Industry & Investment NSW

Analysis of ABS Agriculture Census data in NSW Local Government Areas and Statistical Divisions.

Profiles of broad agricultural commodity groupings

Completed September 2011

Contents

1 Livestock Slaughterings

Size and Change over time

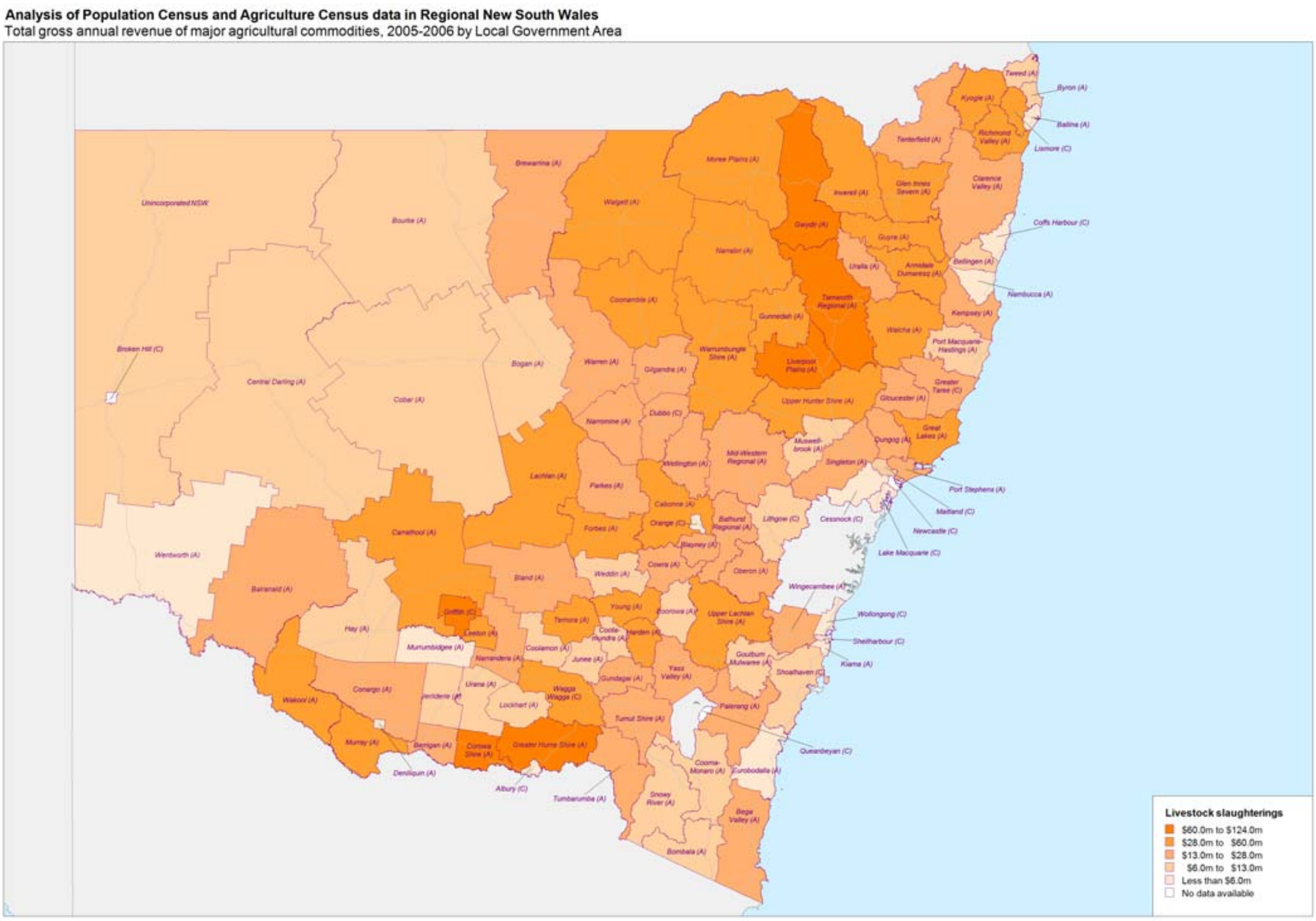
The livestock for meat industry is largest industry by value for all of NSW. In the 2005-06 Agricultural Census the total livestock slaughtering in NSW was valued at $2,762 million. This represented 29.9% of the total value of agricultural commodities across NSW. Between the 2000-01 and 2005-06 census the livestock slaughter industry increased by $359 million or 15%.

Note however that this has not been adjusted for inflation. Drought conditions in 2006 may also have affected this increase.

There five main sub groups contributing to the NSW livestock slaughter production were, from largest to smallest, cattle and calves, poultry, sheep and lambs, pigs and goats. Cattle and calves is by far the largest at $1,603 million or nearly 60% of the total. Poultry, sheep and pigs are also significant industries at $475 million, $413 million and $267 million respectively.

Both cattle and sheep slaughtering grew significantly between 2000-01 and 2005-06 (18% and 40% respectively) while poultry and pigs slaughtering declined slightly (2.7% and 3.8% respectively)

Total value of Livestock Slaughtering, NSW LGAs, 2005-06



(24% of NSW total), with Tamworth the largest LGA at $123m. Cattle made up most of this total ($516 million).

Other regions with a large value of livestock slaughtering were North Western ($274m), Murrumbidgee ($352m), and Murray ($321m). Inland areas had larger amounts of livestock than coastal areas in general. The exception is the Sydney Statistical Division, with $228m, predominantly poultry ($185m).

Livestock numbers and farms reporting livestock reflected this distribution, with the Northern Statistical Division reporting nearly 1.8 million cattle, 4.6 million sheep and 4.8 million chickens in the 2005-06 Agricultural Census.

Please see included additional maps for the distribution of Cattle, Sheep and Poultry slaughtering in NSW.

