



MEDIA RELEASE

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Australians are eating more avocados than ever

Australians ate about 86,000 tonnes of avocados in the past 12 months, cementing their place amongst the highest consumers of avocados in the English-speaking world.

Avocados Australia CEO John Tyas said based on the latest industry figures, Australians ate about 3.5kg of avocado per person in 2016/17, a significant jump from 3.2kg/person the previous year.

Mr Tyas said the increased consumption was driven by avocados making their way into avo lovers' shopping trolleys more regularly.

"People now know ways to use avocados at every meal, from the smashed avo at breakfast to avocado chocolate mousse for dessert, and that means they're also buying avocados more often," he said.

"It's also great news for farmers, as production levels are expected to continue to increase to more than 100,000 tonnes nationally within the next eight years.

"Australia produced 66,000 tonnes of avocados in 2016/17 and the Australian crop is forecast to reach a record of 75,000 tonnes in 2017/18."

Mr Tyas said the country's avocado producers were doing their best to ensure consumers had a year-round supply, although New Zealand still supplemented supply during the summer period with more than 20,000 tonnes imported last year.

"We now have avocados growing in all states and the wide range of climates where avocados are grown means consumers can find fresh, Australian avocados for sale year-round," he said.

Queensland and Western Australia continue to produce a majority of the crop (42,000 tonnes and 13,000 tonnes respectively in 2016/17). There were 1,500 tonnes from the Tamborine/Northern Rivers area, 5,500 tonnes from Central New South Wales, and 3,500 tonnes from the Tristate area (parts of Victoria, New South Wales and South Australia) in the same period.

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About Avocados Australia – www.avocado.org.au

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.