



NAMOI UNLIMITED

Premier agricultural region in Australia

China Study Tour

19th - 25th May 2019

Shanghai | Ningbo | Guangzhou



Australian Government



Australia-
China
Council

Namoi Unlimited is a Joint Organisation of Councils in NSW tasked with responsibility by the NSW Government to undertake strategic planning and priorities, inter-governmental collaboration and advocacy.

Namoi Unlimited represents five Local Government Areas located in the New England North West of NSW:

- » Gunnedah Shire Council
- » Gwydir Shire Council
- » Liverpool Plains Shire Council
- » Tamworth Regional Council
- » Walcha Council

As a collective leadership group of one of the most productive regions of NSW and Australia, we work towards fulfilling our potential as identified in our Strategic Regional Plan.

The core function of Joint Organisations of Councils is collaboration - collaboration between Councils, the NSW Government and the Australian Government.

Joint Organisations are also enabled to establish collaborative arrangements with key agencies and organisations with similar functions, values and activities.

The principal functions of Namoi Unlimited will be to:

- » Establish strategic regional priorities for the joint organisation area and develop strategies and plans for delivering these priorities.
- » Provide regional leadership for the joint organisation area and to be an advocate for strategic regional priorities.
- » Identify and take up opportunities for intergovernmental collaboration on matters relating to the joint organisation area.

Namoi Unlimited focuses on three Strategic Regional Priorities. These three priorities are interlinked and described below:

1. Water for the Future

Agriculture, agricultural products, commodities and services underpin the economies of the Namoi region.

The dynamics of global markets, climate change and changing consumer demand, mean our core industry must evolve and adapt.

The availability, security and access to water underpin every facet of agriculture.

Water is also critical to the other two priorities identified in this Strategic Regional Plan.

Water is the critical enabler for industry, business, communities, lifestyle, tourism and the environment. Our action will be targeted towards growth and development.

2. Enabled and Connected Infrastructure

The provision of goods and services, connecting people and business, and addressing the perception of remoteness and isolation in regional areas are all dependent on having fully functional and connected infrastructure.

Roads, rail, air infrastructure, energy and telecommunications infrastructure are critical for the future growth and the development of the region.

The role of Namoi Unlimited is to understand the capacity and capability of existing infrastructure and networks, and then take a future focussed approach to prioritising, investing and advocating for critical and necessary infrastructure, necessary to enabling and supporting growth.

3. Engaged People seeking Skills for the Future

People and their skills are fundamental to the growth of our economies, our communities and lifestyle.

Local Government is one of the largest employers in the Namoi region and has an important role to play in the attraction of people to the region, and the development of skills to meet the future demands of the regions workforce.

The members of Namoi Unlimited will identify, promote and engage in opportunities to address skill shortages within both Councils and across communities.

Contact us via email: info@namoiunlimited.nsw.gov.au

Namoi Unlimited
PO Box 555
Tamworth NSW 2340

T: +61 2 6767 5267
www.namoiunlimited.nsw.gov.au

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Namoi Unlimited Profile

- » 35,490 square kilometres
- » 90,854 residents
- » Gross Regional Product \$4.6billion

Namoi Unlimited is a Joint Organisation of Councils in New South Wales with delegated authority from the NSW Government to collaborate on strategic economic priorities.

The members of Namoi Unlimited are Local Government Authorities of Gunnedah Shire Council, Gwydir Shire Council, Liverpool Plains Shire Council, Tamworth Regional Council and Walcha Council.

Our vision is to lead the economic development of the region, creating opportunities for jobs and growth.



The primary industry of the Namoi region is agriculture. Tourism is an important contributor to the economy as business visitors, leisure visitors and visitors attending events occur across the Namoi region throughout the year. The region also has an emerging mining and resources sector for coal and gas.

Namoi Unlimited Representative



Ms Rebel Thomson
Executive Officer
info@namoiunlimited.nsw.gov.au

Namoi Unlimited is an organisation of five Councils who have agreed to work together to achieve strategic priorities and projects. Namoi Unlimited aligns their priorities and projects to those of the New South Wales Government and the Australian Government.

The group is focused on growing the economy, by:

- » Generating a better understanding of international commodity markets;
- » Creating and supporting opportunities for suppliers to access international markets;
- » Seeking investment; and
- » Growing population by creating jobs.

Our strategic activities in China will;

- » Increase awareness of and access to international markets in China for business;
- » Identify key markets in China with clear linkages to agriculture;
- » Build relationships for businesses seeking to invest or increase exports.

Ms Thomson's vision for the 2019 Namoi Unlimited Mission to China is to develop relationships between the member Councils and China that will benefit the agricultural sector by the exchange of products and services for the future economic growth of Australia and China.

Gunnedah Shire Council Profile

Gunnedah Shire Council has a strong focus on economic development. Gunnedah is within a short flight of Sydney and Brisbane. Major road and rail transport interchanges connect to the major international trading ports of Sydney, Brisbane and Newcastle in Australia.

Gunnedah has a number of industries already exporting to overseas markets and working with foreign investors. Agriculture and mining are the two key industry sectors driving the economy and they contribute 36% of the output in the Shire.

Gunnedah has some of the best agricultural land in Australia. It has rich volcanic soils and an abundance of ground water, summer and winter crops thrive in the region. Gunnedah is maximising its agricultural output by manufacturing and processing. Gunnedah Shire Council has a strong focus on value-adding to its primary industries.

Gunnedah has access to high volumes of 'world class cattle'; the throughput of the local sale yards is approximately 100,000 head per annum.

This means businesses in grain production, cotton processing, animal feed production, brick manufacturing and leather processing is growing. A key opportunity exists in Gunnedah for a beef processing facility to maximise the access to these 'world class cattle'.

Gunnedah also hosts AgQuip the largest agricultural field day event in the southern hemisphere showcasing the best in agricultural practices and innovation. Agquip is held annually in August and 100,000 people attend the event over three days.

Gunnedah Shire Council will present a real opportunity for business expansion and growth.

Sister City Relationships

Gunnedah Shire Council has a formal Sister City Relationship with the Yinzhou District of Ningbo, Zhejiang Province, China.