2 Cereal Crops

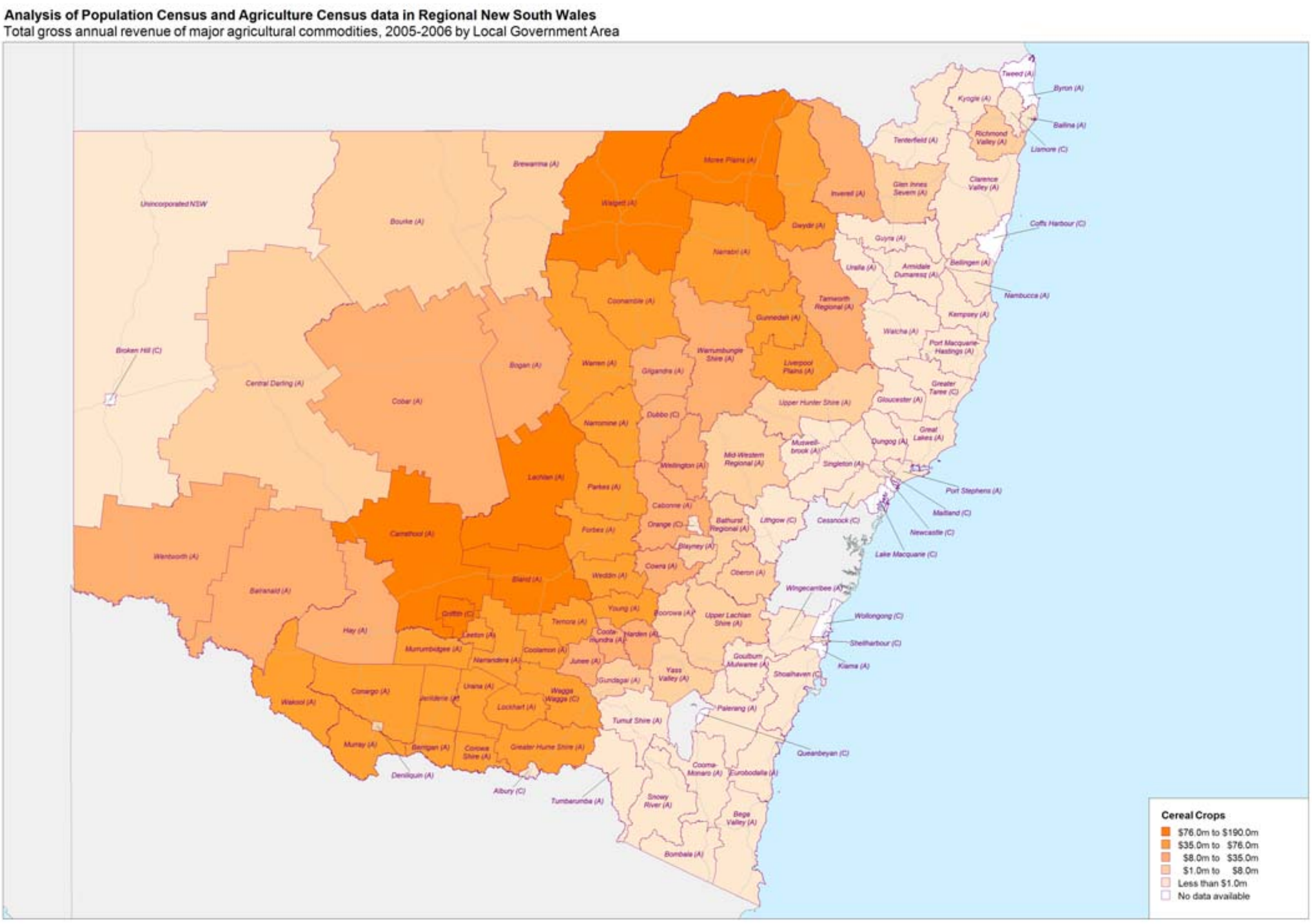
Cereal crop production was the second largest agricultural grouping in value for all of NSW. In the 2005-06 agriculture census, cereal crops valued at $2,307m were grown across NSW. This represented 25% of the total value of agricultural commodities across NSW. Between the 2000-01 and 2005-06 census the value of the cereal crops industry was extremely stable, growing by only $2.5 million or 0.1%.

The three main cereal crops in this group making up 86% of all cereals grown in NSW are wheat, barley, and rice. Of these three, wheat is by far the largest at $1,432 million or 15.5%% of total NSW agriculture, with other two making up 3.0% and 2.9% respectively.

The rice crop, although still large in total value, had a marked decline from 2000-01 to 2005-06 reducing in value by over $75 million or 22%, probably due to drought conditions restricting the water supply. In contrast, the relatively small oats crop which made up only 2.9% of total NSW cereal crops in 2005-06, increase dramatically in value by more than trebling in size from $26 million in 2000-01 to $97million 2005-06.

Distribution

Total value of Cereal Crops, NSW LGAs, 2005-06



Cereal crops are mainly grown in inland regions of NSW, and production is dominated by the wheat/sheep country of the Murray/Darling basin. Overall cereal crop production was highest in the Murrumbidgee ($589m) and Murray ($450m) statistical divisions. These two regions in South-West NSW had large wheat crops (39% of NSW total) but are most noted for the growing of rice under irrigation, with almost 100% of NSW rice crop in these regions. Griffith, Leeton and Murrumbidgee LGAs made up the largest share of this, part of the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area. Please see the included map which shows the specific distribution of rice production in NSW.

North Western ($379m) and Northern ($432m) SDs also had large cereal crop production, including mainly Wheat, Barley and Sorghum.

Wheat production is spread out throughout inland NSW, with no single LGA having a notably high concentration.

3 Nurseries, Cut Flowers and Cultivated Turf

The nursery industry, along with the related industries of cut flowers and cultivated turf, is a very important one in NSW. These industries are typically located in metropolitan areas, close to ports and the markets they serve.

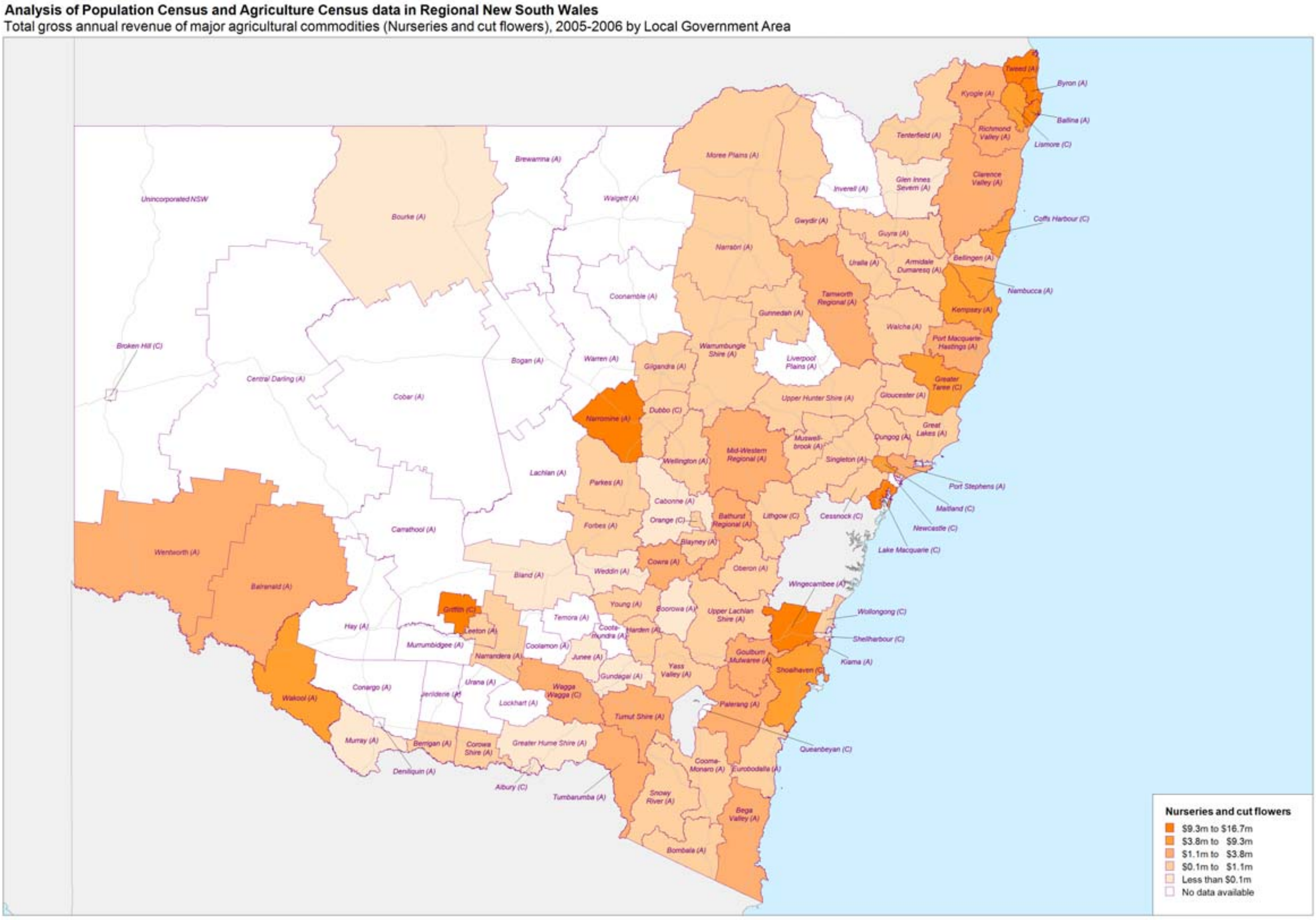
In 2005-06, the nurseries, cut flowers and cultivated turf industry produced $353 million of total output. Between the 2000-01 and the 2005-06 Census, the industry expanded greatly, increasing $109 million to $353 million in output. While some of this is likely to be due to a change in the scope of the data collection, it is nevertheless, clearly an expanding industry in NSW.

