Queensland beef industry

Situation snapshot April 2009

The Department of Employment, Economic Development and Innovation (DEEDI) seeks to maximise the economic potential of Queensland's primary industries on a sustainable basis.

Contents

Figures

Tables

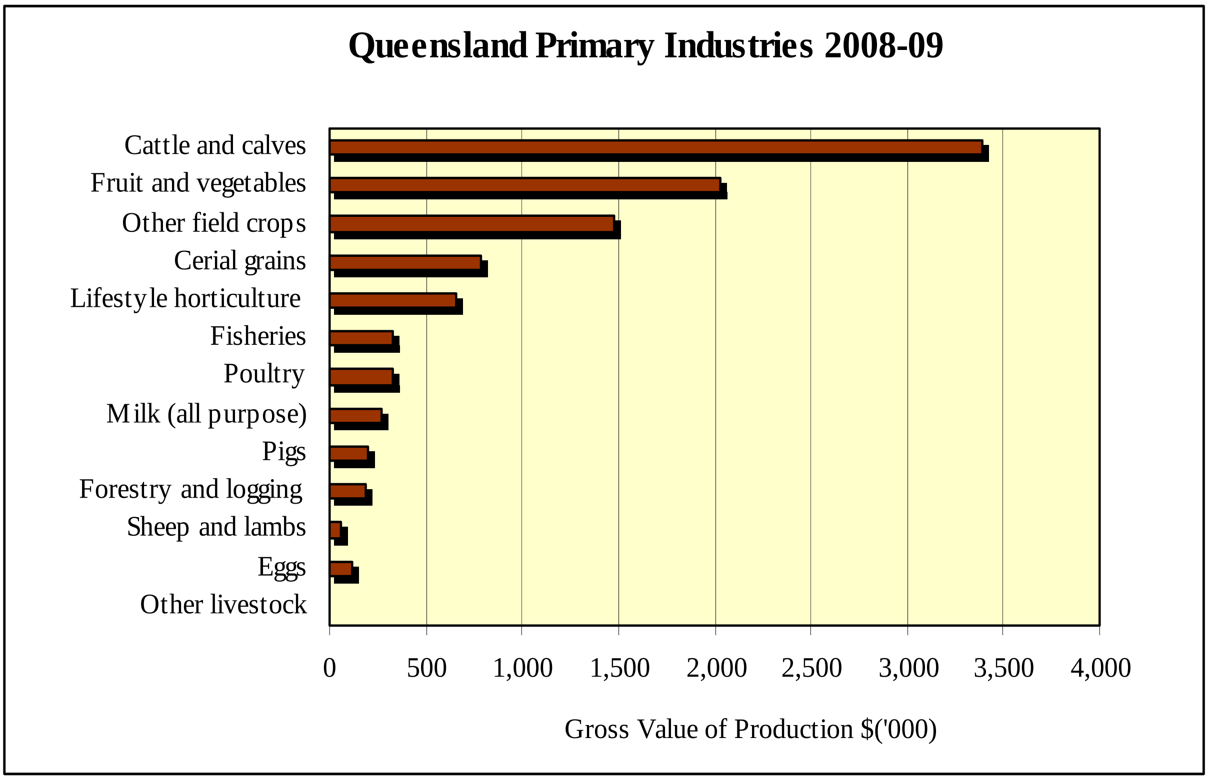
Queensland beef cattle industry

Queensland has Australia's largest beef cattle herd and is the nation's largest producer and exporter of beef. The combined gross value of Queensland’s beef cattle production and meat processing sectors is worth about $4 billion.

Gross value

At the farmgate level, beef cattle production is Queensland's largest agricultural industry. Queensland’s gross value of beef cattle production was $3.4 billion in 2007-08 (Australian Bureau of Statistics February 2009).

Figure 1 Queensland primary industries GVP 2008-09



Source: Prospects, Queensland Primary Industries and Fisheries (QPIF) (December 2008)

Of all Queensland’s livestock industries, the beef industry provides about 84.5 per cent of total gross value and provides more than one third of the total gross value of production from Queensland’s primary industries.

Employment

Queensland’s beef cattle industry provided 38 per cent of all the jobs in Queensland agriculture, approximately 68 925 in 2006-07 (Australian Food Statistics 2007).

The number of jobs provided by Queensland’s meat and meat product processing sector was 16 350 full-time equivalents (FTEs) in 2006-07 (Australian Food Statistics 2007).

More than 19 per cent of all the people employed in the beef cattle industry in Australia are employed in Queensland industry. In addition, about 32 per cent of all the people employed in meat and meat products processing in Australia are employed in Queensland.

Number of enterprises

There were 45 619 specialised beef cattle enterprises (farms and feedlots) in Australia at 30 June 2007. Queensland had 32 per cent or 14 568 specialised beef cattle enterprises.

Specialised beef operations make up 91 per cent of the beef production sector in Queensland, in comparison to the national percentage of 67 per cent.

There were 705 beef cattle feedlots in Australia at 30 June 2007, with 42 per cent in Queensland. The State's feedlot capacity grew 9 per cent from December 2007 to December 2008 to just over 600 000 head, 49 per cent of the national feedlot capacity.

Table 1 Businesses undertaking beef cattle farming activities – 30 June 2007

Activity	Queensland	Share	Australia
Beef cattle farming	14 274	32%	44 914
Beef cattle feedlots	294	42%	705
Sheep-beef cattle farming	538	6%	8 443
Grain-sheep or grain-beef cattle farming	889	6%	13 782

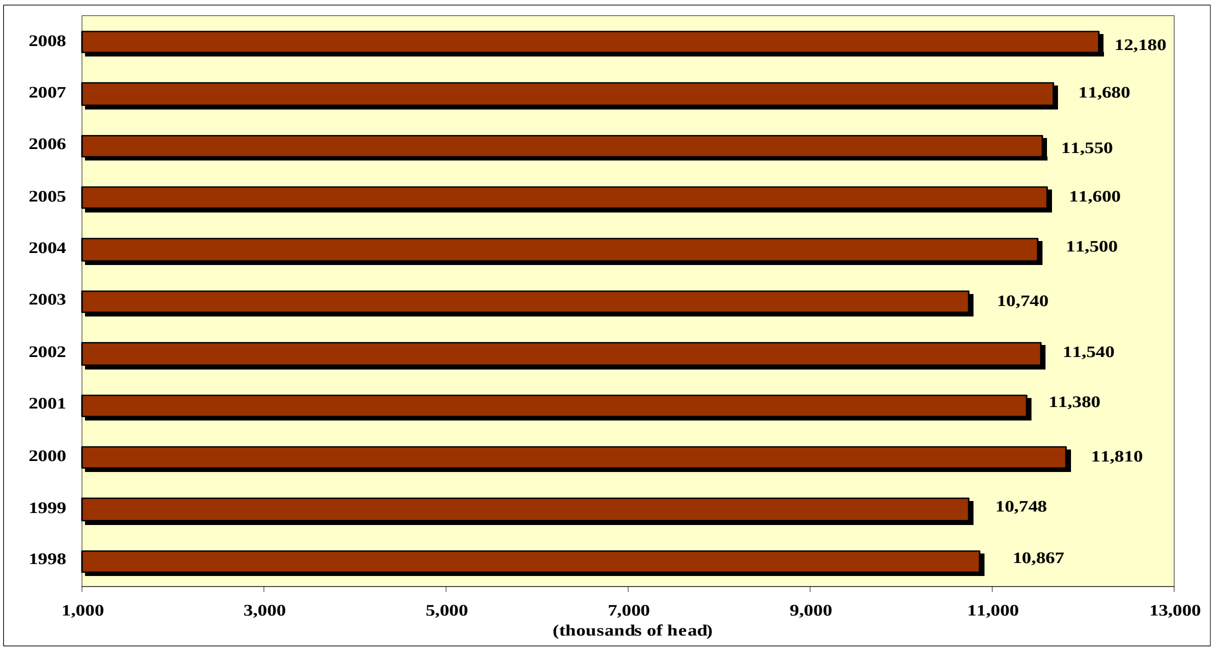
Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics cat. no. 7123.3.55.001 (count of feedlots is at 30 June 2006)

Size of Queensland's herd

Over the last decade the lowest herd count was 10.7 million at 30 June 2003 as a result of widespread drought.

