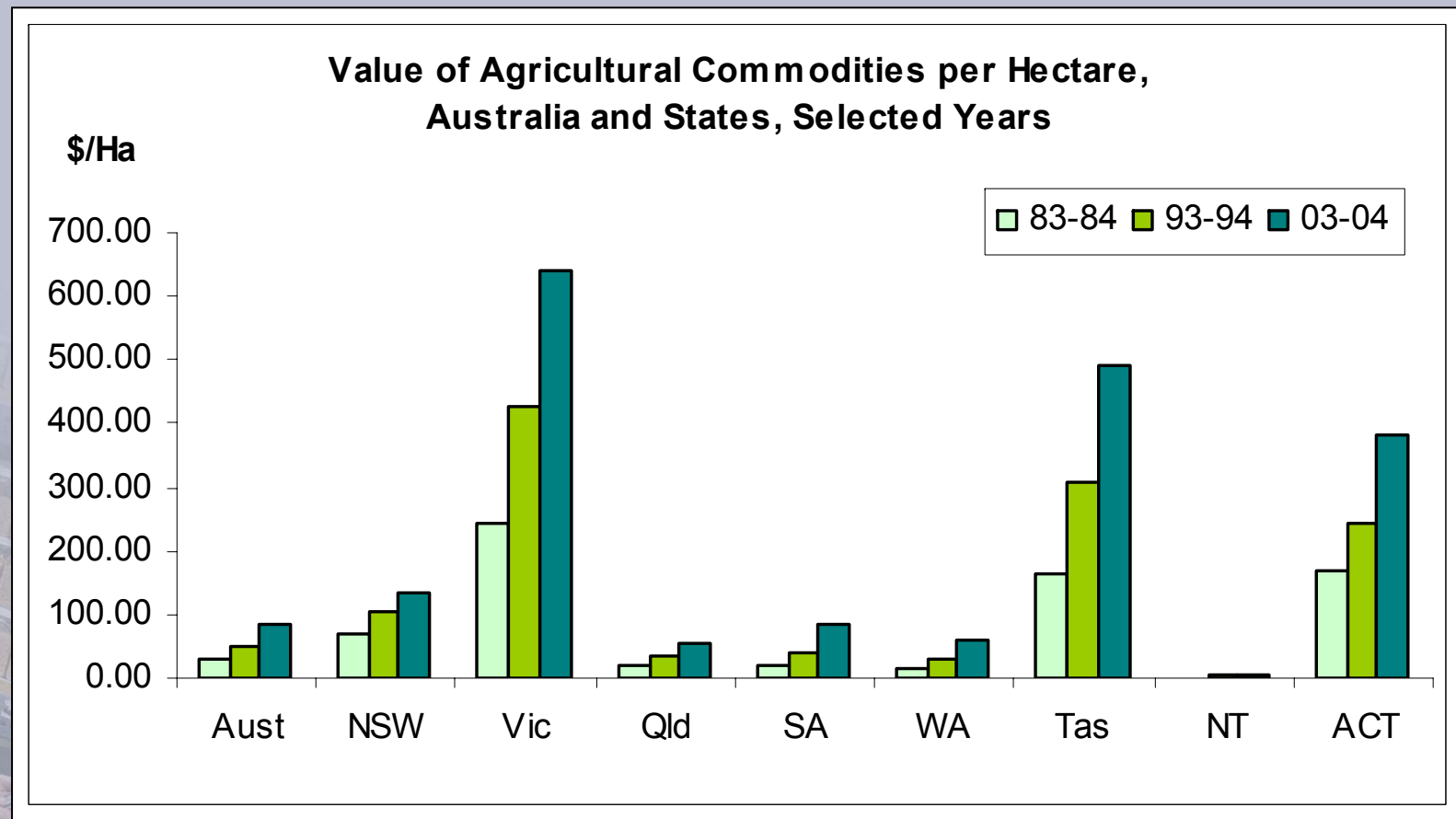
- High quality seafood such as abalone and rock lobster exported around the world
- Over 2,000 kilometres of coastline and up to 1.3m fish stocked per year provide plenty of opportunity for recreational fishers in Victoria

