



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TONY WINDSOR MP
INDEPENDENT
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Shop 5
259 Peel Street
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

All Mail: PO Box 963
TAMWORTH NSW 2340

Ph: (02) 6761 3080

Toll Free: 1300 301 839

Fax: (02) 6761 3380

e-mail: Tony.Windsor.MP@aph.gov.au

Web Page: www.tonywindsor.com.au

MEDIA RELEASE

28 April 2008

Wheatgrower Poll Results

Only 14% want change from Single Desk

Single desk has higher approval rating than PM

Only 14% of Australian wheatgrowers support the Government's proposed changes to bulk wheat export marketing system away from a single desk structure to a multi-license system according to a poll undertaken by the Independent Member for New England, Tony Windsor.

Mr Windsor asked Australia's 20,000 plus wheat growers whether they supported a "Single Desk" structure or whether they supported the multi-licensing system proposed by the Government or whether they wanted full deregulation of the market.

The result of Mr Windsor's poll shows that there has been little change in the attitude of wheat growers in the last twelve months as Mr Windsor did a poll in March 2007 which indicated that 82% of growers wanted to retain a single desk structure.

"Little has changed in wheat growers attitudes in the twelve months since the first poll I did in March 2007.

Still 80% of wheat growers want to retain a single desk structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat and I struggle to understand how the Government can justify the changes to the system.

So the message to the new Government is the same as the message that was given to the previous Government – that is, the great majority of wheat growers, small and large from across Australia want a single desk bulk wheat exporting system retained.

Growers feel a single desk structure has served Australian wheat growers well for 60 years and could continue to provide these people with security and marketing strength not available to them as individuals if the Government listens to the majority of wheat growers and reviews its legislation.

Collective bargaining was a central plank of the Government's changes to work choices legislation and the 'single desk' system comes from exactly the same philosophical position," Mr Windsor said.

../2

For further information contact Tony Windsor, Ph (02) 6761 3080 or 0427 66 8868

Mr Windsor is again urging Mr Rudd to do as he suggested the previous Howard Government to do when he visited wheat growers in Tamworth in March 2006 when he said, “I think if the Howard Government is fair dinkum about finding out what wheat farmers want, what they should be doing is polling all wheat farmers’.

“I urge Mr Rudd to do his own poll before making a final decision.

“To continue to impose the proposed changes would be like Kevin Rudd declaring the Monarchists the winners in the Republic debate after one hand went up at the 2020 Summit or to look at it another way, with 80% support, a single desk structure actually has a higher approval rating than Kevin Rudd at 70% so it’s very hard to justify its scrapping,

“I therefore implore the Government to listen to the vast majority of wheat growers and maintain a ‘single desk structure’ so that Australia can continue to compete in the world market, as corrupt as it is,” Mr Windsor said.

POLL RESULT HIGHLIGHTS

* Single desk structure support	80%
* Multi licence system (Govt proposed changes)	14%
* Total Deregulation	6%
* Statistical Confidence level	95%
* NSW support for single desk structure	87%
* Western Australia support for single desk structure	71%
* Only 22% of Western Australian farmers are in favour of the Government’s proposal	
* Only 8% of NSW Farmers are in favour of the Government’s proposal (Less than Brendan Nelson’s approval rating)	

IMPORTANTLY

62% of growers over 5,000 tonnes support a single desk with 23% supporting the Government’s legislation.

Wheat Growers' Export Marketing Study



PARLIAMENT OF AUSTRALIA
HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

TONY WINDSOR MP
INDEPENDENT
FEDERAL MEMBER FOR NEW ENGLAND

Report Generated
2pm, 24th April 2008

CONFIDENTIAL

Project Number: TW002



<i>Page</i>	<i>Description</i>
3	Survey Methodology
4	Research Confidence
5 - 8	Tables of Key Findings <i>Total Focus</i>
9 - 13	Tables of Key Findings <i>Aligned Individual State</i>
14 - 17	Tables of Key Findings <i>General Comments</i>



Wheat Growers Export Marketing Study

Rural Press Marketing Services is pleased to deliver the results of the *Wheat Growers Export Marketing Study, April 2008*.

METHODOLOGY

The Wheat Growers Export Marketing Study was conducted via postal interviews to 20,845 wheat growers, utilising the Rural Press Marketing Services farmers database.

2,897 wheat growers returned postal interview sheets by fax and / or post. Of this, 28 interviews were removed due to duplication, as each wheat grower could only present one interview. A further 50 wheat growers returned their forms without indicating an their preferred option – these growers have been removed from the base sample.

