

# PAEC Budget Estimates Hearing 2008-09

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Minister for Agriculture

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## DEPARTMENT OF PRIMARY INDUSTRIES



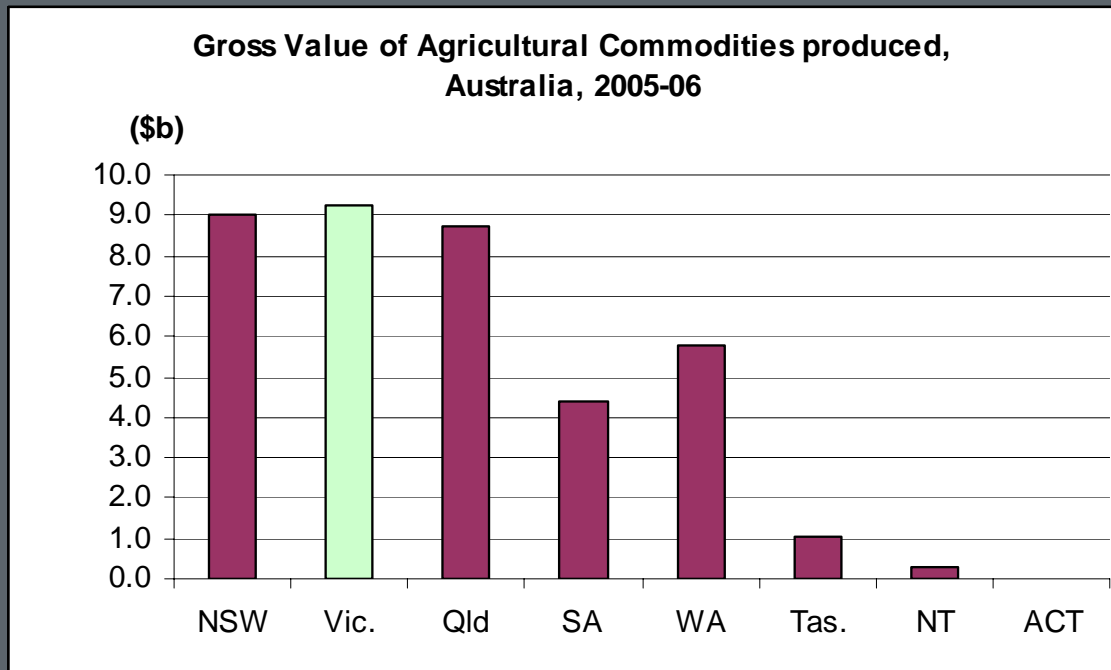
# In this presentation:

- Overview
- Achievements
- Challenges
- Future Farming



# Overview

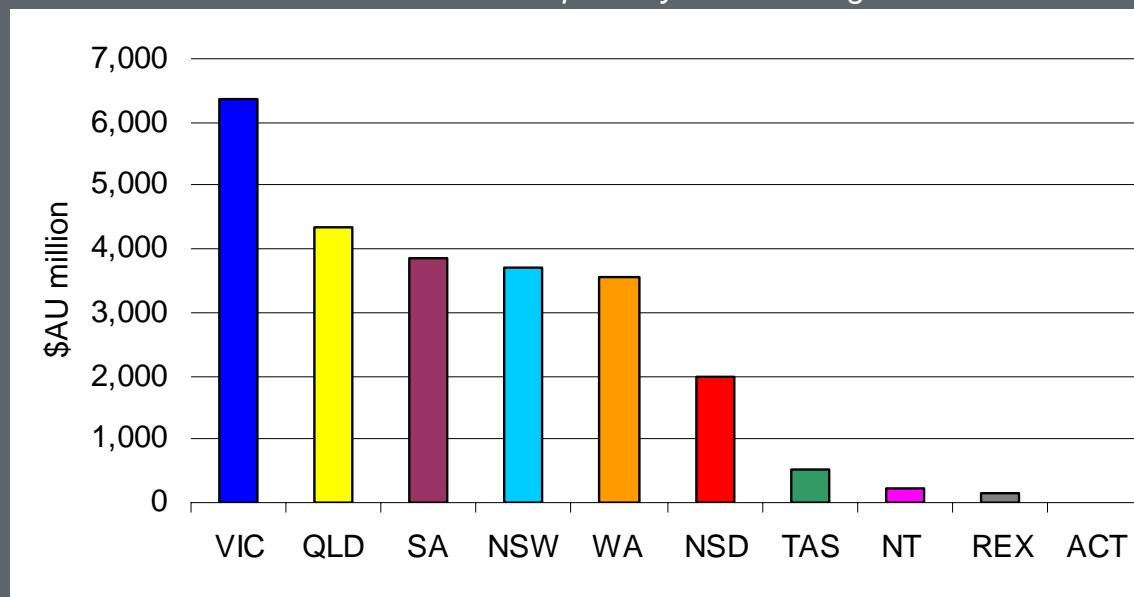
- Victoria's agricultural production is worth \$9.2 billion – or 23.9% of the Australian total