Forestry

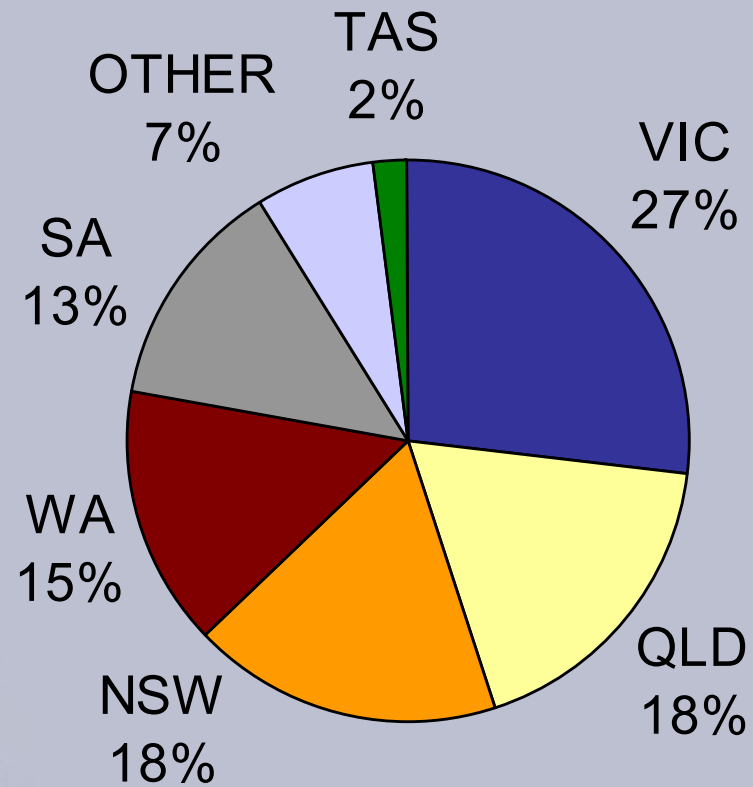
- More than one-third of Victoria's public land is State Forest and Victoria's forestry industry accounts for more than one-third of Australia's direct forest exports
- Largest plantation State