The final sample of 2,819 wheat growers who accepted to complete the survey, supplied this study with the following demographic breakdowns -

Respondents State							
Total	QLD	NSW/ACT	VIC	TAS	SA/NT	WA	No response
2,819	155	1,043	367	10	663	569	12
100.0%	5.50%	37.00%	13.02%	0.35%	23.52%	20.18%	0.43%

Respondents Age						
Total	Under 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	No response
2,819	51	310	612	906	903	114
100.00%	1.81%	11.00%	21.71%	32.14%	32.03%	4.04%

Level of wheat production of respondents					
Total	0-500t	501-1000t	1001-5000t	Over 5001t	No Response
2,819	801	695	1,082	147	101
100.00%	28.41%	24.65%	38.38%	5.21%	3.58%

Have read the Government's proposed changes			
Total	Yes	No	No Response
2,819	1,623	963	238
100.0%	57.57%	34.16%	8.44%

All the information available within the 'Tables of Key Findings' area of this report has been strategically aligned or cross-referenced using all of the demographic parameters listed.

A rounding error of $\pm 1\%$ may be evident in the data within the 'Tables of Key Findings'



CONFIDENCE INTERVAL

The total research sample of 2,819, will give this study a **1.7% confidence interval** at a **95% confidence level** based on 20,845 distributed survey forms in Australia.

This is basically saying that if you conducted the same survey 100 times, 95 out of the 100 wheat growers should yield results within $\pm 1.7\%$ of the published number or percentage.

To create a **99% confidence level** the following results will have a confidence interval of 2.3%.

ACTUAL RESPONDENT vs. AUSTRALIAN GRAIN GROWERS

	Total	QLD	NSW/ACT	VIC	TAS	SA/NT	WA
Grower Numbers	20,845	2,046	6,646	3,545	206	4,632	3,770
Survey Respondents	2,819	155	1043	367	10	663	569
Percentage of respondents vs. Aust. grain growers	13.52%	7.58%	15.69%	10.35%	4.85%	14.31%	15.09%

Should you require any further information or clarification in regard to any information contained within this report, please contact

Scott Carpenter

Rural Press Marketing Services
123 Greenhill Road
UNLEY SA 5061

p: 08 8372 5234
m: 0408508081
e: scott.carpenter@ruralpress.com



Which option best represents your views?

Split by State

	Total	State						Unknown
		QLD	NSW	VIC	TAS	SA	WA	
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	2,262 80.2%	114 73.5%	916 87.8%	301 82.0%	9 90.0%	506 76.3%	406 71.4%	10 83.3%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	420 14.9%	25 16.1%	92 8.8%	47 12.8%	- -	128 19.3%	127 22.3%	1 8.3%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	146 5.2%	16 10.3%	36 3.5%	20 5.4%	1 10.0%	35 5.3%	37 6.5%	1 8.3%
Total	2,819 100.0%	155 100.0%	1,043 100.0%	367 100.0%	10 100.0%	663 100.0%	569 100.0%	12 100.0%



Which option best represents your views?

Split by Production

	Production				
	0-500t	501-1000t	1001-5000t	Over 5000t	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	672 83.9%	588 84.6%	837 77.4%	92 62.6%	78 77.2%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	101 12.6%	86 12.4%	187 17.3%	34 23.1%	14 13.9%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	31 3.9%	22 3.2%	63 5.8%	21 14.3%	9 8.9%
Total	801 100.0%	695 100.0%	1,082 100.0%	147 100.0%	101 100.0%



Which option best represents your views?

Split by Age

	Age					No response
	Under 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	37 72.5%	245 79.0%	464 75.8%	711 78.5%	781 86.5%	94 82.5%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	9 17.6%	50 16.1%	107 17.5%	150 16.6%	99 11.0%	11 9.6%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	6 11.8%	15 4.8%	43 7.0%	48 5.3%	27 3.0%	9 7.9%
Total	51 100.0%	310 100.0%	612 100.0%	906 100.0%	903 100.0%	114 100.0%



Which option best represents your views?

Split by Have read the Government's proposed changes

	Read Changes		
	Yes	No	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	1,339 82.5%	737 76.5%	190 79.8%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	209 12.9%	178 18.5%	34 14.3%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	84 5.2%	48 5.0%	14 5.9%
Total	1,623 100.0%	963 100.0%	238 100.0%



State - Queensland

Which option best represents your views?