At 30 June 2008 Queensland's beef cattle herd was estimated to number 12.2 million head, an increase of 4.3 per cent on 30 June 2007.

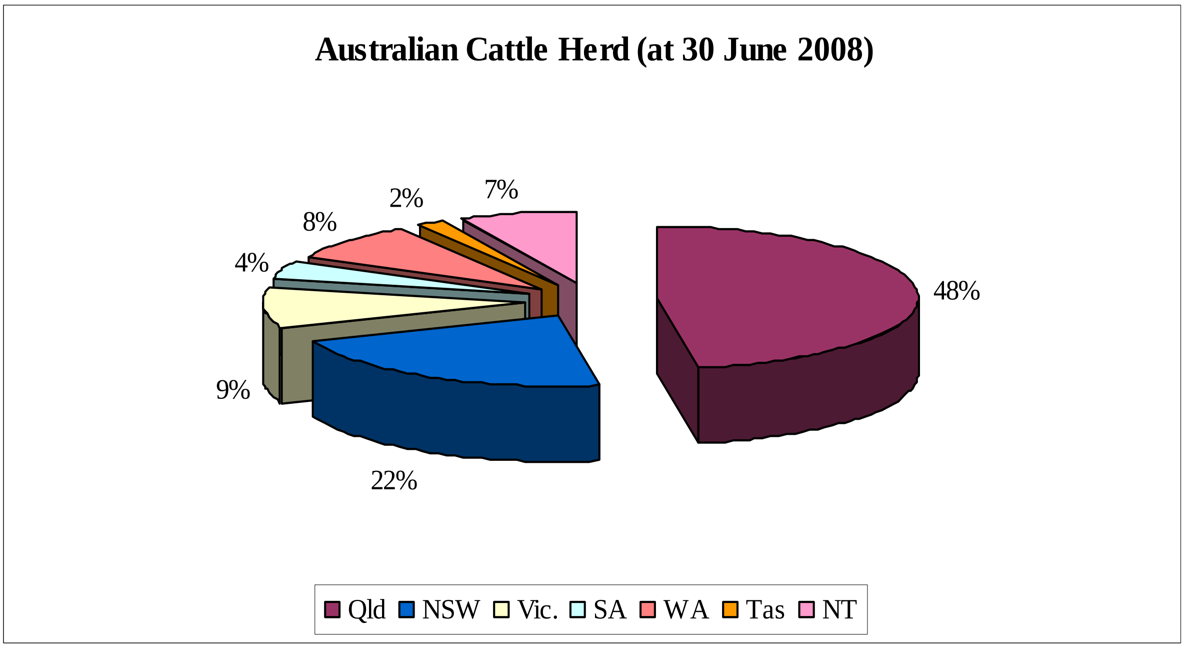
Figure 2 Queensland cattle herd (including dairy cattle) as at 30 June



Source: Meat and Livestock Australia updated 22 February 2009 (includes dairy cattle)

Queensland is the largest beef producing state with 48 per cent of the Australian beef herd.

Figure 3 Share of the Australian beef cattle herd (at 30 June 2008)



Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Principal Agricultural Commodities cat. no. 7111.0 2007-08

Queensland cattle and production regions

The major cattle types in Queensland are:

- Brahman cattle are ideally suited to the hot, tropical conditions in northern grazing zones
- Droughtmaster cattle (i.e. 50 per cent Bos indicus and 50 per cent Bos taurus) were genetically bred for conditions in northern Queensland
- Beef Shorthorns (i.e. best suited for the production of vealers and prime weaners in safer rainfall areas)
- British breeds such as Hereford and Angus.

Beef cattle production occurs across all regions in Queensland. Cattle are mostly pasture-raised in the state's western districts of which 70 per cent are grass-fed. The remaining 30 per cent are typically raised on pastures for around 17 to 21 months and then moved to feedlots to be grain-fed or 'finished' for between 2 and 4 months. Feedlots are concentrated in the major agricultural regions where they have access to adequate supplies of store cattle, grain and other feedstuffs.

Queensland's cattle production is highly concentrated with the top 20 per cent of producers accounting for 80 per cent of total output.

Table 2 provides a guide as to the distribution of establishments and numbers of cattle as a percentage of the State's total.

Table 2 Distribution of Queensland's cattle production (by Statistical Division)

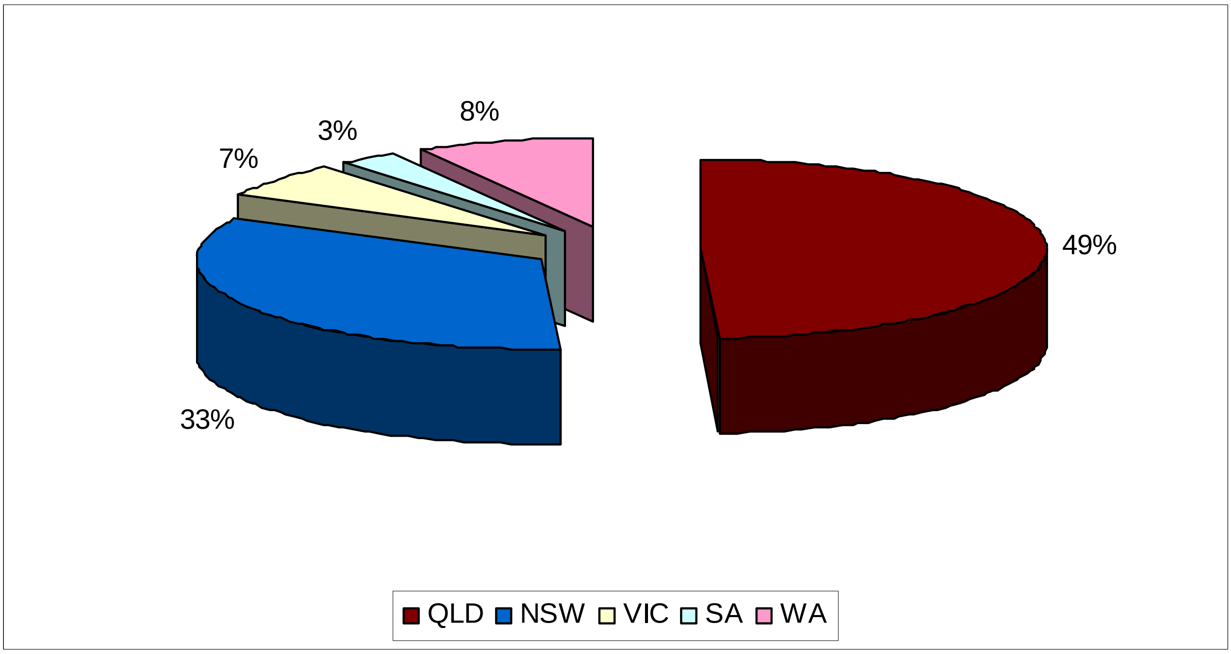
Statistical Divisions	Establishments Total – 14 568	No. cattle Total – 12.2 million
Fitzroy	13.1%	19.3%
North West	2.4%	15.7%
Darling Downs	23.5%	11.4%
Mackay	6.4%	10.1%
South West	8.0%	9.4%
Northern	3.2%	8.8%
Central West	3.0%	8.3%
Wide Bay-Burnett	19.8%	7.7%
Far North	5.5%	6.2%
West Moreton	7.7%	1.9%
Brisbane	3.8%	0.6%
Sunshine Coast	2.2%	0.3%
Gold Coast	1.5%	0.3%