Gross value of agricultural production - dollars per hectare

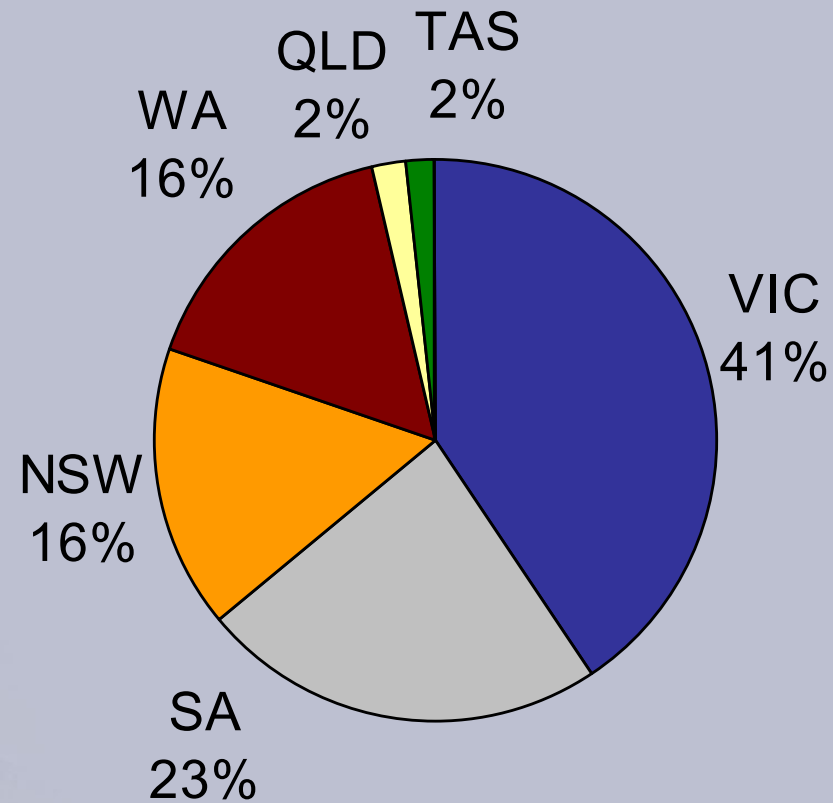


Australia's food and fibre exports by State 2005



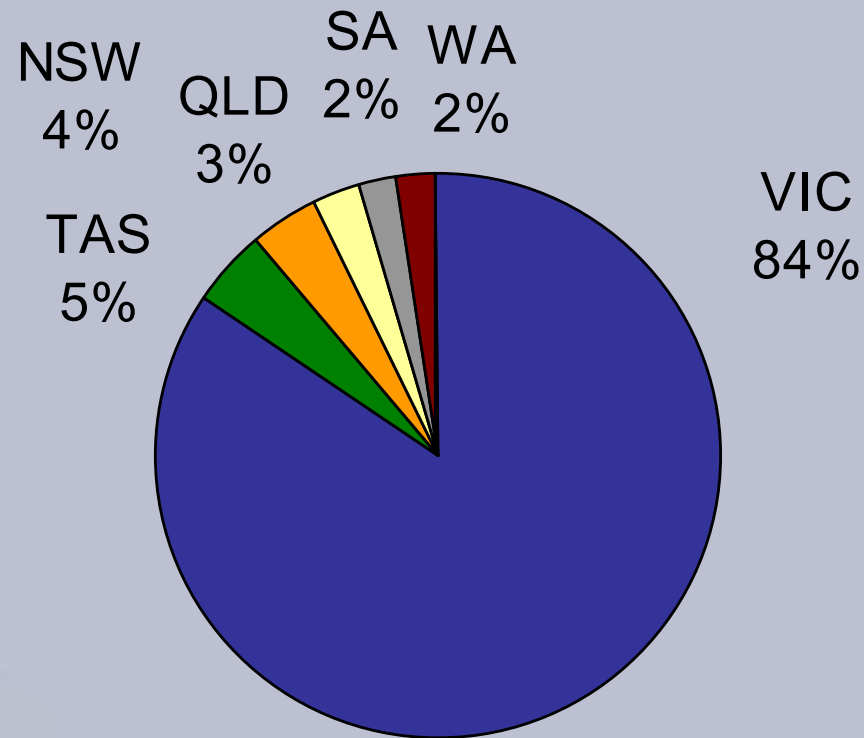
Australia's food and fibre exports by State 2005

