

LIVERPOOL PLAINS: CRITICAL FOR FOOD SECURITY



**Yields 40%
above the
national
average**

**Premium
soil, water
and climate
offer
unparalleled
production
opportunities**

**Contributes
\$332 million
to GDP
annually**

**SOS Liverpool Plains NSW
www.ccag.org.au**

Why is the Liverpool Plains So Valuable For Food Production?


- Well-managed, high-output aquifers
- Reliable summer and winter rainfall
- High water-holding capacity, exceptionally fertile volcanic soils

The Liverpool Plains is part of the Namoi Catchment which feeds into the Murray Darling Basin.

"The only catchment where cropping is the major land use, and is by far the most fertile and productive."

Source: National Dryland Salinity Programme

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Does it Matter Where Your Food Comes From?

The ability to produce quality food is directly related to the environment in which that food grows.

On the Liverpool Plains, we proudly produce food from clean air, clean water and nutrient-dense soil.

Food safety and traceability are very important to our domestic and export customers.

The health of our community and our customers depends upon our quality products.

The National Pollutant Inventory confirms that the Liverpool Plains does not produce food in an environment contaminated by any industry that:-

- liberates tonnes of toxic metals, fine silica dusts or carcinogenic petroleum hydrocarbons;
- leaves a legacy of acid mine drainage, poisoned rivers and creeks, highly saline evaporation ponds and unpredictable methane scalds.

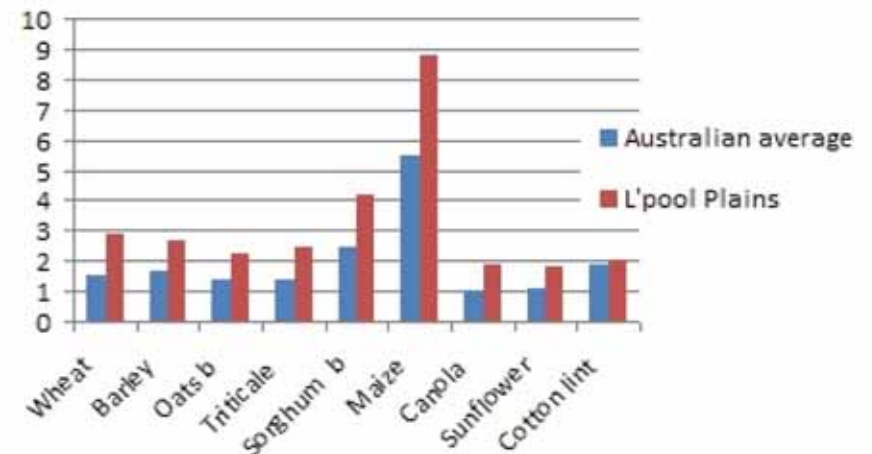


How Productive is the Liverpool Plains?

16 year average NSW DPI data shows consistent, drought-proof, winter and summer annual crop production to be:

- * 183,488 tonnes wheat
- * 233,175 tonnes sorghum
- * 5,438 tonnes oats
- * 2,126 tonnes soybeans
- * 63,709 tonnes barley
- * 29,018 tonnes corn
- * 19,829 tonnes sunflowers
- * 1,285,178 bales cotton


Yields 40% above the national average t/ha

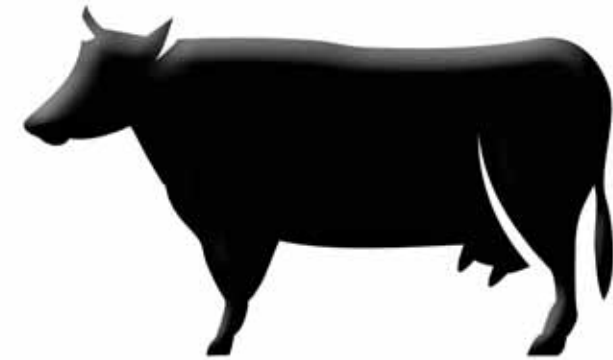


ABARE 5 year averages 2004-08

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What Does the Liverpool Plains Bring to Your Table Each Year?

365 million loaves of bread		62.5 million packets of pasta	
	144 million bottles of beer		5.4 million packs of muesli
8 million litres of sunflower oil		58 million boxes of corn flakes	
	276 million pairs of jeans		233,000 t sorghum for cattle & chooks



\$110 million Beef Production

Plus:

Chickpeas

Soybeans

Mungbeans

Canola

Olives

Turkey/Pigs/Lamb

Wool

Sources: ABARE, ABS, NAMS, DPI

How is Your Future Food Security Now Threatened?

- Coal and Gas Mining
- Flawed State Planning Laws
- Climate Change leading to increased competition for food
- Loss of Rural Skill Base due to uncertain land and water rights



How Can We Ensure Australia's Food Security Now and in the Future?

"We need to remember that the food crisis, the global financial crisis and climate change are all interrelated." Hon Tony Burke MP, 2008

Food Crisis – Legislate to protect Australia's Prime Agricultural Land as a National Asset.

Protection of water in the Murray Darling Basin has set a precedent for food security co-operation.

The **Liverpool Plains** is the definition of **Prime Agricultural Land**:

- High water-holding capacity and exceptionally fertile volcanic soils
- Reliable summer and winter rainfall, rarely drought-affected
- Well-managed, high output aquifers, part of the Murray Darling Basin
- Large diversity of agricultural enterprises (cropping, grazing, horticulture, fibre)
- Land serviced by a resilient, skill-rich, sustainable farming community

Sources: Geoscience Australia, NAMS. ABS



Financial Crisis – Whatever uncertainties we face with the world economy, protecting Prime Agricultural Land will ensure Australia will always be able to:

- Feed our population with high quality, safe, nutritious, affordable food
- Remain a pre-eminent food exporter contributing to GDP, export growth and *international leverage*

Climate Change – Sequestering carbon in soil will mitigate some of Australia's greenhouse emissions. As more clean forms of energy become widespread, new coal mines and gas wells will become untenable.

Will YOU Let This be Australia's New Symbol for Fresh Food?



TOXIC! Don't eat it, don't drink water contaminated with it, don't breathe in the coal dust.

Burn it to accelerate climate change and disrupt food supplies globally.

HEALTH RISK! Coal-communities have 70% increase in kidney diseases; 64% increase in respiratory diseases; 30% increase in high blood pressure (Hendryx, 2008). Damages and pollutes rivers, creeks and aquifers, poisons soil (DECC 2008).

**Australia now has less than 6% arable land
PROTECT THE PRIME AREAS NOW!**

Liverpool Plains • Darling Downs • Gloucester Flats • Haystack Plains

Australia's Food Security - Keep it Growing!

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