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics (2008); QPIF DEEDI (2009)

Feedlot activity

Australian feedlot capacity currently stands at more than 1.2 million head. At December 2008, Queensland had 49 per cent of Australia's cattle feedlot capacity.

Figure 4 Share of Australian feedlot capacity (December 2008)

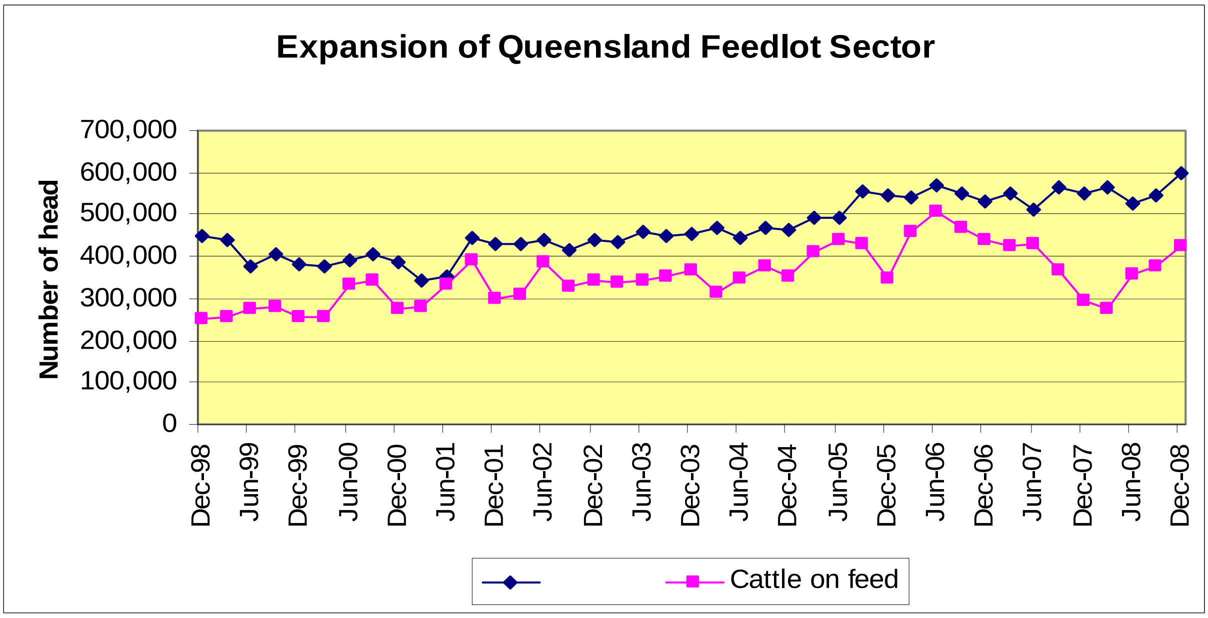


Source: Meat and Livestock Australia/ Australia Lotfeeders Association quarterly feedlot survey

Queensland's feedlot capacity has been steadily expanding, and since 2000 capacity has increased from 400 000 head to 600 000 in December 2008. New South Wales increased its capacity by a little over 100 000 head during the same period and Western Australia lifted capacity by just over 50 000.

The total annual throughput of Queensland feedlots for the year to December 2008 was 1 438 011. This was a 4.8 per cent decrease on the year to December 2007 and a 23.2 per cent decline on the year to December 2006 when feedlot throughput in Queensland peaked at 1 871 619 head (derived from ALFA/MLA June Quarterly Survey data). The number of cattle on feed at any point in time will depend on a range of factors, including seasonal conditions, cattle supply, grain supply, and feedlot capacity.

Figure 5 Queensland feedlot capacity and utilisation trends



Source: Meat and Livestock Australia/ Australia Lotfeeders Association quarterly feedlot survey

Feedlot throughput declined after 2006 because of the sharp increase in world grain prices and an appreciating Australia dollar increasing the cost of Australian beef in export markets. The cost of feed grain comprises about 65 per cent of input costs for feedlots.

Increased feedlot throughput during the December 2008 quarter resulted because of an adequate supply of feeder cattle and because world grain prices started to fall. Feed grain prices fell by an average of 23 per cent as fuel prices fell and grain harvests increased supplies of grain. In addition, the Australian dollar declined by 24 per cent against the United States (US) dollar, 32 per cent against the Japanese yen and two per cent against the Korean won.

Feedlots have made an important contribution to the beef industry enabling it to provide high quality and consistent grain fed cattle to meat processors, improving access to lucrative Japanese and Korean markets.

Prior to June 2007, supermarkets were drawing around 40 to 50 per cent of their meat supplies from feedlots.

Cattle slaughter

The Queensland adult cattle slaughter peaked at 3.8 million head in 2006-07, declining 6.2 per cent in 2007-08 to 3.6 million. The gross value of slaughtering declined 11 per cent. In comparison, the Australian gross value of slaughterings declined 6.9 per cent in 2007-08.

Table 3 compares Queensland and Australian slaughter, beef production and gross value of slaughterings.

Table 3 Comparison of Queensland and Australia slaughter, beef production and gross value