Distribution

The Nurseries, Cut Flowers and Cultivated Turf industry is concentrated in the more heavily populated parts of NSW, with Sydney SD accounting for $172 million or 49% of total output. The City of Hawkesbury alone accounts for $40 million, about 11% of the total (and around 50% of cultivated turf).

Other important areas for this industry are Richmond-Tweed ($50m), Mid-North Coast ($29m) and Hunter ($19m). Overall the industry is concentrated in coastal areas and near the larger population centres, with a few pockets inland in horticultural areas such as Griffith and Narromine.

Total value of Nursery and Cut Flower production, NSW LGAs, 2005-06



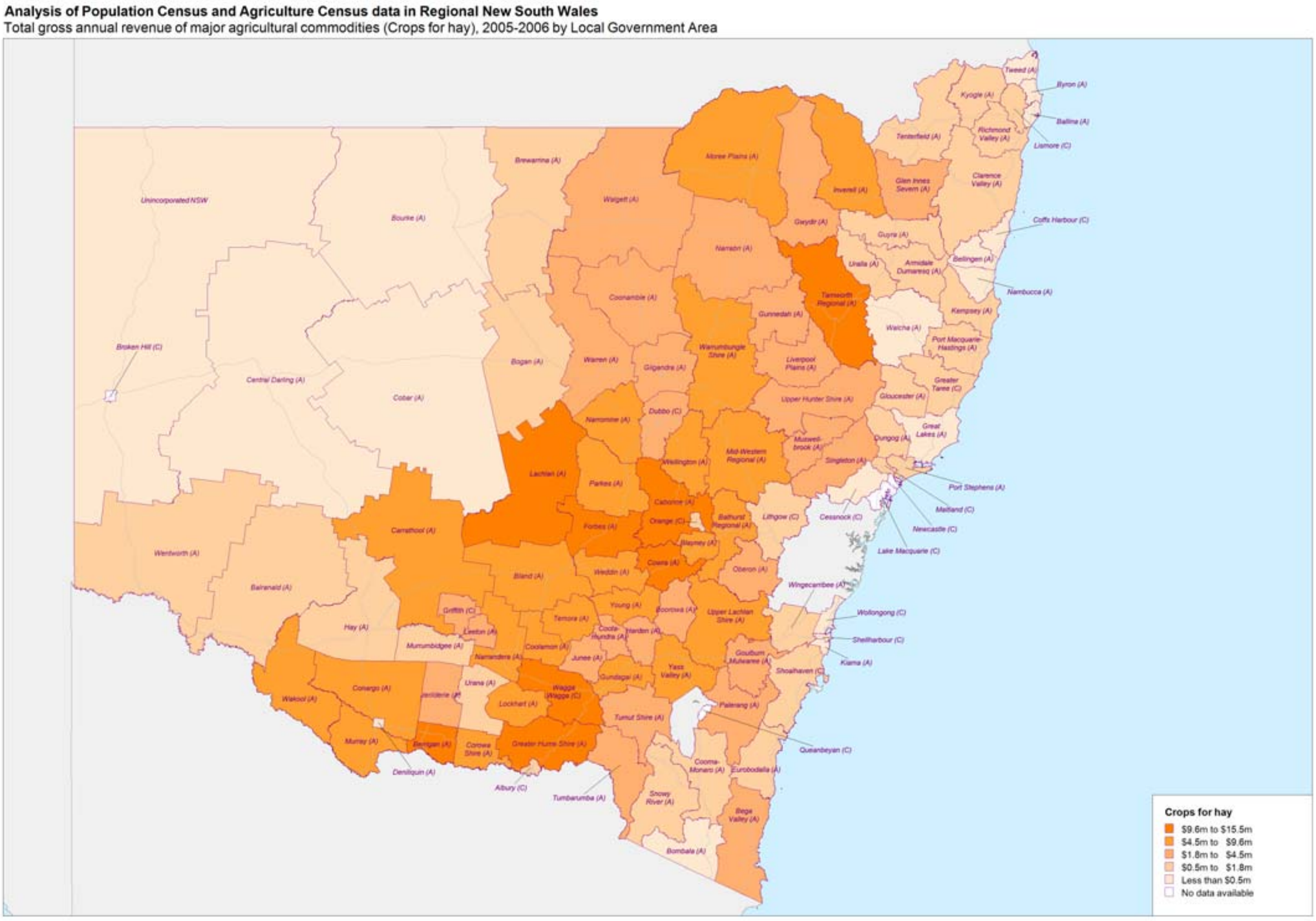
4 Crops for Hay

The haymaking industry was worth $354 million in NSW in 2005-6, one of the larger agricultural groupings. The value more than doubled over 5 years, from $150m in 2000-01. Part of this increase is likely to be due to the drought, where other broadacre crops declined in value, as many had to be cut for hay rather than the production for which they were originally intended.

Distribution

The crops for hay distribution is similar to that for both livestock and for other broadacre crops, dominated by inland areas. Central West had the largest production of Crops for Hay in NSW, with $84m in 2006.