Gunnedah Shire Council Representatives



» **Councillor Jamie Chaffey (pictured)**
Mayor
jamiechaffey@infogunnedah.com.au

» **Mr Eric Groth**
General Manager
ericgroth@infogunnedah.com.au

Mr Chaffey's vision is to strengthen the Namoi region's business sectors, by working to diversify our economy and create jobs. "My objective is to identify potential business partners throughout China and facilitate opportunities to increase trade and investment between our two countries.

Developing a relationship in China also enables us to support innovation to develop the capacity and capability of businesses in our region to enhance our opportunities.

I am hoping the relationships we build are long-term 'win-win' relationships for both sides."



Gwydir Shire Council Profile

The Gwydir Shire is located on the north-west slopes and plains of New South Wales, approximately 560 kilometres north of Sydney, 160 kilometres north of Tamworth and 430 kilometres south west of Brisbane.

Agriculture is the primary land use and the basis of economic activity in the Gwydir Shire. Cattle production is prime beef production and cattle studs, sheep are produced for meat and wool. The broadacre crops are wheat, sorghum and barley, other cropping in the area includes cotton, oats, maize, triticale, hay and pasture seed, pulses - including chickpeas, field beans, mung beans, faba beans, lentils and oilseeds - such as canola, soybeans and sunflowers. Intensive livestock production includes three large beef feedlots and a piggery. The value of goods and services exported from the Shire is estimated at \$204million.

Tourism is also contributing to the economy in the Shire. The Myall Creek Memorial Site was added to the National Heritage List in June 2008.

Sister City Relationships

Gwydir Shire Council is seeking to explore a mutually beneficial Sister City relationship with a suitable partner in China.

Gwydir Shire Council Representative

» **Councillor John Coulton**
Mayor
jcoulton@gwydir.nsw.gov.au

» **Mr Max Eastcott**
General Manager
meastcott@gwydir.nsw.gov.au

Cr Coulton wants to move to regenerating and encouraging innovation in the agricultural sector so the community will become busier and more productive. "As a strong agricultural shire, the community has a focus on supporting agricultural development in grains, beef and other livestock. The Council is also seeking to build a renewable energy economy."

9,262 square kilometres
5,258 residents
Gross Regional Product
\$231 million

Liverpool Plains Shire Council Profile

The Liverpool Plains Shire is located on the north-western slopes of NSW, approximately 350 kilometres north of Sydney and 250 kilometres North West of Newcastle.

The Liverpool Plains Shire economy is agriculture and mining. Agriculture is the primary land use, with the main activities being cattle and sheep production, and cropping. Crops include wheat, barley, sorghum, maize, chickpeas, faba beans, soybeans, sunflowers and cotton.

With deep and highly fertile alluvial soils and access to ground water, the Liverpool Plains is one of the most productive agricultural regions in Australia.

Sister City Relationships

Liverpool Plains Shire Council has a formal a Sister City relationship with Jimo in the Qingdao District, Shandong. The Liverpool Plains Shire Council is seeking additional Sister City relationships in China.

Liverpool Plains Shire Council Representative

» **Councillor Andrew Hope**
Mayor
andrew.hope@lpsc.nsw.gov.au

» **Mr Ron Van Katwyk**
General Manager
ron.vankatwyk@lpsc.nsw.gov.au

The Liverpool Plains Shire Council is seeking to grow and diversify the Shire's economy, build sustainability and resilience. Growth can be achieved by strengthening local businesses and capitalising on opportunities arising from agricultural production, agri-business, freight logistics, and renewable energy.

The Liverpool Plains is positioning itself to benefit from significant economic projects and create employment in our local government area. Cr Hope's vision is to grow visitation to the Shire, attracting new residents, businesses and investment.

5,082 square kilometres
7,687 residents
Gross Regional Product
\$419 million

Tamworth Regional Council Profile

Tamworth is one of the most progressive and innovative regional cities in Australia.

Tamworth is the largest inland city in the state of New South Wales, located 389 kilometres north of Sydney and 574 kilometres south of Brisbane. Annual Gross Regional Product has continued year on year growth over the past 10 years. The Agriculture, Forestry and Fishing industry makes up 25.48% of businesses in the region. The total value of agricultural output is \$599 million. The largest commodity of agriculture is livestock which is 75.3% of total agricultural output. Manufacturing is 46.4% of exports and agriculture generates 19.6%.

Tamworth has a rich history in aviation and Tamworth Regional Airport is one of the largest regional airports in Australia, capable of supporting aircraft as large as B737 and A320. The airport is serviced by 3 airlines with daily domestic connections between Sydney and Brisbane. The internationally recognised Tamworth Country Music Festival, staged in January each year, generates over \$60 million for the local economy.

Sister City Relationships

The Tamworth Regional Council has a formal a Sister City Relationship with several cities across the world. The partnerships are both cultural and economic development focused. The Sister City relationships with China include; Chaoyang district in Beijing and Qinglong County in Guizhou Province.

Tamworth Regional Council Representatives



» **Councillor Col Murray (pictured)**
Mayor
c.murray@tamworth.nsw.gov.au

» **Mr Paul Bennett**
General Manager
p.bennett@tamworth.nsw.gov.au

9,884 square kilometres
62,156 residents
Gross Regional Product
\$3.26 billion

Tamworth Regional Council is committed to building an economy and an environment that fosters partnerships, encourages creative thinking and facilitates business engagement. Tamworth Regional Council is focused on projects that activate the economy, increase the region's competitiveness and drive long-term economic growth.

Cr Murray's vision is to increase Tamworth's reputation as one of the leading, vibrant and most progressive regions in Australia. "The Tamworth Tomorrow Economic Development Strategy highlights why we must become 'globally fluent' and remain in front of global trends. Tamworth Regional Council actively encourages innovation, advanced manufacturing and direct investment, while ensuring freight flows freely throughout the region.

Walcha Council Profile

Walcha is situated some 420 kilometres from Sydney via Thunderbolt's Way through Gloucester, and 523 kilometres via Tamworth on the New England Highway.

The natural beauty of the area is quite breathtaking. The Shire is home to the magnificent Macleay Gorges and boasts some 205,000 hectares of dedicated National Parks, wilderness and State Forest. Parts of the Werrikimbe National Park in the Walcha Council area are World Heritage listed. The area is also a well-known fishing area for Rainbow and Brown Trout with 1,500 kilometres of trout streams.

