



## **MEDIA RELEASE**

9 August 2016

### **Australian avocados' booming trade set to continue into 2017**

Australia produced its largest avocado crop ever in 2015-16, according to Avocados Australia's CEO John Tyas.

Mr Tyas said this year's crop of about 67,000 tonnes was up about 16 per cent on the previous year.

"Australia now has avocados growing in all states except for the Northern Territory which means avocados are being produced all year round," Mr Tyas said.

"The largest growing regions are in Queensland and Western Australia.

"The industry has worked hard to produce and market a premium and very healthy product for our households and as a result, avocados are becoming permanent fixtures in our daily food consumption.

"In 2016-17, Australia is forecasting to produce a similar volume to last year.

"Based on the latest crop forecasts, Australia's per capita consumption is likely to exceed 3.5kg per person in 2016-17.

"Our per capita consumption in 2014-15 and 2015-16 was about 3.2kg per person in both years – making Australians some of the largest consumers outside South America in the world," Mr Tyas said.

New Zealand is planning to increase its supply to Australia over this coming Spring/Summer to meet the increasing demand during this period. Hopefully this will ensure Australian households don't experience the retail price spike we had early this year.

Australia exported 1,546 tonnes in 2015-16, 20 per cent more volume than the previous year.

The value of these exports was more than 40 per cent higher, aided by the favourable exchange rate.

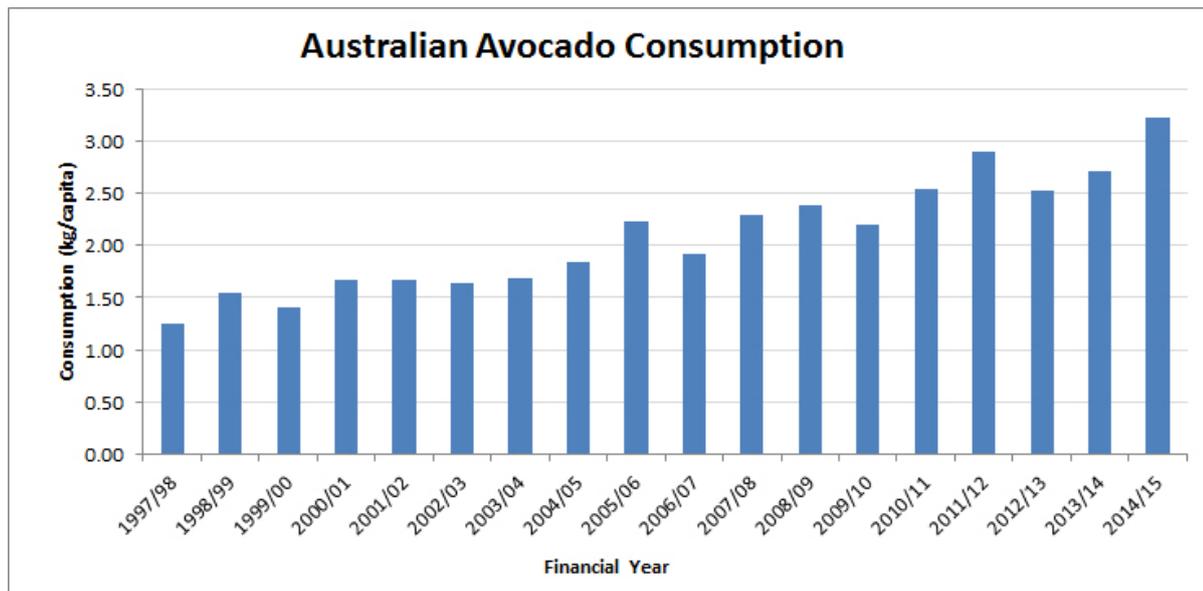
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**For more information contact:**

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*[See over for consumption per capita graph, Hass vs Shepard description and About Avocados Australia.]*

## Growth of Australian per capita consumption of avocados since 1997-1998



HASS		SHEPARD	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Classic oval shape</li> <li>• Distinctive pebbly textured skin</li> <li>• Changes colour as it ripens – green to purple black</li> <li>• Mostly available all year round</li> <li>• Creamy texture and taste</li> </ul>		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Longer and more elongated</li> <li>• Smooth glossy green skin</li> <li>• Always stays green</li> <li>• Available March to May</li> <li>• Nutty flavour and buttery texture</li> </ul>	

### About Avocados Australia

*Avocados Australia (AAL) is the representative industry body for the Australian avocado industry. We provide a range of services to our members and the broader industry to foster growth and development.*

*Avocados Australia is a “not for profit” member-based organisation and our members include avocado growers, associated businesses and industry people.*

*Avocados Australia seeks to work with all parts of the chain, from production through to the consumer. By working together we seek to continually improve the ability of growers to provide a healthy, profitable and safe product for all consumers.*

*As part of this continual improvement, an industry Research and Development Program and a Promotional Program for the Australian avocado industry is managed in conjunction with Horticulture Innovations Australia and a range of external service providers.*