Split by Typical production size and by Age group

	Total	What is your typical level of wheat production?					Age Group					
		0-500t	501-1000t	1001-5000t	Over 5000t	No response	Under 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	114 73.5%	47 74.6%	26 86.7%	28 58.3%	9 90.0%	5 100.0%	3 100.0%	11 91.7%	20 71.4%	32 64.0%	45 77.6%	5 83.3%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	25 16.1%	11 17.5%	3 10.0%	11 22.9%	- -	- -	- -	- -	6 21.4%	11 22.0%	8 13.8%	- -
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	16 10.3%	5 7.9%	1 3.3%	9 18.8%	1 10.0%	- -	- -	1 8.3%	2 7.1%	7 14.0%	5 8.6%	1 16.7%
Total	155 100.0%	63 100.0%	30 100.0%	48 100.0%	10 100.0%	5 100.0%	3 100.0%	12 100.0%	28 100.0%	50 100.0%	58 100.0%	6 100.0%

	Read the Government's proposed changes		
	Yes	No	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	67 77.0%	40 75.5%	7 46.7%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	12 13.8%	8 15.1%	5 33.3%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	8 9.2%	5 9.4%	3 20.0%
Total	87 100.0%	53 100.0%	15 100.0%



State - New South Wales / ACT

Which option best represents your views?

Split by Typical production size and by Age group

	Total	What is your typical level of wheat production?					Age Group					
		0-500t	501-1000t	1001-5000t	Over 5000t	No response	Under 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	916 87.8%	284 91.3%	269 92.4%	300 85.2%	36 63.2%	27 84.4%	12 100.0%	91 87.5%	179 84.4%	294 88.3%	342 90.7%	30 81.1%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	92 8.8%	19 6.1%	17 5.8%	41 11.6%	12 21.1%	3 9.4%	- -	9 8.7%	20 9.4%	35 10.5%	26 6.9%	2 5.4%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	36 3.5%	8 2.6%	5 1.7%	12 3.4%	9 15.8%	2 6.3%	- -	4 3.8%	13 6.1%	5 1.5%	9 2.4%	5 13.5%
Total	1,043 100.1%	311 100.0%	291 100.0%	352 100.3%	57 100.0%	32 100.0%	12 100.0%	104 100.0%	212 100.0%	333 100.3%	377 100.0%	37 100.0%

	Read the Government's proposed changes		
	Yes	No	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	593 88.4%	264 87.1%	62 86.1%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	54 8.0%	30 9.9%	8 11.1%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	25 3.7%	9 3.0%	2 2.8%
Total	671 100.1%	303 100.0%	72 100.0%



State - Victoria / Tasmania

Which option best represents your views?

Split by Typical production size and by Age group

	Total	What is your typical level of wheat production?					Age Group					
		0-500t	501-1000t	1001-5000t	Over 5000t	No response	Under 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	310 82.2%	113 88.3%	85 84.2%	92 76.0%	10 83.3%	11 68.8%	2 66.7%	20 80.0%	69 80.2%	91 76.5%	122 91.0%	14 77.8%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	47 12.5%	12 9.4%	11 10.9%	20 16.5%	0 0.0%	4 25.0%	0 0.0%	2 8.0%	11 12.8%	20 16.8%	11 8.2%	3 16.7%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	21 5.6%	3 2.3%	5 5.0%	10 8.3%	2 16.7%	1 6.3%	1 33.3%	3 12.0%	6 7.0%	8 6.7%	2 1.5%	1 5.6%
Total	377 100%	128 100%	101 100%	121 100%	12 100%	16 100%	3 100%	25 100%	86 100%	119 100%	134 100%	18 100%

	Read the Government's proposed changes		
	Yes	No	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	195 87.1%	82 73.9%	33 78.6%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	18 8.0%	22 19.8%	7 16.7%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	12 5.4%	7 6.3%	2 4.8%
Total	224 100%	111 100%	42 100%



State - South Australia

Which option best represents your views?

Split by Typical production size and by Age group

	Total	What is your typical level of wheat production?					Age Group					
		0-500t	501-1000t	1001-5000t	Over 5000t	No response	Under 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	506 76.3%	170 75.6%	142 77.6%	173 76.5%	2 25.0%	20 83.3%	11 68.8%	62 75.6%	103 69.1%	172 77.8%	149 80.5%	21 84.0%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	128 19.3%	47 20.9%	35 19.1%	42 18.6%	4 50.0%	2 8.3%	3 18.8%	17 20.7%	34 22.8%	40 18.1%	33 17.8%	3 12.0%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	35 5.3%	11 4.9%	7 3.8%	13 5.8%	2 25.0%	2 8.3%	3 18.8%	3 3.7%	13 8.7%	11 5.0%	6 3.2%	1 4.0%
Total	663 100.9%	225 101.3%	183 100.5%	226 100.9%	8 100.0%	24 100.0%	16 106.3%	82 100.0%	149 100.7%	221 100.9%	185 101.6%	25 100.0%

	Read the Government's proposed changes		
	Yes	No	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	245 78.0%	212 71.9%	49 89.1%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	60 19.1%	66 22.4%	3 5.5%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	15 4.8%	17 5.8%	3 5.5%
Total	314 101.9%	295 100.0%	55 100.0%



State - Western Australia

Which option best represents your views?