The Walcha district is one of the largest stock producing areas in Australia for livestock, fine wool and forestry. Walcha is renowned as one of the best fine wool growing areas in the world.

The Shire has long been known as a producer of high quality native hardwoods and the importance of softwood production is increasing. The pine plantations and native hardwood forests are the mainstay of the Walcha economy.

Sister City Relationships

Walcha Council is seeking to explore a mutually beneficial Sister City relationship with an area of China.

Walcha Council Representatives

» **Councillor Eric Noakes**
Mayor
enoakes@walcha.nsw.gov.au

» **Mr Jack O'Hara**
General Manager
johara@walcha.nsw.gov.au

6,261 square kilometres
3,092 residents
Gross Regional Product
\$149 million

The vision for the Walcha Council is to be a vibrant, welcoming, resilient and sustainable community that supports its citizens, businesses, industries and environments.

THE NAMOI REGION

Investment opportunities exist now to value-add and capture the benefits of enhanced supply chain logistics from the abundant agricultural production in the Namoi region.

The region boasts some of the most productive agricultural land in Australia. The rich and fertile black soils of the Liverpool Plains in the eastern part of the region, and highly productive black, red and brown earths to the west are ideal locations for agricultural investment in value-added production.

The soils are underpinned by secure and abundant groundwater for irrigation from the Great Artesian Basin. In addition, major water impoundments including Copeton, Keepit, Split Rock and Chaffey Dams supply surface irrigation water under a secure licencing system.

This highly sought after area can support a myriad of summer and winter crops including grains such as wheat, barley, oats and triticale, oilseeds such as canola and sunflower, and legumes including soybeans, chickpeas, faba and mung beans.

The region also produces magnificent cotton crops – one of the most profitable crops in the region – and of a quality which sets the world benchmark. The Namoi region grows the highest quality cotton in the world.

Extensive livestock production is another dominant feature of Namoi region farming systems including beef, mutton, lamb and pork. There is a large and rapidly expanding chicken meat and egg industry around the Tamworth region. In addition to these mainstream farm products, there are a number of niche enterprises including oranges, horse breeding, linseed and dairy cattle.

Competitive Advantages

-  Highly productive soils
-  Abundant and legally secure irrigation water
-  Grow two crops per year
-  Located between Sydney and Brisbane = market/port access
-  Proposed inland rail link to open up market opportunities to Melbourne & Brisbane
-  Highly developed agricultural support services
-  Centre of broad-acre crop and cotton research
-  Welcoming outdoors lifestyle and facilities
-  Ample educational opportunities
-  Investment-ready and supportive local government



A great place to live

Not only is the region a dynamic place to invest, it's a great place to live and work. The region is home to the major cosmopolitan city of Tamworth as well as larger towns like Bingara, Gunnedah, Quirindi, Walcha and Wyallda. **With affordable housing, a wide range of employment opportunities, great schools, universities, no traffic and plenty of room to grow, why not come on inland to the Namoi region and see how good life can be?**

The Namoi region hosts a range of industries including agriculture, agri-business, aviation, manufacturing and processing, mining, natural resources development, tourism, transport and distribution, education and training, engineering and construction, information technology, and research and development. Away from the bigger centres, there are stunning National Parks and wide open stretches of country to explore. The diversity of the region has its own appeal and offers something for everyone.

Why live in the Namoi region?

- » Enjoy breakfast with your family every day of the week
- » Dynamic and growing job market
- » Affordable housing
- » Relax in your own backyard
- » Fast internet speed allows you to work from anywhere
- » A short relaxed commute to work
- » Immerse yourself in a stunning clean and green natural environment
- » World class education at your doorstep
- » Daily return air flights to Sydney and Brisbane
- » Passenger rail connections to Sydney and Newcastle



DURALINA



Australia is home to some of the finest durum wheat and the very best of it originates from the black soil of northern New South Wales where the air is clean and production meets the stringent HACCP food management system.

The wheat is grown on unpolluted farmland, using zero-till farming, which is gentle and sustainable. Just enough nutrient is added to the soil to give healthy results in Australian conditions.

Duralina is a perfect food for elite athletes and fitness enthusiasts, because of its very high protein and high complex carbohydrates, which give sustained energy for high performance.

Duralina is the trademark for this unique strain of the ancient grain, selectively bred in Australia to suit Chinese cuisine.