Total value of Crops for Hay production, NSW LGAs, 2005-06



5 Vegetables

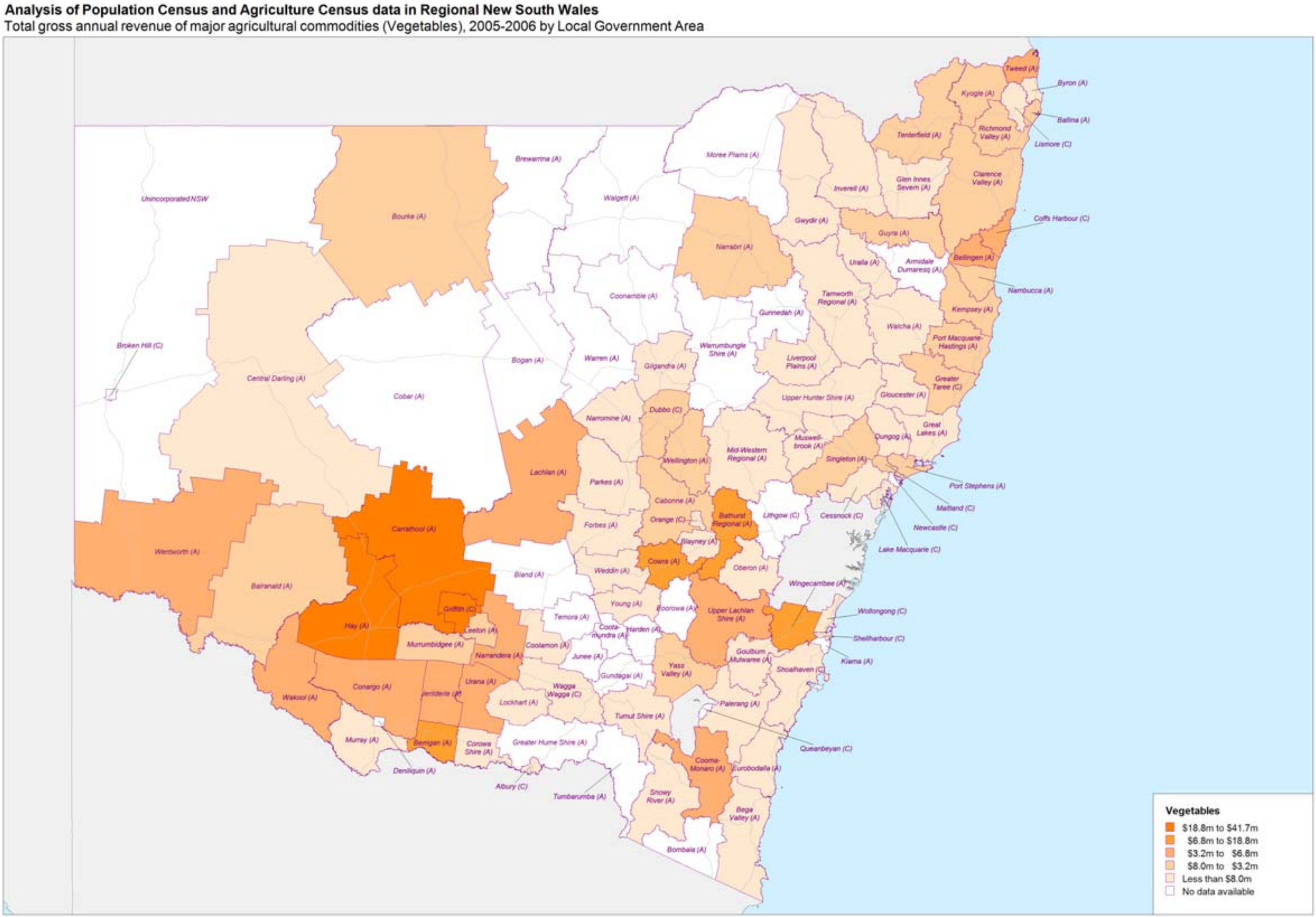
Vegetable production across NSW in 2005-06 was worth approximately $367 million, up from $300 million in 2001-02.

The largest vegetable crops in NSW were Mushrooms ($63m), Potatoes ($49m), Asian vegetables ($28m), Lettuce ($27m), Pumpkins ($21m) and Tomatoes ($19m).

Distribution

Vegetable production in NSW is dominated by the Sydney Statistical Division (not shown on this map), and the Murrumbidgee Irrigation Area, including Griffith, Hay and Carrathool Shires. Production of particular vegetables is highly concentrated in particular areas, with Sydney areas accounting for more than 80% of mushrooms and Asian vegetables. The Murrumbidgee SD accounts for more than 90% of melons, and more than 80% of carrots and onions, as well as a large percentage of pumpkins and potatoes. Other significant vegetable growing areas are Bathurst/Cowra for cabbages, cauliflowers and pumpkins, Tweed Shire for zucchinis (though there are more in the Murrumbidgee) and Coffs Harbour for cucumbers.

Value of total vegetable production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs



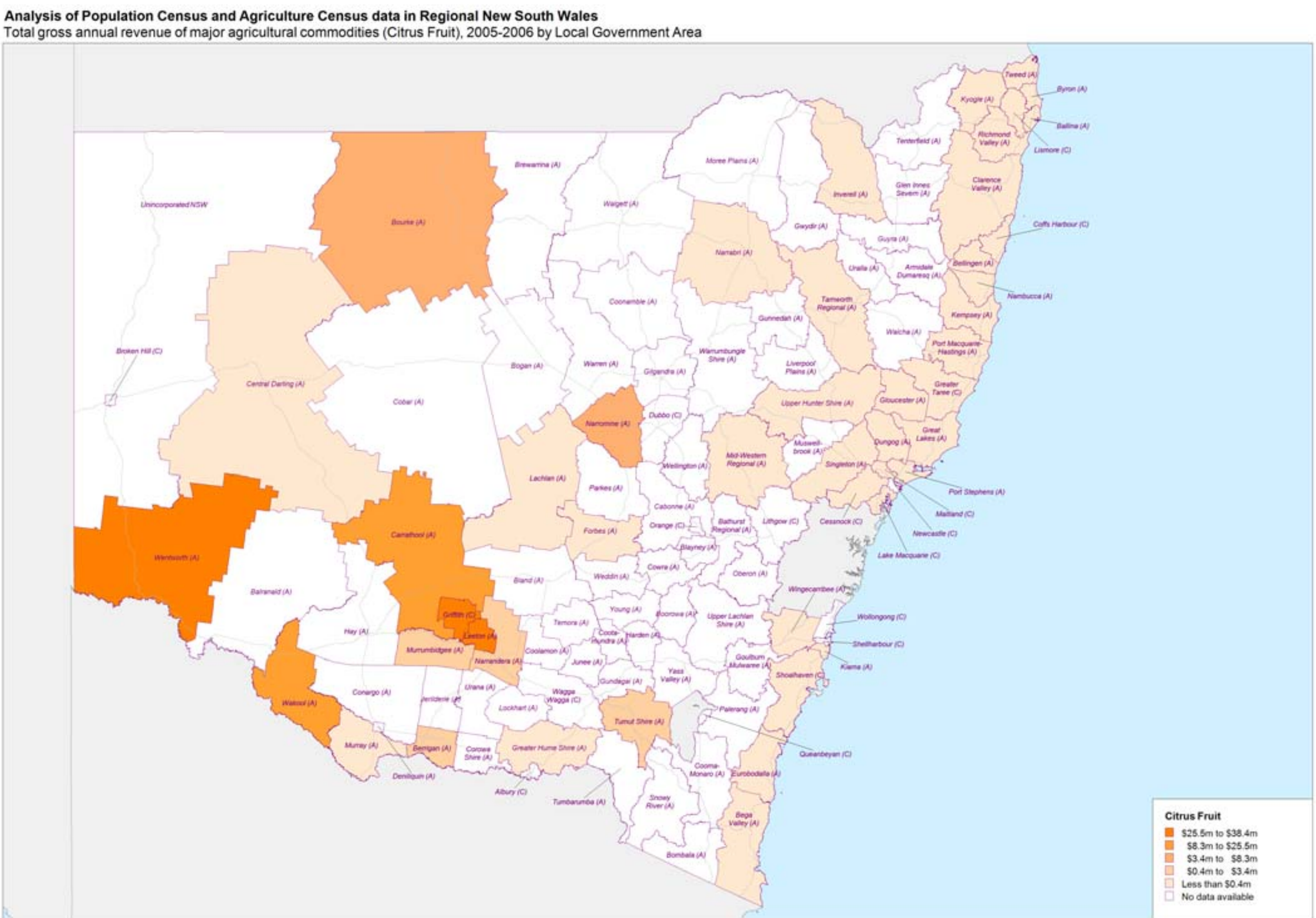
6 Citrus Fruit

In 2005-06, Citrus Fruit production in NSW was valued at $137 million, up just slightly from $129 million in 2000-01. By far the largest component of this was Oranges, at $114 million, or 83% of total Citrus production. Mandarins were worth $9.4 million and Grapefruit $6.2 million.

Distribution

Citrus fruit production is highly localised within NSW, with over 90% of production occurring within the Murrumbidgee and Murray statistical divisions, which have a climate suited to citrus production under irrigation. Griffith and Leeton councils alone account for more than 50% of all NSW production of Oranges. In Murray SD, most of the production is in Wentworth, on the opposite side of the river to Mildura, Victoria's major producer. There is also a small amount of citrus production in the North Western SD, predominantly Narromine.

Value of total citrus fruit production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs



7 Grapes

Grape production is a large industry, with 2005-06 production amounting to $274 million in NSW. The vast majority of this was production for the wine industry, at $214 million or 73% of grape production. Total grape production increased a little over 5 years, up from $253 million in 2000-01. Table grapes and other uses accounted for most of the increase, while wine grape production was flat.

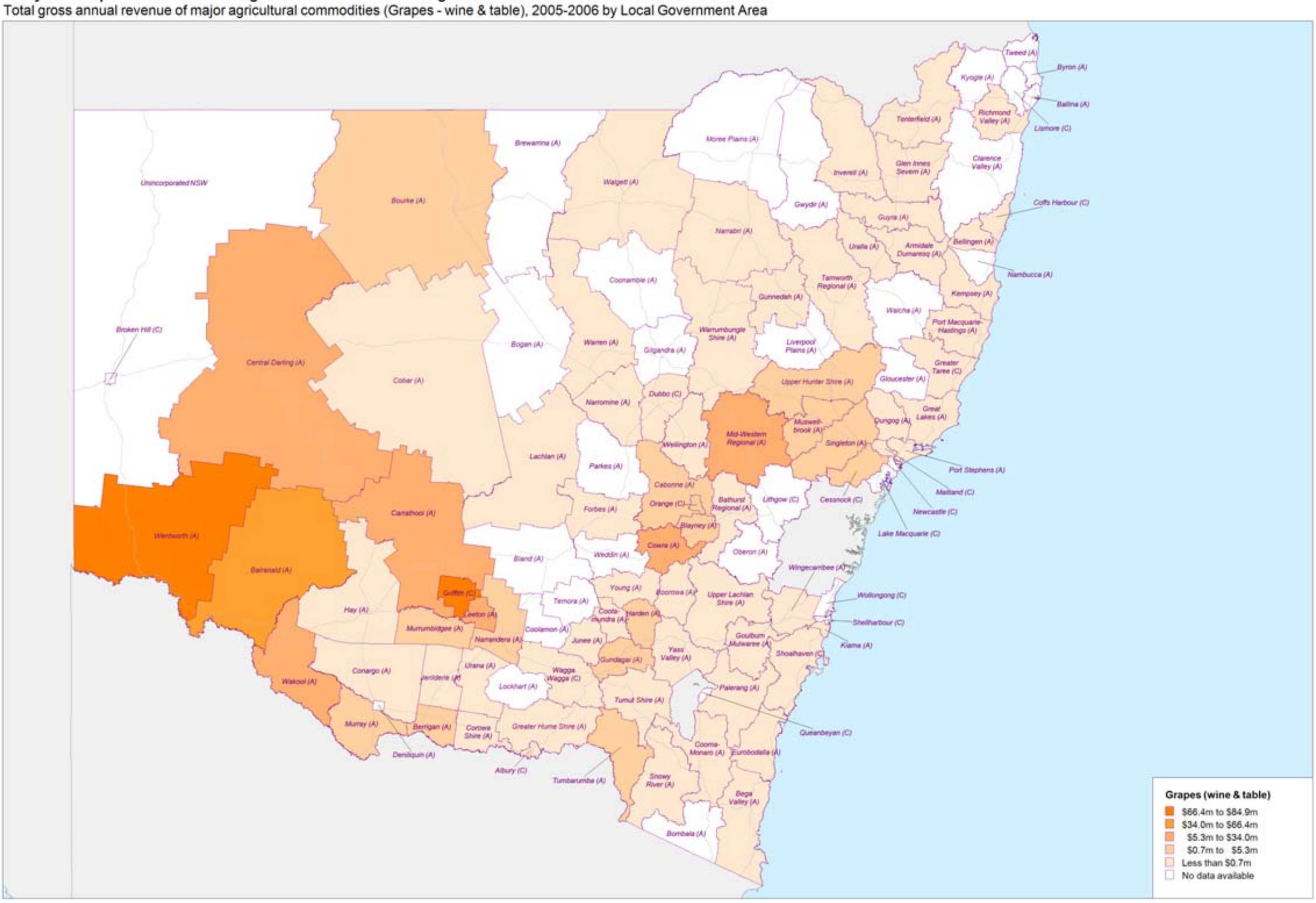
Distribution

The Murray and Murrumbidgee statistical divisions in the south-west of NSW had the largest grape production in NSW, together accounting for $222 million, or over 80% of all NSW production. Production in Murray SD was focussed on Wentworth Shire, with a mix of table and wine grapes and total production of $66 million. Balranald Shire produced another $34 million, mostly table grapes around the Euston area. In contrast, almost all production in Murrumbidgee was in wine grapes, mostly in Griffith ($84m) and Leeton ($14m), which comprise by far the largest wine growing region in NSW.

In terms of production, other well-known wine regions such as the Hunter Valley and Central West had much smaller amounts of grape production, $10m and $14m respectively in 2005-06.