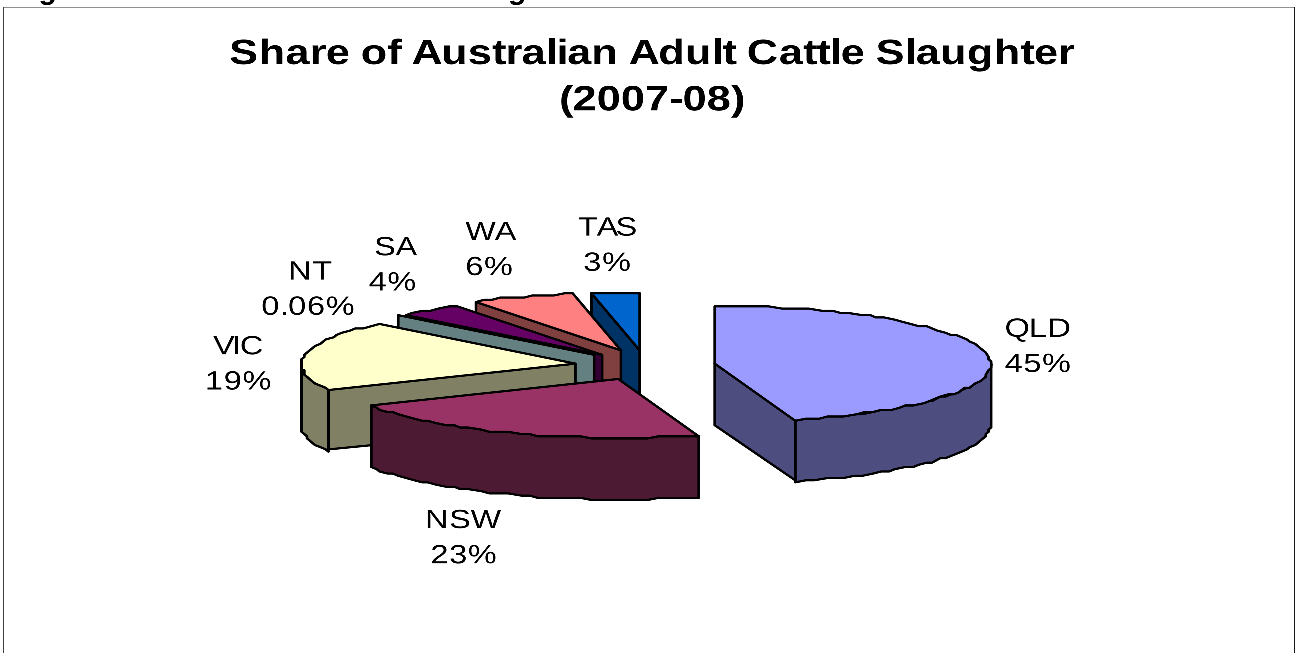
Year	Adult Cattle Slaughter ('000 head)			Beef and Veal Production ('000) tonnes			Gross Value of slaughterings $m		
	QLD	%	Australia	QLD	%	Australia	QLD	%	Australia
1998/99	3,307	42	7,939	910	45	2,011	1,648	41	4,047
1999/00	3,312	44	7,520	939	47	1,988	2,257	45	5,048
2000/01	3,657	46	7,941	1,040	49	2,119	2,873	46	6,217
2001/02	3,514	46	7,624	978	48	2,028	3,223	45	7,142
2002/03	3,515	43	8,083	951	46	2,073	2,878	45	6,411
2003/04	3,564	46	7,753	979	48	2,033	3,071	46	6,659
2004/05	3,690	46	7,986	1,050	49	2,162	3,616	46	7,829
2005/06	3,647	48	7,580	1,057	51	2,077	3,607	47	7,683
2006/07	3,831	47	8,162	1,109	50	2,226	3,802	48	7,988
2007/08	3,593	45	7,932	1,042	48	2,154	3,388	46	7,436

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics and Meat and Livestock Australia derived from various sources.

In 2007-08, Queensland's share of total Australian adult cattle slaughtered declined 2 per cent. This decline was probably because there were a higher then normal number of dairy cattle liquidated in southern states in 2007-08 (Australian Bureau of Agriculture and Resource Economics, December 2008).

Figure 6 shows the share of adult-cattle slaughtered in Australia in 2007-08.

Figure 6 Australian adult cattle slaughter distribution



Source: Meat and Livestock Australia

Queensland processes a considerable number of head originally from the Northern Territory and New South Wales. In 2007-08, 241 328 head slaughtered in Queensland originated in another territory or state (QPIF, March 2009).

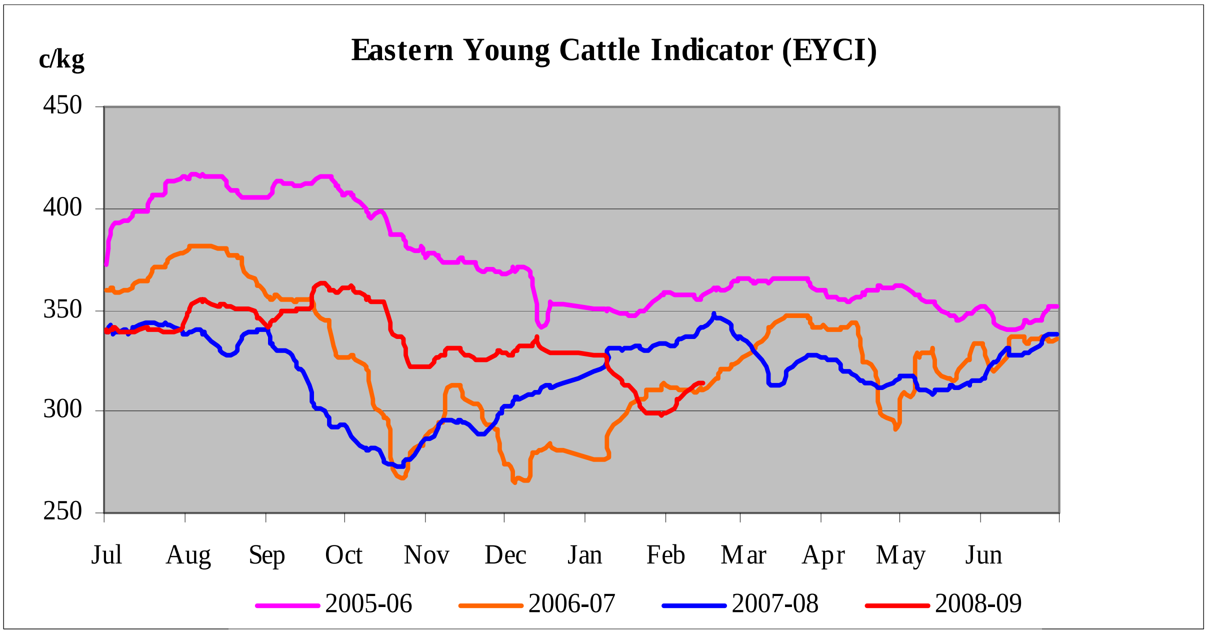
Of the cattle slaughtered in Queensland in 2007-08, about 70 per cent were grass fed and 30 per cent of these were grain fed.

Cattle prices

In 2006-07, cattle price movements were more pronounced than the seasonal price trends in other years portrayed in Figure 7. Cattle prices dropped sharply in the first half because of unseasonal dry conditions and therefore high slaughter numbers. During August to October, the Eastern Young Cattle Indicator (EYCI), decreased by 30 per cent. There was a short lift in November, but prices then slumped to an even lower level in December and demand weakened as the Australian dollar appreciated to 79 US cents.

Figure 7 shows the Eastern Young Cattle Indicator (EYCI), produced by the National Livestock Reporting Service of the MLA. The EYCI is able to show shifts in cattle price, seasonal pattern in cattle prices, and cattle prices at different points in time.

Figure 7 Eastern Young Cattle Indicator



Source: Meat and Livestock Australia, National Livestock Reporting Service

The off-loading of cattle in 2006-07 meant cattle supplies fell in 2007-08. Normally this would have pushed up prices, but the high value of the Australian dollar acted on demand to hold cattle prices down. The Australian dollar continued appreciating towards 90 US cents, a point reached in November 2007. Cattle prices declined further as a result and the Australian dollar then stayed high until mid August 2008.