# Overview

- Victoria's food and fibre exports are worth \$6.3 billion dollars – or 26% of the Australian total

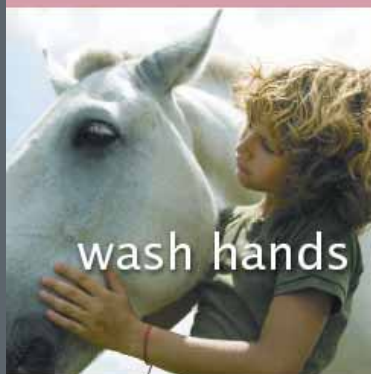
*Australian Food and Fibre Exports by State of Origin for 2007*



# Key Achievements

- Keeping Victoria horse flu free

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wash hands



wash clothes



wash gear



Don't be the one that stops the race that stops the nation.

For further information contact the Equine Influenza Helpline on 1800 678 779 or visit the Department of Primary Industries' website at [www.dpi.vic.gov.au](http://www.dpi.vic.gov.au)



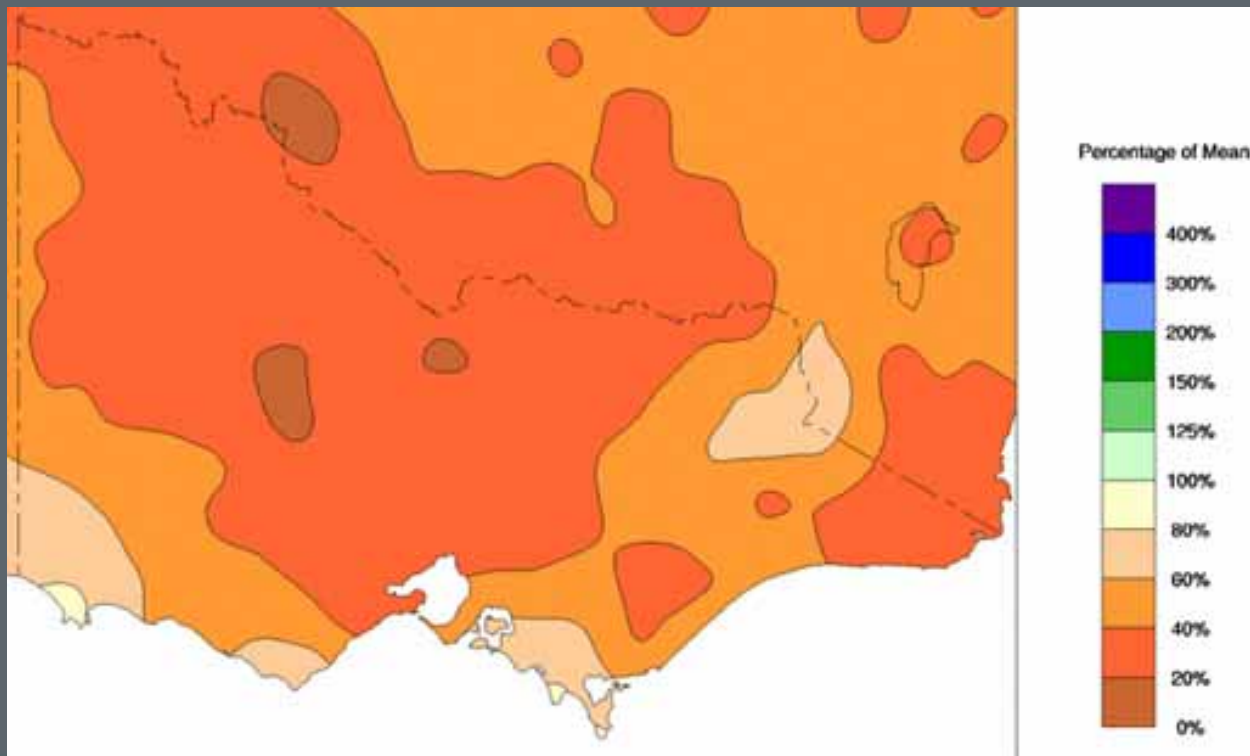
# KEEP VICTORIA HORSE FLU FREE



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# Key Achievements

- Responding to drought
- Victoria has provided more than \$400 million to drought assistance and initiatives since 2002



# Key Achievements

- Lifting the moratorium on GM canola
- Providing choice to farmers and consumers