Value of total grape production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs

Analysis of Population Census and Agriculture Census data in Regional New South Wales
Total gross annual revenue of major agricultural commodities (Grapes - wine & table), 2005-2006 by Local Government Area



8 Other fruit

“Other fruit” is a broad category covering all fruit which is not citrus or grapes, including pome fruit such as apples and pears, stone fruit such as cherries and peaches, and berries such as strawberries and raspberries.

In 2005-06, “Other fruit” production was worth $299 million in NSW, a significant increase from $214m in 2001. This consists of many geographically localised fruits, but the largest were Apples ($69m), Blueberries ($60m), Cherries ($53m), Bananas ($35m) and Nectarines ($18m).

Distribution

Fruit production is localised according to the type of fruit. The largest overall production of “Other fruit” in 2005-06 was in Mid-North Coast, followed by Murrumbidgee SD ($51m), Central West ($47m), South Eastern ($43m) and Murray ($25m). Within each of these areas, fruit production is localised to one or two LGAs.

In Mid-North Coast, the largest producer is Coffs Harbour ($59m), comprising mainly Blueberries ($36m) and Bananas ($19m).

In Murrumbidgee SD, the next largest producer, while Griffith is the main producer of citrus and grapes, it has relatively small ($6m) production of other fruit. The largest producer in this area is in the upper Murrumbidgee catchment, at Tumut ($33m). This consists predominantly of apples ($27m) with some peaches ($1.8m).

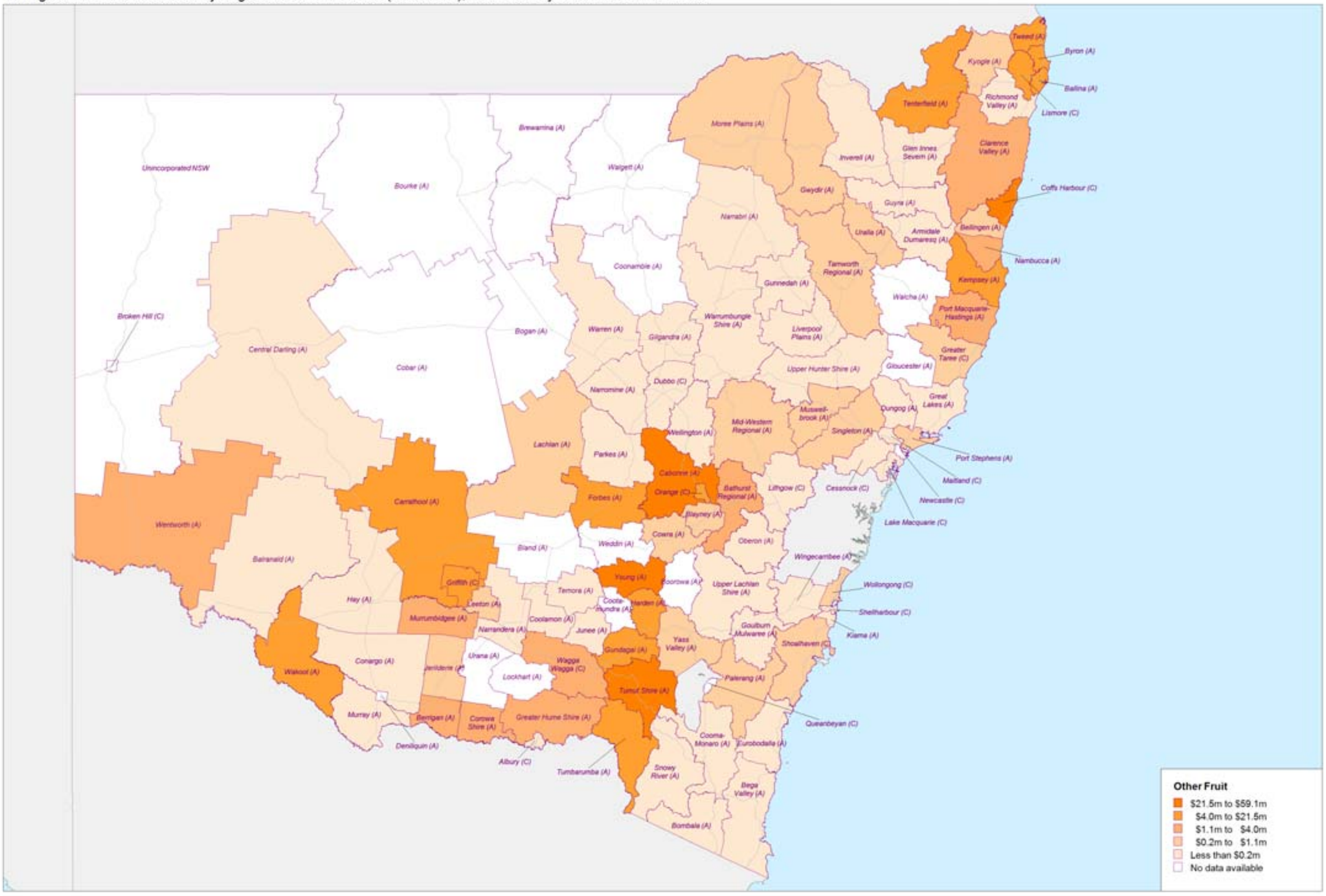
Tumut’s neighbouring shire of Tumbarumba makes up 40% of the other fruit production in Murray SD ($10.5m, mainly blueberries), while Wakool on the lower Murray is a centre of stone fruit growing (Nectarines and Peaches).

South-Eastern SD’s production of other fruit is highly concentrated in Young ($31m), most of which is due to Cherry production ($24.5m). Young accounts for almost half of NSW cherries.

While all in different statistical divisions, most of this fruit (outside of the Mid-North Coast) is grown in a narrow band along the western side of the Great Dividing Range.

Value of other fruit production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs

Analysis of Population Census and Agriculture Census data in Regional New South Wales
Total gross annual revenue of major agricultural commodities (Other Fruit), 2005-2006 by Local Government Area



9 Nuts

Nut production was the smallest of the 13 major agricultural categories in the 2005-06 agriculture Census. It was worth $85m in NSW at this time. However it did increase from $41m in 2000-01. Most of the nut production, and most of the 5-year increase was in Macadamia nuts, which grew from $32m to $66m, 77% of nut production and 0.7% of NSW agricultural output.