The general price trend has shifted downwards since 2005-06. Price at this time can be explained by the discovery of BSE in the US in late 2003, which resulted in a slump in consumer demand for beef in Australia's key markets of Japan and Korea, then stronger demand for Australian beef following the exclusion of US beef from these markets.

Cattle prices and producer returns are uncertain heading into 2009. The global financial crisis has weakened export markets, particularly by-product markets and is expected to impact negatively on cattle prices as export demand weakens. Cattle supplies are expected to tighten in the second half of 2009 as a result of the losses in northern and western Queensland. Demand from restockers and low cattle turn-off are expected to offset some pressure for cattle prices to decline.

Seasonal trends in cattle prices may be explained by the following reoccurring conditions:

- Late November to early January, the period when meatworks in Queensland close for the wet season
- August to the end of October, when cattle prices trend downwards
- January to April, when cattle prices trend upwards.

Table 4 shows the spread in cattle prices over recent financial years.

Table 4 EYCI - cents per kilogram

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Average	$364.58	$374.45	$326.56	$318.26	$340.28
Max	$398.00	$416.75	$381.75	$347.75	$363.50
Min	$317.25	$340.25	$265.25	$272.50	$313.00

Source: Meat and Livestock Australia

Meat processing

In Queensland, meat processing is mainly concentrated in southern Queensland, but major plants are also located in Rockhampton, Townsville and Mackay. Southern processors have the advantage of being close to the Port of Brisbane.

Table 5 provides the major abattoirs, market type and location, as at February 2009.

Table 5 Major Queensland abattoirs

Region	Abattoir	Type	Location
South-East	Swift Australia Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Dinmore
	Australian Country Choice	Export abattoir	Cannon Hill
	Stanbroke Beef	Export abattoir	Grantham
	Teys Bros Pty Limited	Export abattoir	Beenleigh
	Nolan Meats Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Gympie
	South Burnett Beef Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Murgon (closed)
	Churchill Abattoir	Domestic abattoir	Churchill
	Kilcoy Pastoral Company Limited	Export abattoir	Kilcoy
	Highchester Pty Ltd	Domestic abattoir	Gleneagle, Beaudesert
	Green Mountain Foods	Export	Coominya
	Swickers Kingaroy Bacon Factory Pty Ltd	Domestic abattoir	Kingaroy
	Meramist Pty Ltd	Domestic abattoir	Caboolture
South Queensland	Oakey Abattoir Pty Limited	Export abattoir	Oakey
	Swift Australia Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Beef City, Purrawunda
	Killarney Abattoir Pty Limited	Domestic abattoir	Killarney
	John Dee Warwick Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Warwick
	Pittsworth Abattoirs Pty Ltd	Domestic abattoir	Pittsworth

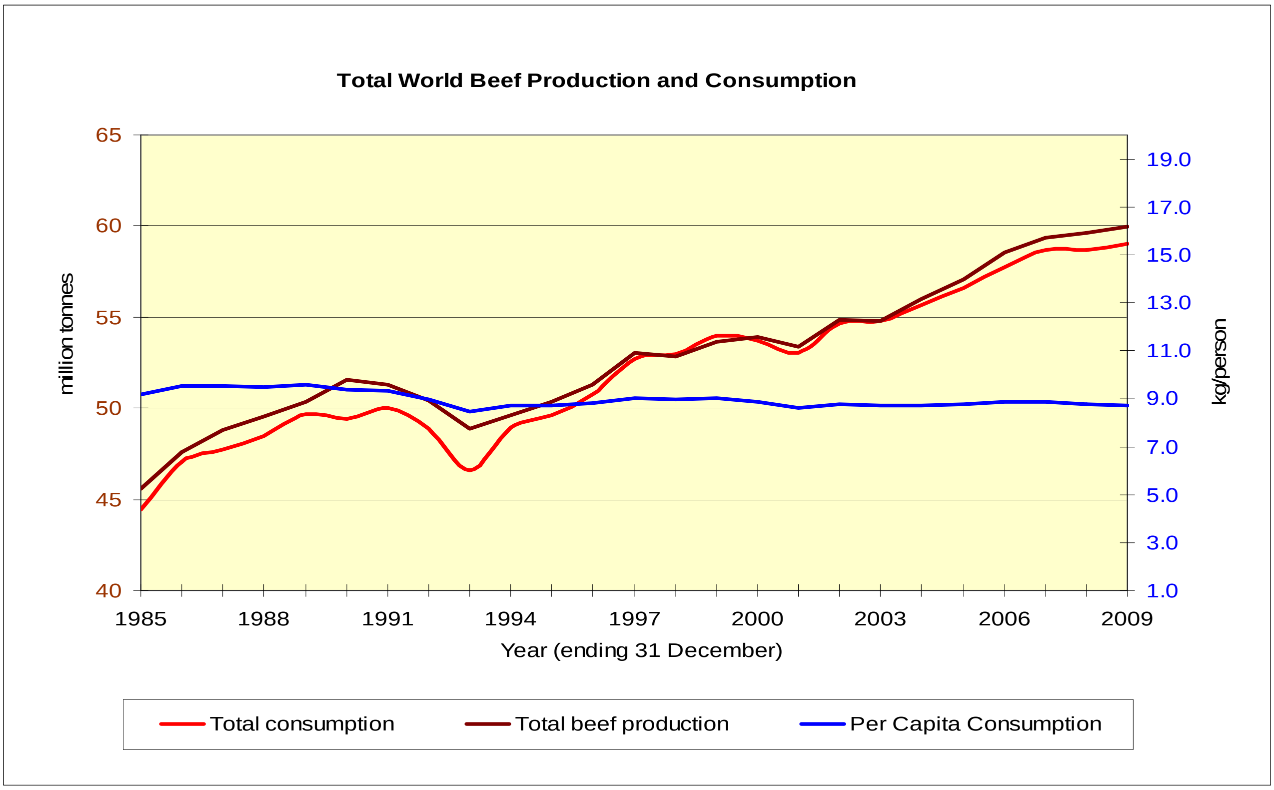
	Don Allen and Company	Domestic abattoir	Stanthorpe (purchased by Nick Gillee - Yarril Pty Ltd)
Central Queensland	Teys Bros Pty Limited	Export abattoir	Lakes Creek, Rockhampton
	Thomas Borthwick & Sons (Australia) Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Mackay
	Teys Bros Pty Limited	Export abattoir	Biloela
	Swift Australia Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Nerimbera, Rockhampton
North Queensland	Swift Australia Pty Ltd	Export abattoir	Stuart, Townsville
	Rocky Creek Abattoir Pty Ltd	*Domestic abattoir*	Tolga

Source: QPIF, DEEDI

Beef production

World beef production is approaching 60 million tonnes per year. Figure 8 shows the rate of increase in world beef production between 1985 and 2009. World consumption has been less than total production since 2004, and the gap is widening. This indicates that the world beef trade is becoming more and more competitive, and highlights the importance of the Australian domestic market.

Figure 8 Total world beef production and consumption



Source: Derived from data supplied by US Department of Agriculture (November 2008)

Table 5 shows the major beef producing countries and the quantities of beef they produce. The world's largest beef producer is the US, averaging almost 12 million tonnes annually. Over the last five years, growth in global production has mainly been driven by countries such as Brazil (30 per cent growth), Argentina (18 per cent), China (27 per cent) and India (38 per cent). Brazil now produces about 9.5 million tonnes annually, compared to Australia's 2.1 million tonnes.