Best Aroma



Premium Taste



Top Quality



High Protein

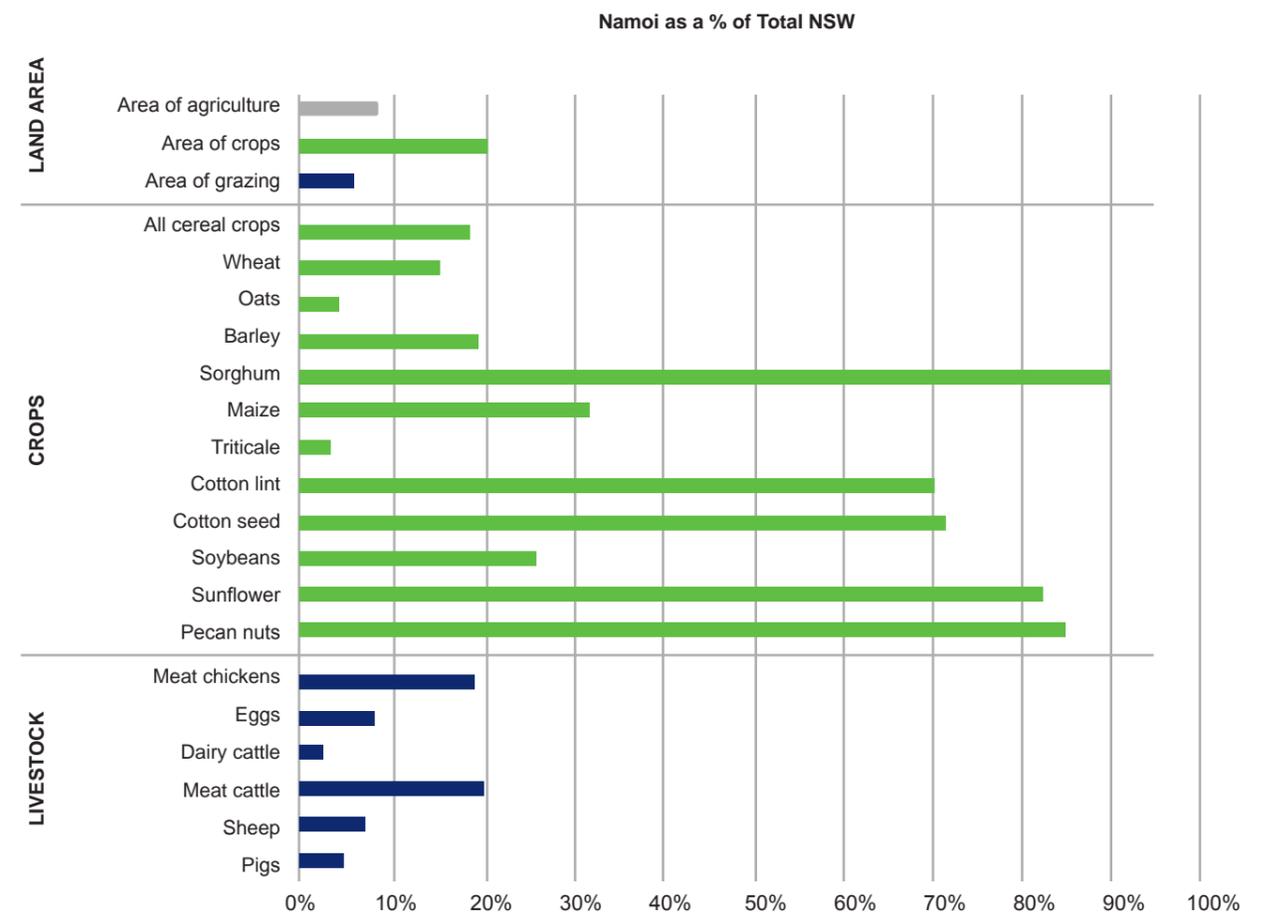


High Energy



MAJOR PRODUCER OF CROPS

Figure 2. Namoi Region Agricultural Production as a Percentage of New South Wales Production



Source: ABS (2012)

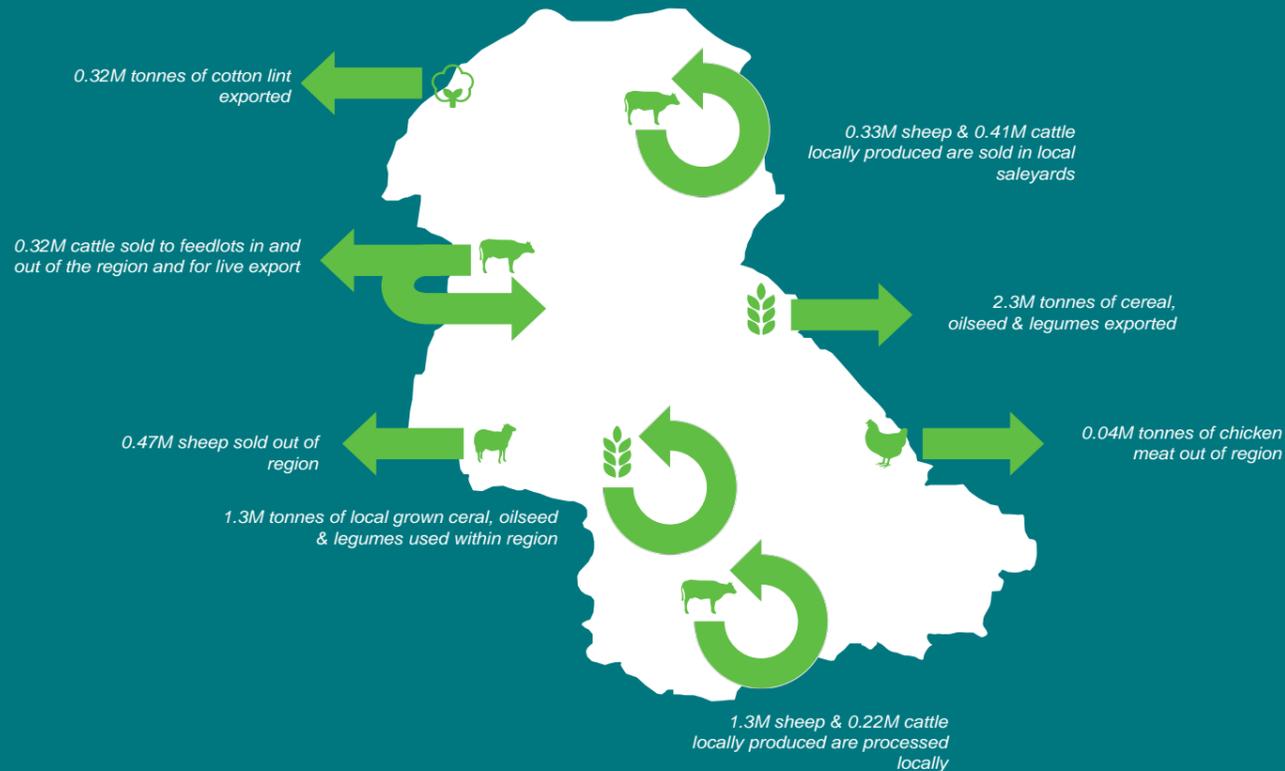
Bellata Gold plans to have Duralina available in China by late 2019. It will be an exclusive product available in limited quantities. For more information please contact:

Bellata Gold Milling

41 Bowlers Lane, Westdale NSW 2340 Australia
 Email: sales@bellatagold.com.au
 Phone: +61 428 937 832

INVESTMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Figure 10. Agricultural Commodity Flows



Source: PEECE (2012), ABS (2012)

Currently, key agricultural commodities produced in the Namoi region and surrounds have a number of destinations.