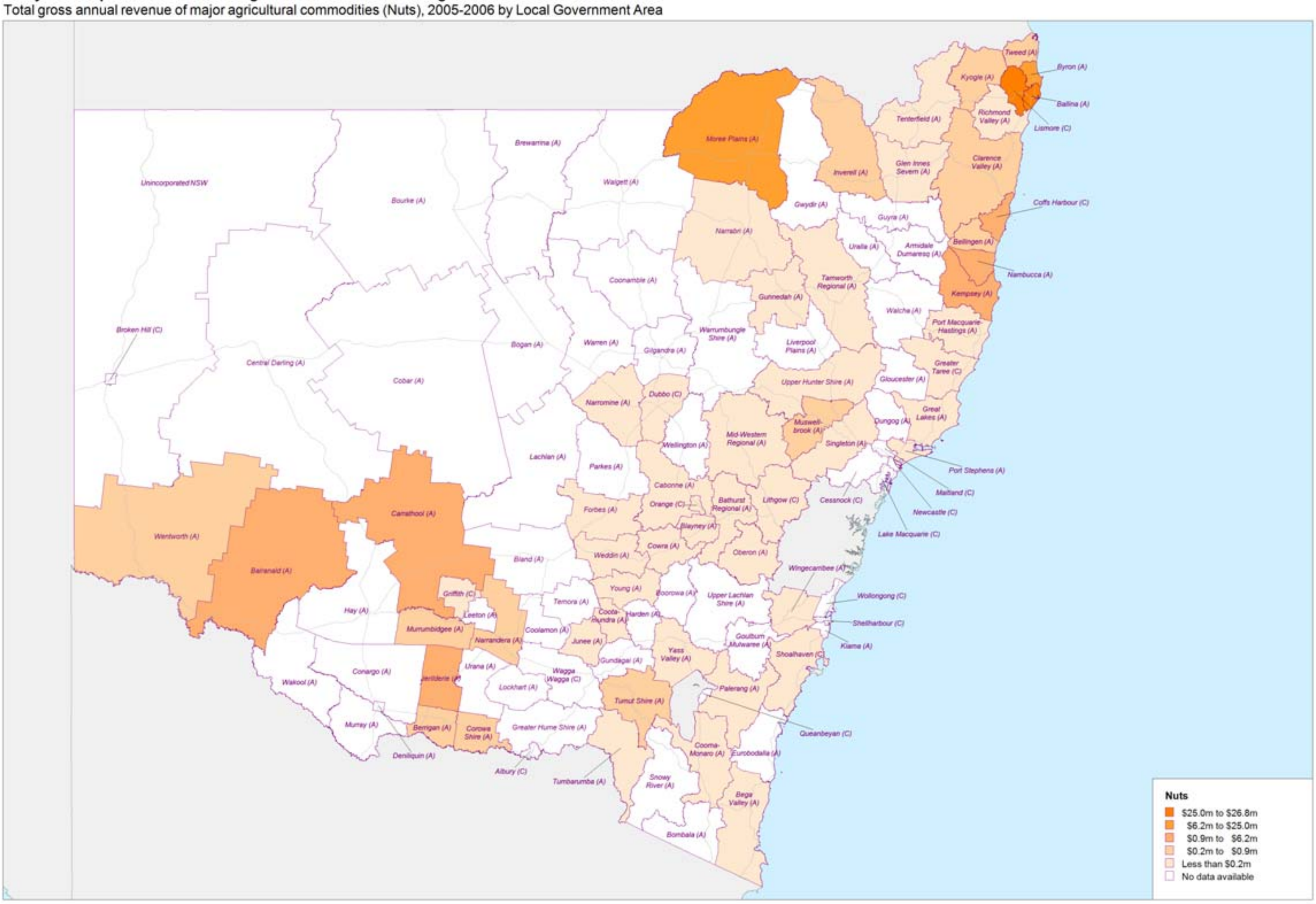
Distribution

NSW nut production is highly concentrated, with most nut production being in Macadamias, which thrive in a narrow climatic band. Macadamia nuts are mainly produced in Ballina ($26.6m), Lismore ($24.5m) and Byron ($10.3m) LGAs, which fall into the Richmond-Tweed region.

Pecans are concentrated in the Northern SD, particularly Moree Plains Shire, while small amounts of Almond production are spread through inland areas, particularly Murray and Murrumbidgee SDs.

Value of other nut production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs

Analysis of Population Census and Agriculture Census data in Regional New South Wales
Total gross annual revenue of major agricultural commodities (Nuts), 2005-2006 by Local Government Area



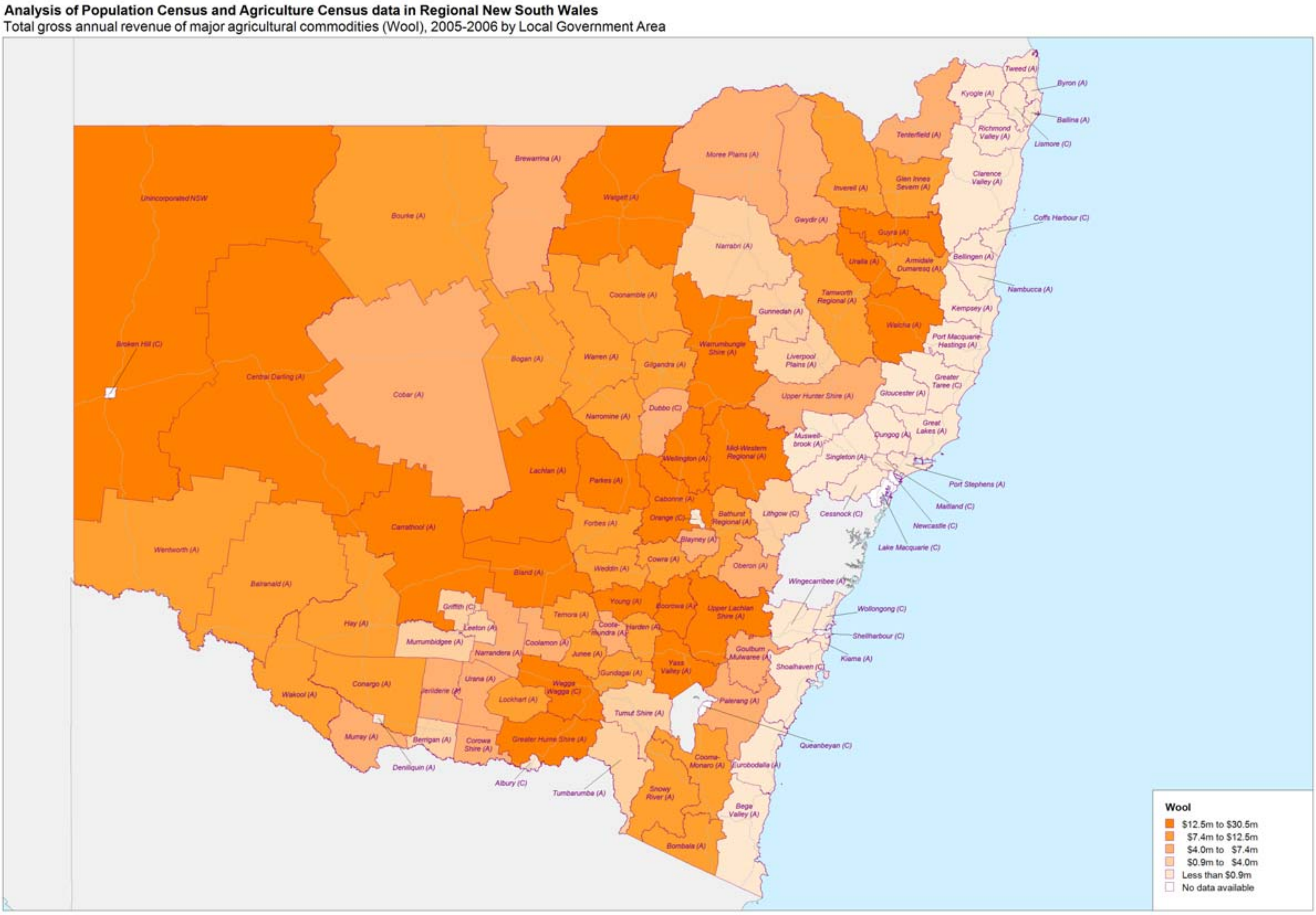
10 Wool

Much of rural NSW was originally settled for the production of wool, and, while not as important to the Australian economy as it once was, wool remains a major agricultural output of NSW. In the 2005-06 agriculture census, $691.5 million of wool was produced in NSW, making it the fourth largest major commodity grouping. This number was, however, well down on over $1 billion worth of wool which was produced in 2000-01. This reduction is most likely due to the reduction in livestock numbers due to the drought.