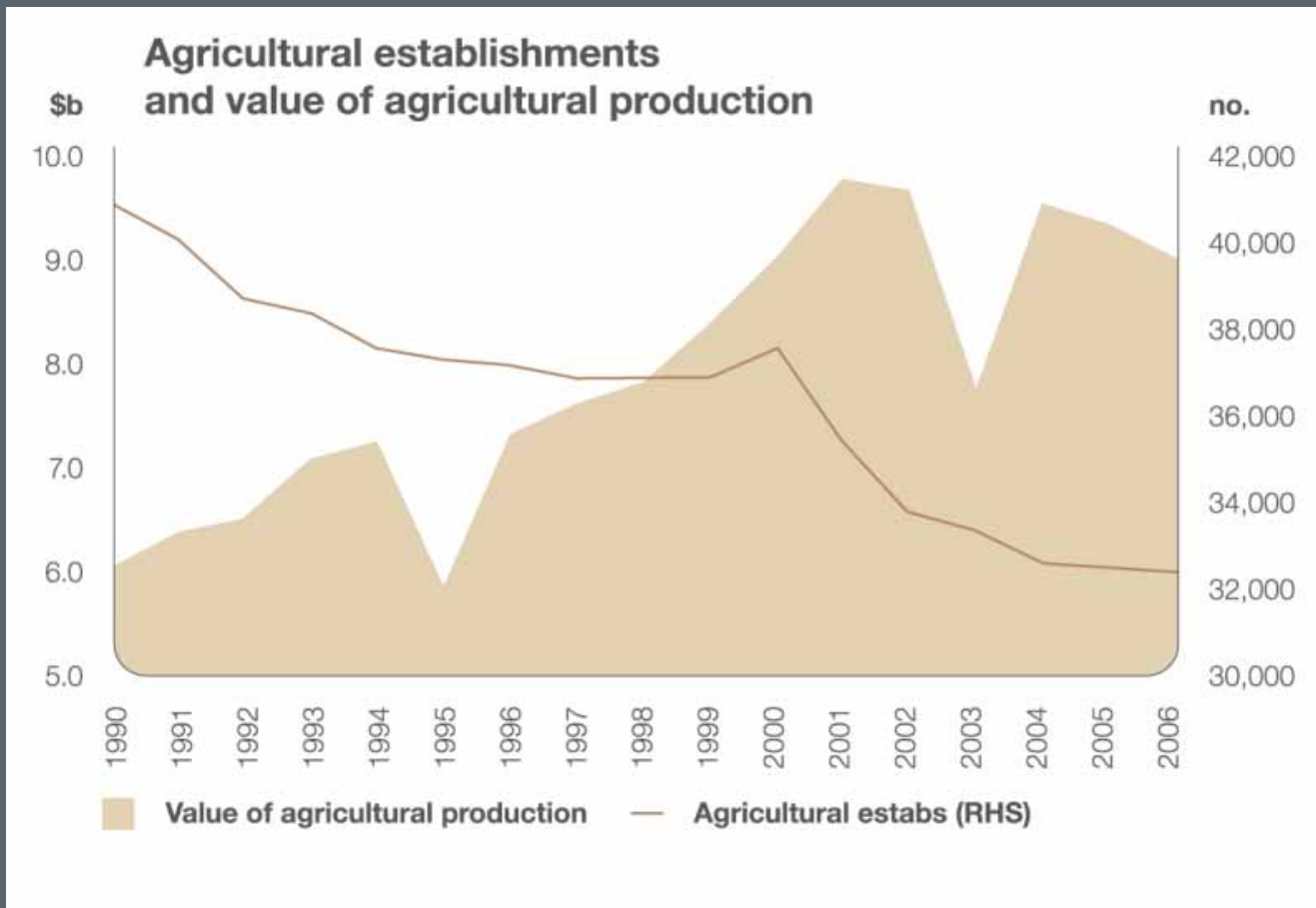
# The challenge of change

- Victorian farmers are facing unprecedented pressures
- These include:
  - Drought
  - Water scarcity
  - Labour shortages
  - Increasing overseas competition
  - Demographic and land use changes





# Change



# Future Farming

## A new era for farming

- Farmers are facing unprecedented pressures and uncertainties
- At the same time, exciting new opportunities are emerging



**FUTURE FARMING** Productive, Competitive and Sustainable



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# Future Farming

**Boosting productivity through new technology and changes in farming practices**

\$103.5m to expand agricultural research, development and practice change services in Victoria



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# Future Farming

## Understanding and managing climate change

\$11.5m to help farm businesses plan for climate change and provide farmers in key industries with new technologies and strategies to adapt their farming systems to future climate conditions



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# Future Farming

## Strengthening land and water management

\$24m for managing weeds and pests, as well as new actions to assist farm businesses to strengthen land and water management



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# Future Farming

Helping farm families to secure their futures

\$12m boost for services to support farmers and rural communities in securing their future and adjusting to change



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# Future Farming

## Developing new products and securing new markets

\$11m package of initiatives to help farm businesses capture new domestic and international market opportunities. This includes enhancing Victoria's biosecurity preparedness.



# Future Farming

## Transporting products to markets

- A \$43m investment in country rail freight lines serving the grains industry to ensure the rail system can continue to deliver future crops to market.

## Forestry

- Timber Industry Strategy
- Impacts of Land Use Change: Action 2.20





# Conclusion



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