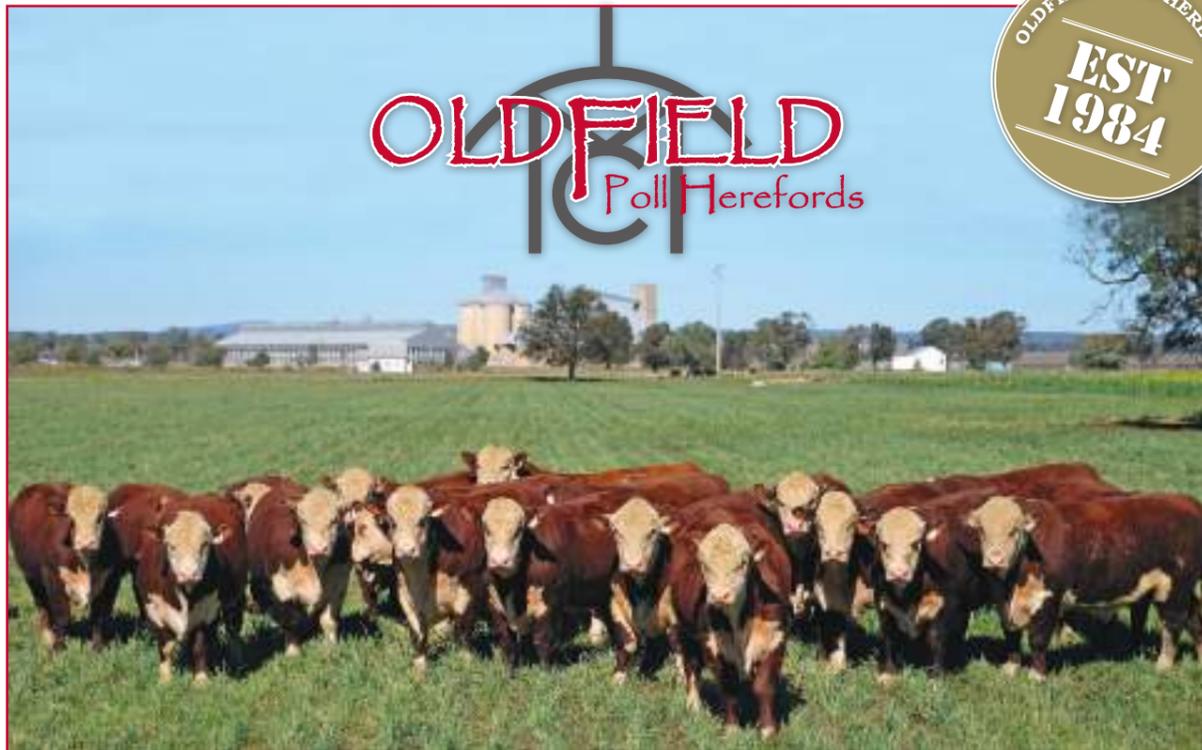
-  64% of grains, oilseeds and legumes are sent out of the region. These are transported to ports on the eastern seaboard for international export, sold for processing into animal feeds or for human food products outside the Namoi region. The remaining 36% of grains are sold within the region either for further processing for human consumption or sold for animal feed.
-  23% of cattle are processed within the Namoi (Tamworth) or nearby (Inverell), 43% are sold to producers within the region for re-stocking and 34% are sold for re-stocking to producers outside the region.
-  Virtually all chickens are exported out of the region as chicken carcasses. Most are sold within the Australian market.
-  96% of the cotton produced in the region is exported overseas. The majority of Namoi cotton is sent by road to Port Brisbane. The advent of the Inland Rail line would open up the option of rail transport to Brisbane.
-  A large amount of agricultural production leaves the region for further processing and value-adding elsewhere, either domestically or overseas. There is considerable scope for capturing more of this economic activity within the Namoi region.
-  67% of sheep and lambs in the region are sold directly for local processing in Tamworth, 17% are sold to other producers in the region for re-stocking and 16% are sold for re-stocking to producers outside the region.



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✓ Vaccinated ✓ Vet Checked ✓ Semen Tested ✓ No hoof trimming ✓ Breedplan

Peter and Juliana McArthur welcome you to the fertile and productive Liverpool Plains area outside of Gunnedah in New South Wales. Gunnedah is 500km north-west of Sydney and is an Aboriginal word meaning "place of white stones".

It is set amongst the beautiful Liverpool Range. The Liverpool Plains is a very productive area. We grow Summer (mung beans, cotton, chickpeas, sorghum) and Winter (oats, barley, canola, wheat) crops, beef cattle, stud cattle (Oldfield Poll Herefords), wool sheep (Merino, 16-19 micron) and fat lambs.

Oldfield Poll Herefords was established in 1984 based on a herd established in 1968.

Peter and Juliana, with their two sons, are proud to continue the tradition begun by Peter's father Bon. We are known for breeding "clean and green" cattle which have leading industry genetics, efficiency and proven consistent performance. Our bulls are used throughout eastern Australia, and have been exported to the Philippines and Kazakhstan. Our cows are fertile and maternal and have been exported to China and Kazakhstan.

Oldfield Poll Herefords was a founding member of Breedplan 20 years ago so our Estimated Breeding Values are reliable across many traits.

Hereford meat has intra-muscular fat and desirable eating qualities. Our cattle will improve your operation.

We also produce high quality Merino wool (16 to 20 micron) and cross-bred (Merino x Border Leicester) fat lambs.

We constantly seek new opportunities. Peter's telephone is + 61 0427 431 521. Visitors are welcome to visit us or see our website www.oldfield.com.au.



Annual Bull Sale - First Friday in September

P and J McArthur & Sons

PO Box 714 Gunnedah NSW 2380 Australia | Mobile +61 0427 431 521

Email: pjmcarthur@activ8.net.au | www.oldfieldpollherefords.com.au

Emerald Hill - Mullaley - Manilla - Australia

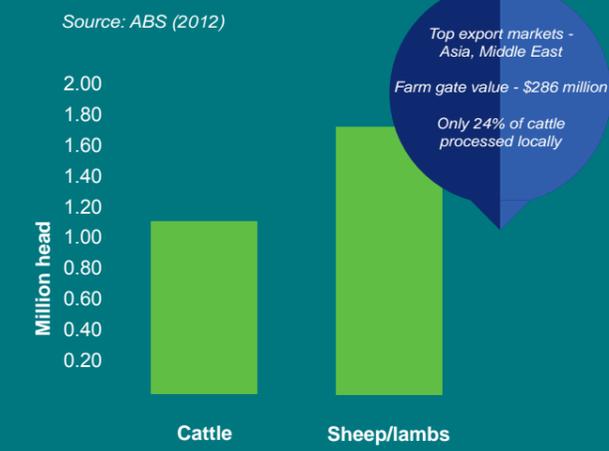


CATTLE AND SHEEP

Cattle and sheep production are primarily for the purpose of processing into beef and lamb/mutton. While the majority of cattle and almost all sheep are grass-fed, there are several large and numerous smaller cattle feedlots in the region. The feed-lotting of sheep is also commencing. Individual traceability of beef cattle via electronic ear tag recording is critical for international consumers who are seeking food safety in their meat products.