Distribution

Wool production is dispersed across most areas west of the great dividing range, with relatively low amounts in coastal areas. All of the inland statistical divisions had wool value of greater than $50m. The largest was in South Eastern SD, with $129m. Though this does include some coastal areas, the majority of wool production was in the Monaro tablelands, Yass Valley and the foothills of the great divide, including Young and Upper Lachlan Shire, which had the highest production of any LGA in NSW. Central West SD was the next largest ($124m), including Bathurst and Cabonne Shires, followed by North Western SD ($123m).

Value of wool production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs



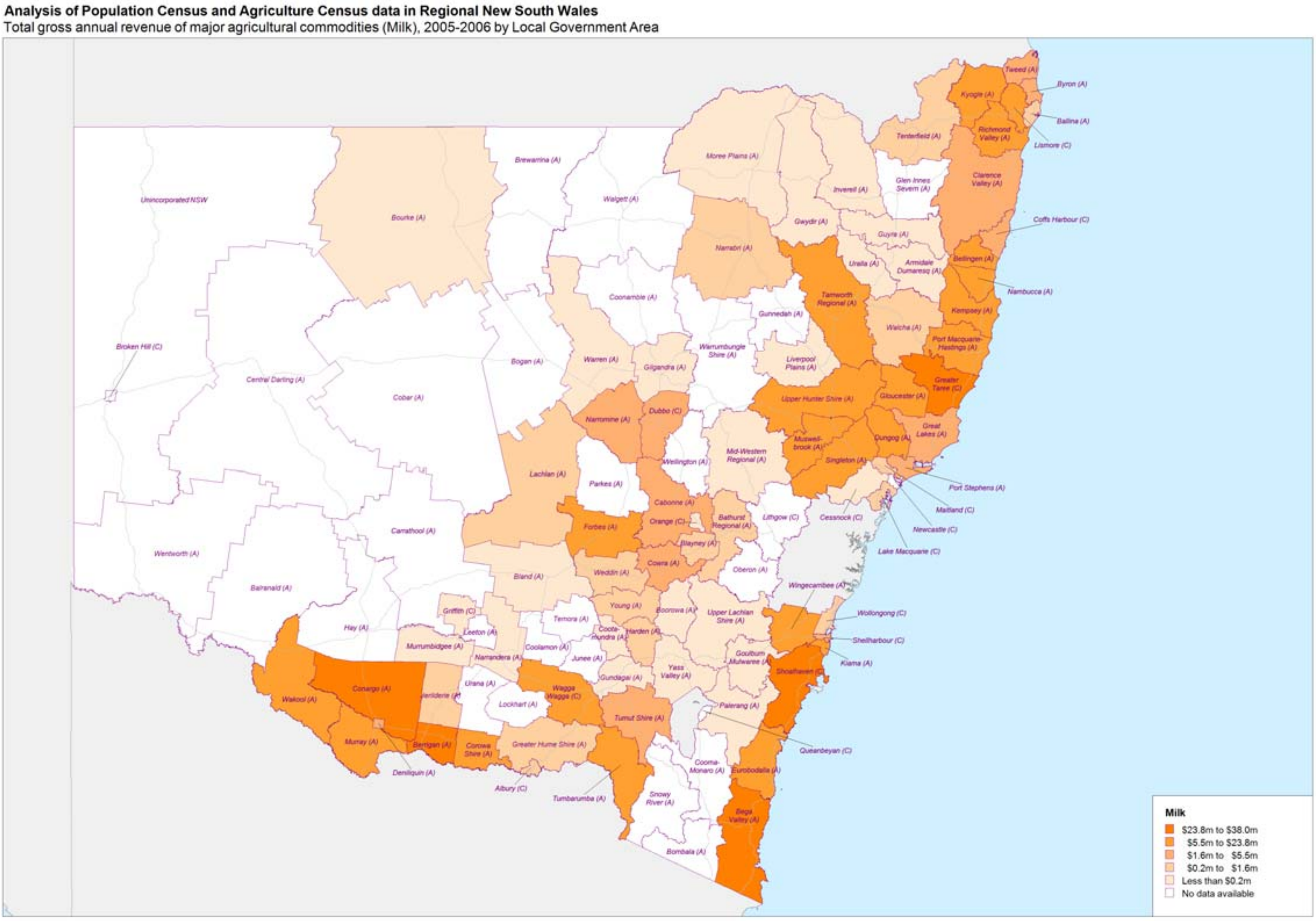
11 Milk

In 2005-06, milk worth $411 million was produced in NSW. This was up slightly from $385m in 2000-01.

Distribution

Milk production is concentrated in coastal areas, as well as irrigated areas around the Murray river. The Murray SD had the highest production in NSW, with $101m in 2005-06. Berrigan ($37m), and Conargo ($27m) were the largest producers in this area. The highest production in NSW, however was Bega Valley Shire ($38m), which falls into the South Eastern SD ($46m in total). Milk makes up 65% of Bega Valley's total agricultural output. Other areas of significant production in NSW are Mid North Coast SD ($71m) – mainly Greater Taree ($28m) and Port Macquarie-Hastings ($12m), plus Shoalhaven City ($24m) in the Illawarra SD ($45m in total).

Value of milk production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs



12 Eggs

Egg production in NSW was valued at $108m in 2005-06, almost unchanged from the $112m reported in 2000-01. Eggs account for 1.2% of NSW agricultural production.

Distribution

Most areas of NSW produce small amounts of eggs, but large scale production is very localised. Like many of the more intensive types of agriculture, egg production is dominated by the Sydney Statistical Division, which in 2005-06 produced $46m worth of eggs, 43% of the total. Much of this production is in the outer west, including Penrith ($12.7m) and Blacktown ($12.0m).

Outside of Sydney, egg production is spread through a number of regions, but highly localised within each region. The largest production in the state was in Lake Macquarie ($13.4m), contributing more than half of the Hunter SD total of $23.4m.

The next largest egg production was in South Eastern SD, at $13.3m, almost all in Young, followed by Northern SD ($11.8m), the majority of which ($8.7m) was in Tamworth.

Value of egg production, 2005-06, Regional NSW LGAs