The outlook for world production is an overall decline in 2009 of about 0.5 per cent. Declining production in the EU-27, Argentina, Australia and Russia are expected to be offset by increases in Brazil, China and India (US Department of Agriculture October 2008).

Table 6 Major beef producing countries

Country	2001	2002	2003	2004	2005	2006	2007	2008	2009
	million tonnes	million tonnes	million tonnes	million tonnes	million tonnes	million tonnes	million tonnes	million tonnes	million tonnes
United States	11.983	12.427	12.039	11.261	11.318	11.980	12.096	12.226	12.203
Brazil	6.895	7.240	7.385	7.975	8.592	9.025	9.303	9.205	9.395
EU-25	8.346	8.397	8.304	8.245	8.090	8.150	8.203	8.220	8.170
China	5.086	5.219	5.425	5.604	5.681	5.767	6.134	6.260	6.360
Argentina	2.640	2.700	2.800	3.130	3.200	3.100	3.300	3.200	3.160
India	1.770	1.810	1.960	2.130	2.250	2.375	2.500	2.655	2.790
Mexico	1.925	1.930	1.950	2.099	2.125	2.175	2.202	2.253	2.293
Australia	2.049	2.089	2.073	2.081	2.102	2.183	2.172	2.100	2.070
Russia	1.760	1.740	1.670	1.590	1.525	1.430	1.370	1.330	1.300
Canada	1.262	1.294	1.184	1.496	1.523	1.391	1.279	1.270	1.260

Source: US Department of Agriculture, Foreign Agricultural Service November 2008

The Brazilian Ministry of Agriculture is forecasting of a 93 per cent increase in exports over the next 10 years (MLA Market News 13 March 2009). However, the forecast may not be fully realised because the global economic slow down has caused the Brazilian processing sector serious financial problems.

Australia's beef production is forecast to fall marginally in 2008-09 to about 2.070 million tonnes because of a decline in the number of cattle available for slaughter. However in 2009-10 slaughterings are forecast to increase by one percent to 8.8 million head. This assumes there will be more young cattle available for slaughter, particularly toward the end of 2009-10 (ABARE March 2009).

Table 6 shows Australian beef and veal production trends between 2003-04 and 2007-08. This table shows Queensland's continuing dominance as Australia's leading beef producing state.

Table 7 Australian beef and veal production (tonnes carcase weight) - Fiscal Year Totals

Fiscal year	Australia	Queensland	New South Wales	Victoria	Northern Territory	South Australia	Western Australia	Tasmania
2002-03	2 027 612	977 602	473 956	354 894	11 204	86 160	88 974	44 819
2003-04	2 032 944	978 965	416 201	376 396	1 168	86 987	116 815	56 403
2004-05	2 161 956	1 049 861	453 661	374 618	1 188	93 227	131 656	57 746
2005-06	2 077 073	1 057 194	424 487	341 323	1 187	83 695	113 567	55 616
2006-07	2 226 292	1 109 518	468 174	382 126	1 100	90 295	114 682	60 393
2007-08	2 154 925	1 042 292	463 081	388 071	1 068	81 097	121 687	57 628

Source: Meat and Livestock Australia (February 2009).

Beef consumption

During the last 10 years, world beef consumption has increased from about 53 million tonnes to close to 60 million tonnes per annum. Over that period world population has increased by 800 million, yet per capita consumption has remained stable at about 9 kilograms per annum.

The greatest factor contributing to increasing world consumption is thought to be increased living standards and incomes in developing countries. Per capita consumption in the developed countries has stabilised during the last 10 years.

As living standards continue to improve in developing countries, and the world's population continues to grow, total beef consumption will continue to increase. However, growth in world annual beef production has slowed and remained stable at around 60 million tonnes over the last four years.

Per capita beef consumption in Queensland's key export markets in 2008 was:

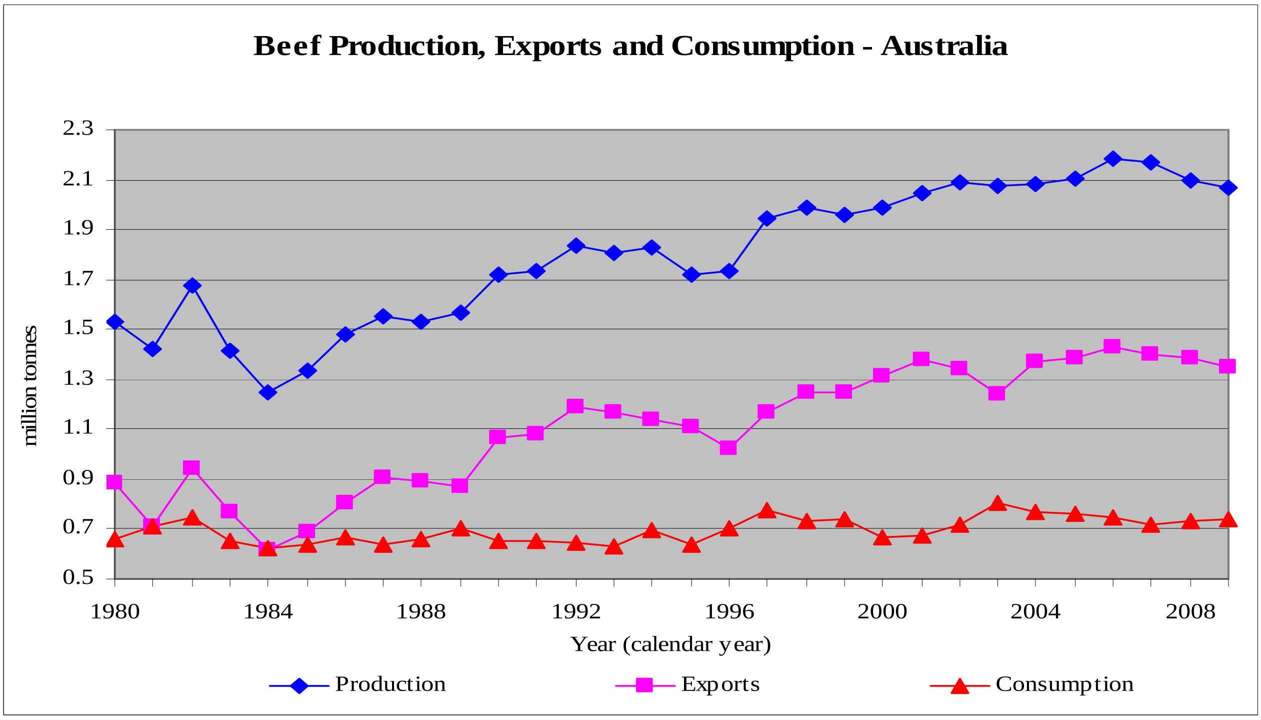
- Japan (9.3 kilograms)
- Republic of Korea (49 kilograms)
- US (42 kilograms) per year
- Russia (17 kilograms)
- Taiwan (4.5 kilograms).

During the last decade, while domestic consumption stayed close to 700 000 tonnes, exports have risen from about 900 000 tonnes to more than 1.3 million tonnes, and production has increased from a little over 1.5 million tonnes to around 2.1 million tonnes.

Strong export demand has enabled Australia's beef industry to take advantage of overseas markets rather than relying only on the domestic market, which is not growing anywhere near as much as export markets.