The development of the Inland Rail line would allow the rapid transit of chilled containerised meat to key ports in Brisbane and Melbourne, enhancing the opportunity for airfreight to Asian markets.

Figure 13. Namoi Region Cattle & Sheep/Lamb Production



Investment Opportunities

Developing value-added meat exports - based on grass and grain-fed, organic and provenance attributes.

Local processing/value-adding – there are opportunities for further investment in local livestock processing (abattoirs) as many livestock are currently processed outside the region. Also in processing to the carcass stage only, thus catering for the labour cost advantages in many Asian countries of further value-adding to specific cuts of meat used locally.

Production intensification – local landowners and processors could form joint ventures with investors to increase beef and sheep meat production to supply export markets through investment in additional feed-lot facilities. This is another method of doing more with existing resources. There are already several cattle feedlots in the region, and sheep feedlots techniques are also being developed.

Research & Development – the Namoi and surrounding region is an international leader in livestock production and genetic research providing opportunities for partnerships with other countries who are trying to increase meat protein production, and for exporting related technology. This will boost high value knowledge driven jobs in the local economy, leading to higher flow-on expenditure in other sectors.

Renewable energy – manure from feedlots and waste at abattoirs provides feedstock for biogas production. One local abattoir has already halved its used of propane gas by capturing methane from effluent ponds and another is using imported technology to produce biogas from livestock offal.

New livestock products – there is an untapped market in Asia and other parts of the world for livestock offal and the extraction of pharmaceutical products from material which is often disposed of as waste at Australian abattoirs.

Recording technologies - commercialising world-leading sensing and objective measurement technologies in processing to improve cost-competitiveness of supply chains.

STRONG RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT ACTIVITY & SUPPORT SERVICES

The Namoi and surrounding region has a vast array of agricultural support and research and development services including:

- » Cotton and other irrigated crop research;
- » Agricultural education facilities;
- » Precision agriculture technology development;
- » Remote sensing research and development;
- » Agricultural consulting firms;
- » Farm contracting services (e.g. crop planting/harvesting, shearing, fencing, earthworks, irrigation development);
- » Aerial agricultural services;
- » Agricultural machinery construction, modification and repair services;
- » Specialist agricultural construction services;
- » Australian Quarantine & Inspection Service in Narrabri;
- » Livestock specialists;
- » Cattle breed societies and genetics recording services (Armidale)