~Lamb

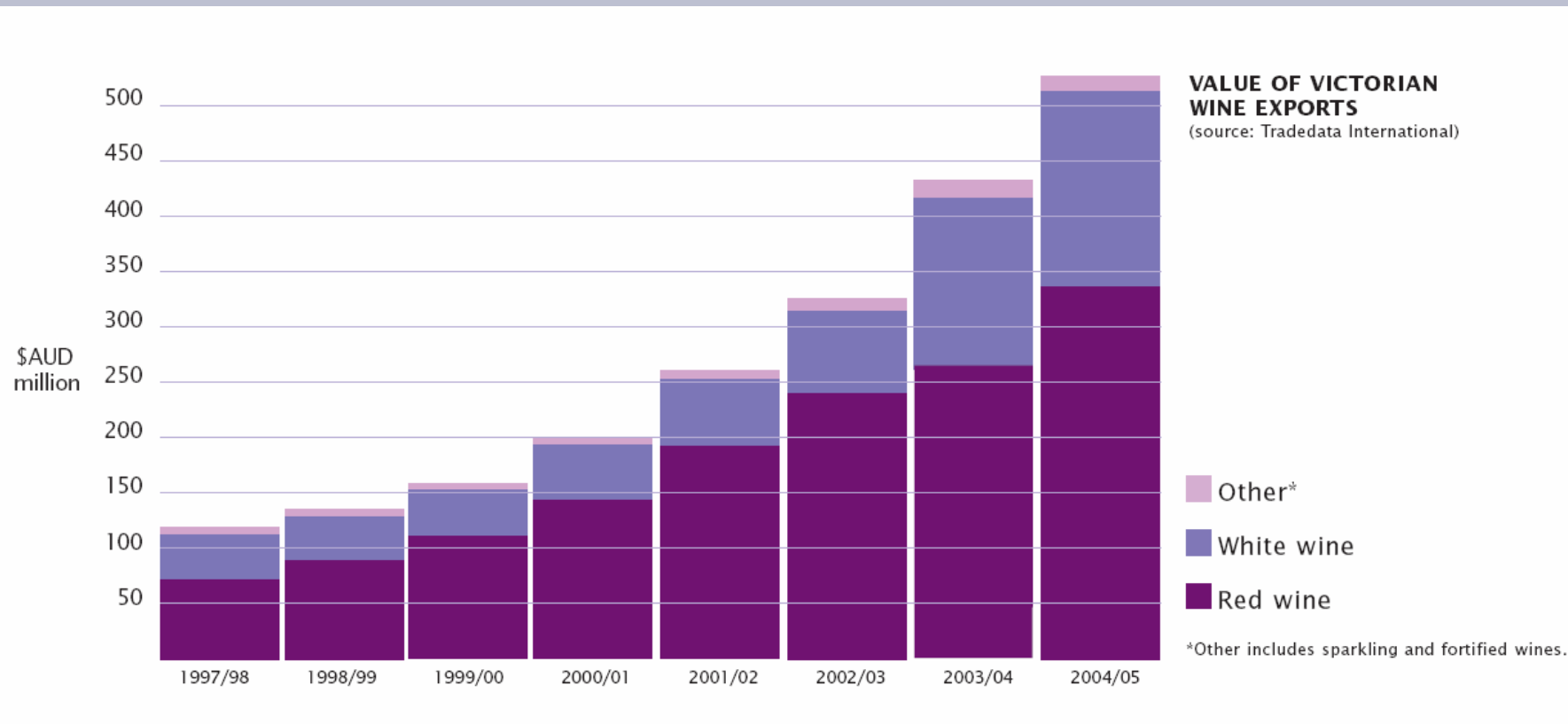


Australia's food and fibre exports by State 2005

~Dairy



Growth in Victorian wine exports



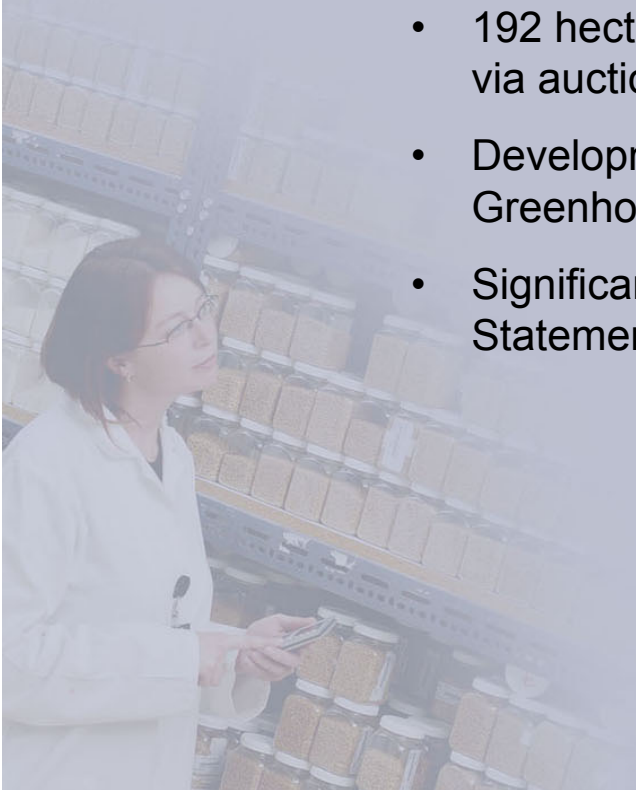
Outputs—Primary Industries Policy

To improve investment in, and protection of primary industries

- 2006-07 Budget of \$25.5 million

Highlights for 2005-06 include:

- 192 hectares of new aquaculture fisheries reserves to be released via auction
- Development of an Action Agenda on Climate Change & Greenhouse for Victoria's primary industries
- Significant contribution to the development of the Provincial Victoria Statement - *Moving Forward*



Outputs—Regulation & Compliance

Regulating natural resource use in the public interest, encouraging best practice behaviours, and protecting the quality and safety of Victoria's produce

- 2006-07 Budget of \$79.4 million

Highlights for 2005-06 include:

- Use of the 13-FISH reporting line to curb illegal fishing
- Development of a washing protocol to prevent the spread of potato cyst nematode and maintain access to markets for Victorian potatoes
- Victoria's fisheries compliance legislation used as an example for other State's legislation



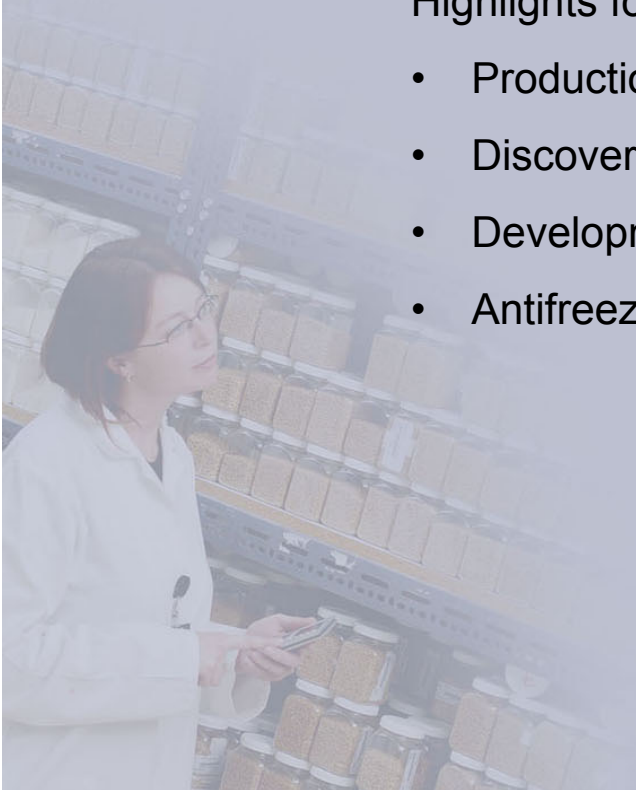
Outputs—Strategic & Applied Scientific Research

Using science and innovation to increase the productivity, sustainability, international competitiveness and export value of primary industries

- 2006-07 Budget of \$182.7 million

Highlights for 2005-06 include:

- Production of milk with high levels of selenium
- Discovery of bacteria killing compound in wallaby milk
- Development of fuel efficient bantam 'super chook'
- Antifreeze for crops found in Antarctic Hairgrass



Outputs—Sustainable Practice Change

Facilitate the adoption of new ideas and practices and promote trade by enhancing access to markets

- 2006-07 Budget of \$111.0 million

Highlights for 2005-06 include:

- Coordinated response to plague locust threat – over 36,000 ha sprayed & \$4.4 million spent
- Rapid collaborative bushfire response
- Export of Victorian seed potatoes to Thailand with proof that they pose no pest or disease threat



Initiatives announced in the Provincial Victoria Statement

- Boosting recreational fishing and tourism opportunities - \$3.2 million
- Streamlined property management systems for farmers - \$4.9 million
- Services and information for new landowners - \$3.0 million
- Improving provincial Victoria's biosecurity - \$6.2 million
- A new Sustainable Timber Council - \$0.25 million
- Implementing the Plantation Incentives Strategy - \$8.2 million



New initiatives—State Budget

Replacement of the Fisheries Catch and Effort system

- \$5.9 million over 4 years
- System stores the records of the daily fishing and catch results of all licensed commercial fishers
- Used to inform decisions about managing the health and sustainability of Victoria's fish species

Assistance for Horticulture in Victoria

- \$1.5 million over 3 years
- To develop skills and business expertise for Victorian horticulture, which will help underpin industry sustainability and competitiveness in a time of dramatic economic change