Figure 9 illustrates the trends in Australian beef production relative to exports and domestic consumption.

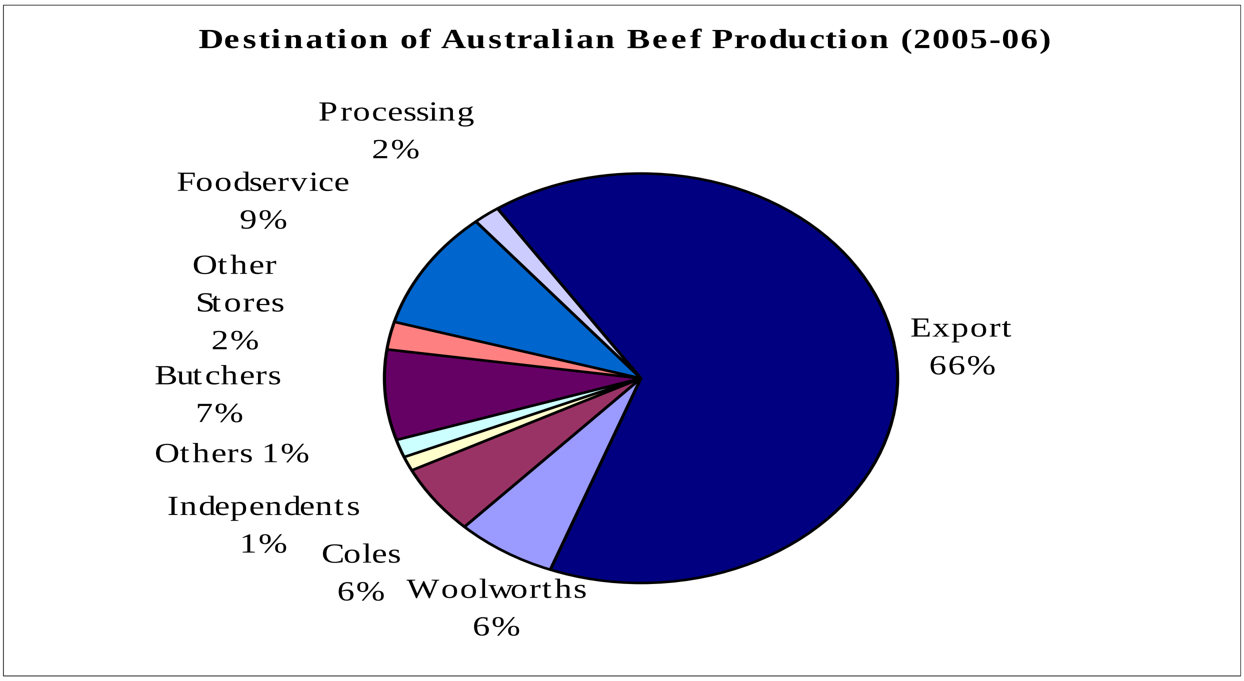
Figure 9 Australian beef production, exports and consumption trends



Source: USDA (October 2008)

Figure 10 provides a useful guide as to how beef is utilised in the domestic market.

Figure 10 Destination of Australian beef production



Source: ACCC (February 2007).

Table 7 provides a comparison of changes in per capita meat consumption in the Australian domestic market for beef and veal, lamb and mutton, pig meat and chicken meat between 2000 and 2007.

Table 8 Comparison of per capita (kg) and total consumption (kt) of different meats in Australia

Calendar year	**Beef & veal**		**Lamb & mutton**		**Pig meat**		**Chicken meat**	
	Per capita	Total consumed	Per capita	Total consumed	Per capita	Total consumed	Per capita	Total consumed
2000	37.7	726	18.3	243	19.8	381.1	32.9	633.9
2001	34.5	674	16.7	227.8	18.8	366.5	32.3	631.3
2002	36.9	729	15.4	221.6	20.7	408.4	35.8	708.5
2003	37.7	754	13.5	207.3	22.1	442.6	34.6	692.2
2004	37.6	762	13.0	208.9	22.3	451.6	36.2	733.9
2005	36.7	755	13.0	205	23.8	488	37.7	773.7
2006	37.7	786	13.8	223.8	23.2	484.4	39.0	813.3
2007	37.6	797	14.6	246.5	25.7	543.7	38.7	820.2
%Change over 7 yrs	0%	10%	-20%	1%	30%	43%	18%	29%

Source: Extracted from ABARE Australian commodity statistics 2008, Tables 153, 162, 171 & 175

Table 7 clearly shows pig and chicken meat consumption growing much faster than beef consumption per capita. It also shows that the total consumption of chicken meat is larger than the total consumption of beef in the domestic market.

Beef product exports

In 2007-08, Queensland exported beef and veal to 63 countries. Of these, the top three export destinations made up 85 per cent of the total value of the state's beef exports. These three destinations were: Japan (about 48 per cent), the US (about 19 per cent) and South Korea (about 18 per cent).

Table 9 Queensland's top three beef and veal export destinations (by value)

Country	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
	$m	$m	$m	$m
Japan	1 578	1 484	1 408	1 287
USA	807	704	698	512
Republic of Korea	277	388	532	478

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (unpublished trade data February 2009)

Table 9 provides a comparison of the values of Australia and Queensland's beef commodities exports in 2007-08.

Table 10 Comparison of Queensland and Australian exports – beef commodities (2007-08)

Beef commodity	Queensland ($m)	Australia ($m)	% share
Beef and veal (chilled and frozen)	2 698.5	4 414.0	61.1%
Live Cattle	40.2	540. 7	7.4%
Offal (chilled and frozen)	230.4	416.2	55.4%
Prepared/preserved	14.9	51.1	29.2%
Brine	0.1	2.1	2.7%
Total	2 984.1	5 424.1	55.0%

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (2008)

In 2007-08, the value of Queensland's live cattle exports was $40.2 million, a decrease from $48 million in 2006-07. This was still higher than 2004-05 ($32 million) and 2005-06 ($25 million).

The Northern Territory is Australia's largest exporter of live cattle, and many Queensland cattle are exported out of the Northern Territory.

Indonesia (58 per cent) is Queensland's largest live cattle export market followed by Japan (34 per cent) and then Malaysia (7 per cent). Queensland also exported some live cattle to the Philippines, New Zealand and Brunei in 2007-08.

Queensland's top three markets for offal (chilled and frozen) in 2007-08 were Japan ($125.7 million), the Republic of Korea ($39.1 million) and Russia ($15.6 million).

Queensland's top three markets for prepared/preserved beef in 2007-08 were China ($8 million), Japan ($1.4 million) and the Republic of Korea ($1 million).

Trade outlook

The industry faces the challenge of lower world economic growth and recession in key export markets. These new conditions will test the flexibility of the industry, especially the processing sector.

Generally speaking, agriculture is likely to be one of the least affected areas by the global economic slowdown. However, it is expected that the world economic slowdown will weaken demand for expensive food items and specific cuts of beef. Declining incomes are expected to force consumers to switch to cheaper foods.

At the production level, Queensland's beef industry is recovering from several years of drought in some areas and the affects of monsoonal flooding and tropical cyclones in northern and western Queensland. The drought did not cause any significant decline in Queensland's cattle herd, but the recent flooding and disruptions to cattle supplies because of heavy rainfalls in January and February 2009 have made current estimates of cattle numbers difficult.