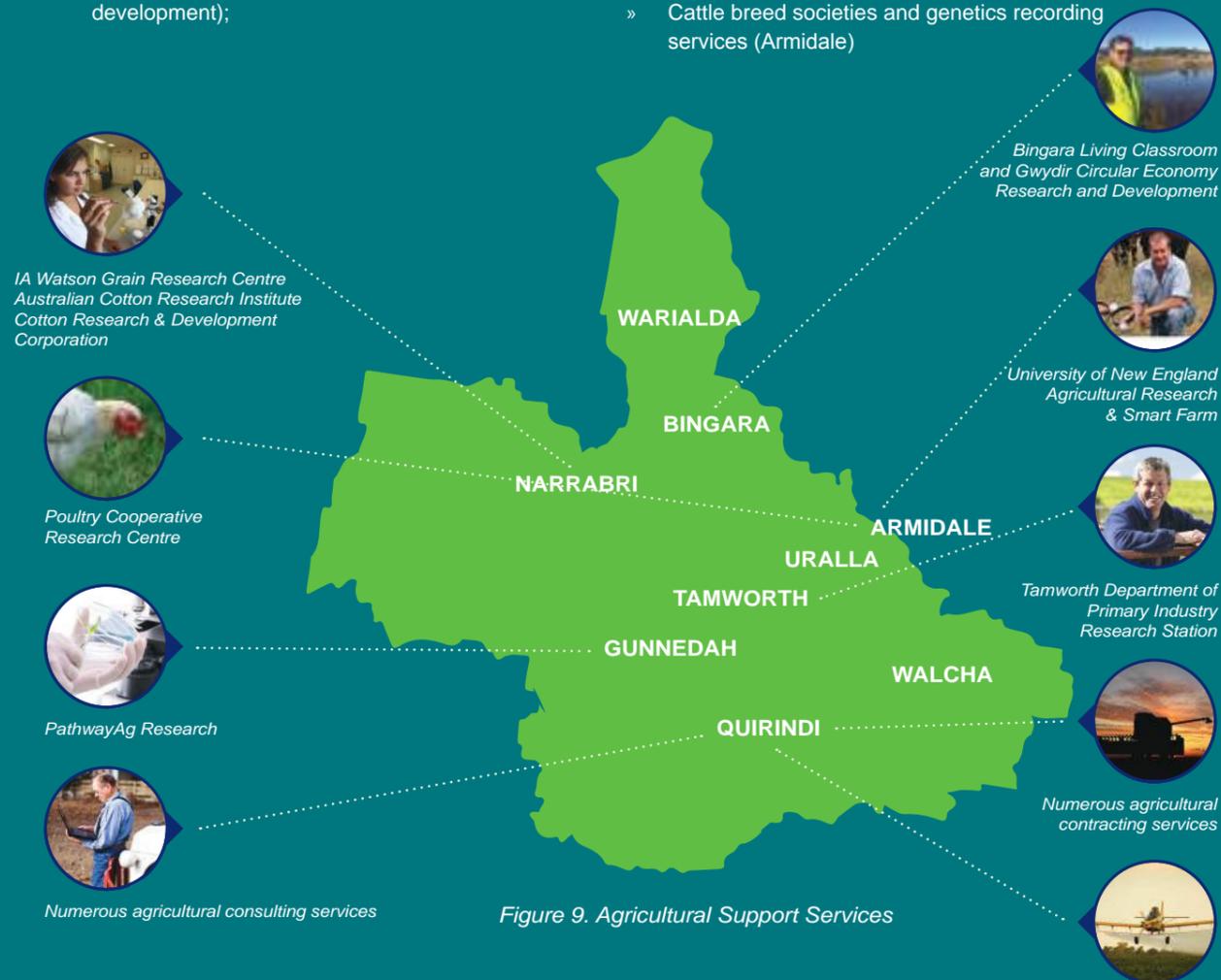


Figure 9. Agricultural Support Services



University of New England

About

The University of New England (UNE) was the first Australian university established outside a capital city. With a history extending back to the 1920's UNE has a well-earned reputation as one of Australia's great teaching, training and research universities. Many graduates of UNE have gone on to hold senior positions around Australia - and overseas - in business, government, education, research and community development.

UNE has over 22,000 enrolled students with the majority studying their course online. There are over 4,500 students that study on the University's traditional Armidale campus, including approximately 1,000 international students from over 70 different countries.

2019 Good Universities Guide

The Good Universities Guide (GUG) has awarded UNE five stars for "Overall Student Experience" for the 13th year in a row. GUG also ranked UNE as the State's top university for Student Support and Teaching Quality. UNE's graduates also have the State's highest starting salary upon entering the workforce, and the University has the highest proportion of "first in family" commencements.

Excellence in Research for Australia (ERA) - 2018*

UNE achieved the highest rating of 5 (well above world standard) in 18 disciplines, including Environmental Sciences, Agriculture, and Mathematics.

Online University Rankings List**

Online Study Australia has ranked UNE number one in their national list of Australia's best online universities. UNE also ranked in the top three for our Arts, Business, Education, Law, and Science courses specifically.

*<https://www.une.edu.au/research/research-excellence-impact-and-engagement/research-excellence>
**<https://onlinestudyaustralia.com/university-rankings-list/>



UNIQUE, DIVERSE, CLEAN AND GREEN



Key food and beverage categories include meat, grains, dairy, horticulture and beverages (wine). The industry supplies a diverse range of products to all distribution channels; retail, food service and food ingredients. Flexibility within the industry means product supply quickly matches consumer trends such as health and wellbeing, as well as convenience and value for money.



Food processing is a major industry sector for the region's economy, in terms of both its financial contribution and employment. Food processing is the region's largest manufacturing industry. Industry players are diverse in size; from multinationals producing large volume fast-moving consumer goods through to smaller players with flexibility to meet demand for niche gourmet items.



The agricultural industry is highly dynamic and driven by demanding consumers seeking diversity, quality and value. The ethnic and cultural diversity of Australia is reflected in the food range available. Many specialty products have European, Asian and Middle Eastern influences. Foods with specific attributes including kosher, halal and organic are catered for by food certification systems and standards.



The region has a reputation for supplying clean and natural products. Quality and safety is paramount with strict safety standards regulated and enforced along the supply chain.



Well established education and training facilities catering to the agriculture and food industries, create an exceptionally skilled and adaptable workforce with specialised skills.



The region is well positioned to meet Asia's rapidly growing demand for protein-based processed food products and the capacity to increase production to meet market demand. Our region's products have high safety and quality standards, driven by the Australia's robust regulatory, governance and compliance frameworks.



Gunnedah Shire Council

GUNNEDAH

Discovering Gunnedah Shire

Rich with culture and diverse in industry, Gunnedah is host to the largest exhibition of agriculture, equipment and services in the Southern Hemisphere at the Ag Quip field days in August.

The natural beauty of the Gunnedah Shire is described in the famous Australian Poem by Dorothea Mackellar "My Country". She penned verse about Gunnedah as being quintessentially Australian, with its rich agricultural vistas and breathtaking landscapes something she yearned for.

Gunnedah is proudly home to one of Australia's icons, the koala – with visitors and residents keeping an eye out for the famous attraction.

On the edge of Gunnedah Shire, the Lake Keepit Holiday and Recreation Park surrounds Keepit Dam a water resource with a maximum water capacity of 425,510 mega litres - when full to capacity it is approximately two thirds the size of Sydney Harbour.

Gunnedah has a proud history and a diverse range of sporting, cultural and recreational activities available all year round, with a growing infrastructure base to support its future. To visit Gunnedah is to discover and experience true country Australia.

Invest in Gunnedah

Gunnedah Shire Council has a land area of 5,001 square kilometres and a population of 12,661 people. Its annual Gross Regional Product is \$0.61 billion. Gunnedah is a regional community that continues to prosper, with solid population growth and opportunity supported by a diverse and high performing industry sector.

Key industry for the Shire includes agriculture (livestock and cropping); coal mining; and manufacturing and processing services, including brick works, leather processing, cotton processing, animal feed production, and grain milling. These industries see significant export to overseas markets.

The agricultural and pastoral industry is a major contributor to the Gunnedah Shire economy. Local enterprise is run by both family-orientated organisations and corporations.



Gunnedah Shire is situated in the heart of North West NSW on the banks of the Namoi River and is the gateway to one of the most productive and prime agricultural regions in Australia – the Liverpool Plains.

Known for its wide open landscapes Gunnedah, teeming with abundant assets and experiences, we welcome you to open up to new experiences in the Gunnedah Shire.

Throughout summer and winter our farms can produce high quality volumes of wheat, sorghum, barley, cotton, sunflowers, soya beans and vegetables.

The fertile soils of the region also support a livestock industry of cattle, sheep and pigs for slaughter and breeding. Livestock produced in the area is high quality and are exported all over the world.

Over 120,000 head of prime beef cattle are sold in Gunnedah each year. The value of the sale yards operation to the economy is estimated at \$90 million per annum.

The Gunnedah Shire also has extensive coal and gas resources and with a strong global demand for these commodities, it is expected to be a growth industry for the community over the next decade.

The Gunnedah Coal Basin is distinguished by low ash and Sulphur, high specific energy and very low phosphorus coal and is also known as High Energy Low Emission Coal. The coal is highly sought and is transported by rail to the Port of Newcastle for export. Coal production in the Gunnedah Shire is expected to exceed 10 million tonnes per annum for decades.