Split by Typical production size and by Age group

	Total	What is your typical level of wheat production?					Age Group					
		0-500t	501-1000t	1001-5000t	Over 5000t	No response	Under 30	31-40	41-50	51-60	61+	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	406 71.4%	56 77.8%	63 72.4%	240 72.7%	35 58.3%	14 63.6%	9 52.9%	60 69.8%	92 67.6%	118 65.9%	119 82.6%	24 88.9%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	127 22.3%	12 16.7%	20 23.0%	73 22.1%	18 30.0%	4 18.2%	6 35.3%	22 25.6%	36 26.5%	44 24.6%	21 14.6%	2 7.4%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	37 6.5%	4 5.6%	4 4.6%	18 5.5%	7 11.7%	4 18.2%	2 11.8%	4 4.7%	9 6.6%	17 9.5%	4 2.8%	1 3.7%
Total	569 100.2%	72 100.0%	87 100.0%	330 100.3%	60 100.0%	22 100.0%	17 100.0%	86 100.0%	136 100.7%	179 100.0%	144 100.0%	27 100.0%

	Read the Government's proposed changes		
	Yes	No	No response
I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat	234 72.7%	137 68.8%	36 73.5%
I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.	65 20.2%	52 26.1%	10 20.4%
I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing	24 7.5%	10 5.0%	3 6.1%
Total	322 100.3%	199 100.0%	49 100.0%



Combined results for all open responses

Need to keep Single Desk	893
	61.5%
Can achieve best price for farmers	350
	24.1%
Government selling us out to over seas interests and big farmers	196
	13.5%
Guaranteed payment essential	130
	8.9%
Limit to fewer licenses	111
	7.6%
Need regulative authority to monitor delivery/quality standard	104
	7.2%
Concerned about extra costs to farmers	96
	6.6%
Get rid of Single Desk	84
	5.8%
Competition will allow better prices for grain	83
	5.7%
No information on all situations, very unclear what will happen	48
	3.3%
Stop procrastinating and make a decision so we can plan for future	23
	1.6%
	1,453
	100.0%



General Comments aligned by vote cast

I support a "Single Desk" structure for the marketing of Australia's bulk export wheat

Need to keep Single Desk	893
	74.9%
Can achieve best price for farmers	312
	26.2%
Government selling us out to over seas interests and big farmers	185
	15.5%
Guaranteed payment essential	103
	8.6%
Concerned about extra costs to farmers	85
	7.1%
Need regulative authority to monitor delivery/quality standard	70
	5.9%
No information on all situations, very unclear what will happen	38
	3.2%
Limit to fewer licenses	25
	2.1%
Competition will allow better prices for grain	11
	0.9%
Stop procrastinating and make a decision so we can plan for future	5
	0.4%
Get rid of Single Desk	0
	0.0%
	1,193
	100%



General Comments aligned by vote cast

I support a deregulated wheat marketing system where there is more than one marketer of export wheat (i.e. multiple licenses) but not full deregulation.

Limit to fewer licenses	84
	44.4%
Competition will allow better prices for grain	50
	26.5%
Get rid of Single Desk	33
	17.5%
Need regulative authority to monitor delivery/quality standard	30
	15.9%
Can achieve best price for farmers	25
	13.2%
Guaranteed payment essential	22
	11.6%
Stop procrastinating and make a decision so we can plan for future	12
	6.3%
Concerned about extra costs to farmers	8
	4.2%
Government selling us out to over seas interests and big farmers	8
	4.2%
No information on all situations, very unclear what will happen	7
	3.7%
Need to keep Single Desk	5
	2.6%
	189
	Total
	100.0%



General Comments aligned by vote cast

I support full deregulation of export wheat marketing

Get rid of Single Desk	52
	65.8%
Competition will allow better prices for grain	23
	29.1%
Can achieve best price for farmers	14
	17.7%
Guaranteed payment essential	6
	7.6%
Stop procrastinating and make a decision so we can plan for future	6
	7.6%
Need regulative authority to monitor delivery/quality standard	5
	6.3%
Limit to fewer licenses	5
	6.3%
Government selling us out to over seas interests and big farmers	4
	5.1%
No information on all situations, very unclear what will happen	3
	3.8%
Concerned about extra costs to farmers	3
	3.8%
Need to keep Single Desk	0
	0.0%
	79
	100%