It is likely that flood affected areas in the Gulf Region of Queensland have suffered severe stock losses, especially younger cattle and calves. Next season's calf crop is also likely to be down in the badly affected flood areas because the females will have lost condition and this will impact on reproductive fertility. The full impact of the floods will not be known until the third or fourth quarter of the year.

Typically as seasons improve, particularly after droughts, producers will enter a phase of herd rebuilding, restricting cattle supply and putting upward pressure on cattle prices. If producers withhold cattle more than in normal years, processors will be forced to offer higher prices to draw out adequate supplies of cattle for slaughter. However, tough economic times in major export markets may lead to buyers resisting price increases.

The outlook depends a lot on how well beef importing countries can insulate themselves from the global economic slowdown. There are signs that a lower Australia dollar is not doing as much as previously to maintain buyer interest in key beef export markets. The hope is demand will grow from South East Asia, China and Eastern Europe, and that these countries will remain recession free to offset poor economic conditions in the US, Japan and the Republic of Korea as these countries' economies are not expected to recover in 2009-10.

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Key statistics for Queensland's beef industry

Table 11 Number of specialised beef cattle Enterprises (at 30 June)

Year	Queensland	Share	Australia
2000	11,458	32.5%	35,236
2005	12,136	33.7%	35,979
2007	14,274	31.8%	44,914

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics cat. no. 7123.3.55.001 (count of feedlots is at 30 June 2006)

Table 12 Gross Value of Production (cattle and calves slaughtered)

Year	Queensland	Share	Australia
	$m	$m	$m
2002-03	2,878	44.9%	6,411
2003-04	3,071	46.1%	6,659
2004-05	3,616	46.2%	7,829
2005-06	3,675	47.8%	7,683
2006-07	3,816	55.8%	6,500
2007-08	3,388	45.5%	7,436
2008-09f	3,390	n.a.	n.a.

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics cat. no. 7501 February 2009 QPI&F estimate

Table 13 Beef cattle herd at 30 June 2008 (million head)

Year	Queensland	Share	Australia
2003	10.7	40.1%	26.7
2004	11.5	41.8%	27.5
2005	11.6	41.7%	27.8
2006	11.8	45.2%	26.0
2007	11.4	45.1%	25.4
2008	12.0	47.5%	25.3

Source: Australian Bureau of Statistics Principal Agricultural Commodities cat. no. 7111.0 2007-08

Table 14 EYCI (average, maximum and minimum prices-c/kg)

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09
Average	364.58	374.45	326.56	318.26	340.28
Max	398.00	416.75	381.75	347.75	363.50
Min	317.25	340.25	265.25	272.50	313.00

Source: Meat and Livestock Australia

Table 15 Australian cattle on feed (number of head)

Quarter	Australia	Queensland	New South Wales	Victoria	South Australia	Western Australia
Mar-08	604 026	277 159	206 900	38 398	24 291	57 278
Jun-08	685 756	358 704	227 150	42 814	19 151	37 937
Sep-08	622 689	376 126	196 219	27 923	17 311	5 110
Dec-08	719 379	426 022	208 174	38 395	22 247	24 541

Source: Meat and Livestock Australia/ Australian Lotfeeders Association quarterly feedlot survey.

Table 16 Queensland feedlot Activity (quarterly survey data)

	Dec-07	Mar-08	Jun-08	Sep-08	Dec-08
Capacity (head)	551 567	565 010	527 927	543 844	600 370
Numbers on feed (head)	292 990	277 159	358 704	376 126	426 022
Utilisation	53%	49%	68%	69%	71%

Source: Meat and Livestock Australia/ Australia Lotfeeders Association quarterly feedlot survey

Table 17 Cattle and calves slaughtered (thousands of head)

Year	Queensland	Change of last year	Queensland share of total	Australia
2002-03	3 515	0.0%	43.5%	8 083
2003-04	3 564	1.4%	46.0%	7 753
2004-05	3 690	3.5%	46.2%	7 986
2005-06	3 647	-1.2%	48.1%	7 580
2006-07	3 831	5.1%	46.9%	8 162
2007-08	3 593	-6.2%	45.3%	7 932

Source: Meat and Livestock Australia

Table 18 Australian adult cattle slaughter (thousand head) - Fiscal Year Totals

Year	Australia	Queensland	NSW	Victoria	Northern Territory	South Australia	Western Australia
2003-04	7 753	3 564	1 616	1 557	5	343	463
2004-05	7 986	3 690	1 700	1 516	5	359	511
2005-06	7 580	3 647	1 590	1 381	5	325	434
2006-07	8 162	3 831	1 750	1 567	5	342	449
2007-08	7 934	3 593	1 788	1 533	5	313	487

Source: Meat and Livestock Australia

Table 19 Beef and veal production (tonnes)

Year	Queensland	Change of last year	Queensland share of total	Australia
2002-03	951 000	-2.7%	45.88%	2 073 000
2003-04	979 000	2.9%	48.16%	2 033 000
2004-05	1 050 000	7.2%	48.57%	2 162 000
2005-06	1 057 000	0.7%	50.89%	2 077 000
2006-07	1 109 000	4.9%	49.82%	2 226 000
2007-08	1 042 000	-6.1%	48.38%	2 154 000

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (unpublished trade data February 2009)

Table 20 Beef and veal exports (millions of dollars)

Year	Queensland	Change of last year	Queensland share of total	Australia
2002-03	2 402	-1.4%	61.7%	3 882
2003-04	2 367	-1.4%	60.6%	3 907
2004-05	2 884	22.1%	59.4%	4 857
2005-06	2 839	-1.6%	62.9%	4 514
2006-07	2 706	-4.7%	60.2%	4 492
2007-08	2 699	-0.3%	61.1%	4 414

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (unpublished trade data February 2009)

Table 21 Queensland's top five export destinations (by volume)

Country	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Japan	48.3%	47.0%	45.1%	44.4%
USA	34.6%	30.6%	28.1%	21.9%
Republic of Korea	10.0%	13.9%	17.2%	17.6%
Russia	0.2%	0.4%	0.6%	4.4%
Taiwan	2.8%	3.5%	3.3%	3.2%

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (unpublished trade data February 2009)

Table 22 Queensland's top five export destinations (by value)

Country	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08
Japan	54.7%	52.3%	48.0%	47.7%
USA	27.9%	24.8%	23.8%	19.0%
Republic of Korea	9.6%	13.7%	18.2%	17.7%
Russia	0.1%	0.4%	0.6%	3.6%
Taiwan	2.8%	3.6%	3.0%	2.7%

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (unpublished trade data February 2009)

Table 23 Live cattle exports (millions of dollars)

Year	Queensland	Queensland share of total	Australia
2002-03	135	23.9%	564.4
2003-04	35.5	11.3%	313.9
2004-05	32.1	6.9%	464.0
2005-06	25.3	6.2%	404.0
2006-07	48.4	9.7%	496.9
2007-08	40.6	7.5%	540.3

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (unpublished trade data February 2009)

Table 24 Queensland live cattle exports (millions of dollars - top destinations)

Year	Indonesia	Japan	Malaysia
2004-05	12.4	14.9	0.0
2005-06	9.1	14.8	0.6
2006-07	29.7	13.1	1.8
2007-08	23.6	13.9	2.8

Source: Queensland Office of Economic and Statistical Reporting (unpublished trade data February 2009)