Gunnedah has a proven record with foreign investment, with Shenhua Group, a Fortune 500, Chinese-owned coal-based energy company, successfully established in the Shire. Gunnedah is also home to other foreign enterprise including, but limited to Union Agriculture and Westchester Group.

Investors are attracted to Gunnedah because of its well-developed transport infrastructure, which links Gunnedah to the rest of Australia and key ports by road and rail.

For more information
please visit www.gunnedah.nsw.gov.au



LIVERPOOL PLAINS

Home of the Kamilaroi people, incorporating Quirindi, Werris Creek, Willow Tree, Premer, Spring Ridge, Currabubula, Wallabadah, Pine Ridge, Mount Parry, Ardglan, Caroon, Walhallow, Tamarang, Colly Blue, Bundella, Yarraman, Blackville, Old Warrah & Piallaway.

Strategically nestled in the foothills of the Great Dividing Range, near Sydney, the Central Coast, the Hunter and the Mid-North Coast, Liverpool Plains Shire is the perfect place for that well deserved vacation. A mosaic of colours displayed by the fields of sunflowers, sorghum, canola, corn, lucerne and wheat provide the perfect backdrop whilst travelling through the picturesque hills, valleys and sweeping plains.

Visit the many great attractions including:

- » The award winning Australian Railway Monument and Rail Journeys Museum
- » Bird Routes of the Liverpool Plains
- » The award winning First and Second Fleet Memorial Gardens
- » Who'd A Thought It Lookout
- » Quirindi Rural Heritage Village & Museum and Miniature Railway
- » Quirindi Historical Cottage & Museum
- » Quipolly Dam & Bird Hide
- » Stock Brands of the Liverpool Plains
- » Bob's Shed
- » Kamilaroi, a Highway a People

Take the trip to the Liverpool Plains and see why the locals are so proud of their flourishing communities. Experience the true rural lifestyle, friendly country charm and spoil yourself at our unique specialty shops and eateries – you can't go wrong journeying through the Liverpool Plains.

For more information please visit www.lpsc.nsw.gov.au



TAMWORTH

Tamworth is one of the most progressive and innovative regional cities in Australia and one of the largest inland cities in the state of New South Wales. Located 389 kilometers north of Sydney and 574 kilometers south of Brisbane, the region is located on an inland freight corridor.

The City of Tamworth and its surrounding region is a major food bowl, with agricultural enterprises producing some of the best produce in the world. It is an established food processing location and home to the Tamworth Regional Airport – one of the best equipped and busiest in regional Australia.

Tamworth Regional Council is initiating the development of a multi-stage major logistics project, which will significantly enhance the economic landscape of the city. A 246 hectares site on the western entrance to the city is set to become the Glen Artney Enterprise Area. The land is strategically located adjacent to the Tamworth Regional Airport, Tamworth Regional Livestock Exchange, transport

logistics hub and the cities major food processing sector.

Synonymous with Country Music, Tamworth has an internationally recognised brand, strengthened by the annual Tamworth Country Music Festival. One of the largest festivals in the southern hemisphere, the festival generates an estimated \$60m in economic benefit to the community.

The regions current GRP is \$3.26 billion, showing a continual increase over the past 10 years.

For more information please visit www.tamworth.nsw.gov.au



BINGARA AND WARIALDA

Bingara, known as the “Gem on the Gwydir”, is a great place to visit and an even better place to live. Safe and friendly, Bingara has clean air, clear skies and a great climate. Not only is Bingara blessed with natural beauty, it’s full of wonderful people.

Surrounded by hills, the town rests in a natural amphitheatre. The spectacular Gwydir River, the life blood of the town, pulses through Bingara’s heart. Its beauty is indeed priceless.

Like the gem that it is, Bingara is multifaceted. On one side, it offers peace and tranquillity, but on another, it boasts an energetic and vibrant community. There’s always something happening in Bingara and at times it can be difficult to keep up.

Warialda, the town’s name is said to mean ‘place of wild honey’ and presumably derives from the tongue of the original inhabitants, the Weraerai Aborigines. The name is thought to be related to the honey that is produced from the abundant pollen of the Smooth Barked Apples or as they are locally known, the Tumbledown Gum (Angophora Leiocarpa). Bees collect large to huge volumes of the pollen which provides a good surplus of honey.

Steeped in history and surrounded by lush bushland, natural wonders and boasting interesting personalities, It is nestled amid hills, majestic trees and bush scrubland that are a delight to residents, visitors and nature lovers alike.

The majority of land surrounding Warialda was held by a few prominent landholders on large sheep stations such as Yallaroi, Croppa and Gournama. These stations have been subdivided and local farmers are now involved in mixed farming of stock and cropping.

**For more information
please visit www.gwydirshire.com**



WALCHA

The New England High Country town of Walcha straddles two of the most picturesque roads in the region; the Oxley Highway and Thunderbolts Way.

Located on the northern tablelands of NSW, Walcha boasts some of Australia’s most spectacular countryside. Undulations of highly productive pastured lands meet a labyrinth of gorges, where sheer cliffs and waterfalls delight the senses. To experience the gorge country is humbling, a powerful but gentle reminder of how small we are in comparison to our land. An appreciation can but be observed; for the hardships explorers and early settlers must have faced in the early years and the knowledge, intuition and initiative held by the first Australians to traverse these lands and survive can’t escape admiration. The naturally artistic formation of the landscape is complimented by the artistic and culturally rich township of Walcha. Abundant with public art, the Open Air Gallery now boasts close to fifty sculptures, making Walcha the

most art saturated town in Australia, with a piece of public art for every 60 of its citizens. Contributing artists are local, national, and international, with many of our local artists being internationally renowned.

The shopping precinct offers; art galleries, handmade stores and studios, boutique, gift and antique shops; and fabulous cafés. The Pioneer Cottage Museum exhibits a great display of artefacts of by-gone eras or take a self guided tour of our historic buildings.

Accommodation options are plentiful and the pubs, bistros and restaurants all offer great meals.

**For more information
please visit www.walcha.nsw.gov.au**





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Premier agricultural region in Australia



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