

Australian canola

Quality, safety and reliability

Australian canola is in high demand from international buyers and processors for its superior quality, food safety and reliability of supply.





Sought after globally

Australian canola is well known for producing one of the world's healthiest vegetable oils and is sought after as an environmentally sustainable feedstock for biofuel.

Geographically, Australia is well placed to supply the export markets of Asia with high-quality canola for oil and meal production. Buyers of Australian canola have access to both conventional and genetically modified (GM) product. Australia supplies almost 6mmt of canola (15–30% of the world's trade) to markets around the world each year, with Europe being the single largest market.

Canola production in Australia

Canola is Australia's major oilseed crop, mainly grown in Western Australia, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, with smaller amounts grown in Queensland and Tasmania. Production of canola in Australia has increased significantly, nearly doubling from 3.4mmt (average) in 2014 to an average of 7mmt per year (five-year average up to 2025-26).

GM canola in Australia

Genetically modified (GM) canola has been available for production in Australia since 2009, excluding Tasmania, the ACT and South Australia's Kangaroo Island, where only non-GM canola is grown. The majority of GM varieties were introduced for herbicide resistance.

Of the total amount of canola harvested in Australia, GM canola accounts for around 40-50% of the total crop.

The Australian industry supports market choice for both producers and buyers through strict segregation protocols, ensuring growers and end-users who require non-GM canola can access it with confidence.

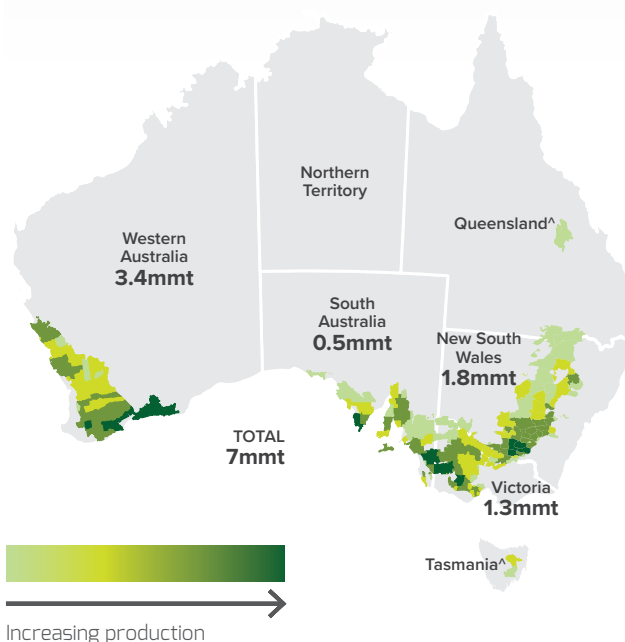
Industry standards and codes of practice

Canola is produced and delivered by Australian growers in accordance with strict receival and grade standards, ensuring the highest quality. The Australian Oilseeds Federation (AOF), Grain Trade Australia (GTA) and the Grain Industry Association of Western Australia (GIWA) publish grower delivery standards for Australian canola.



At a glance

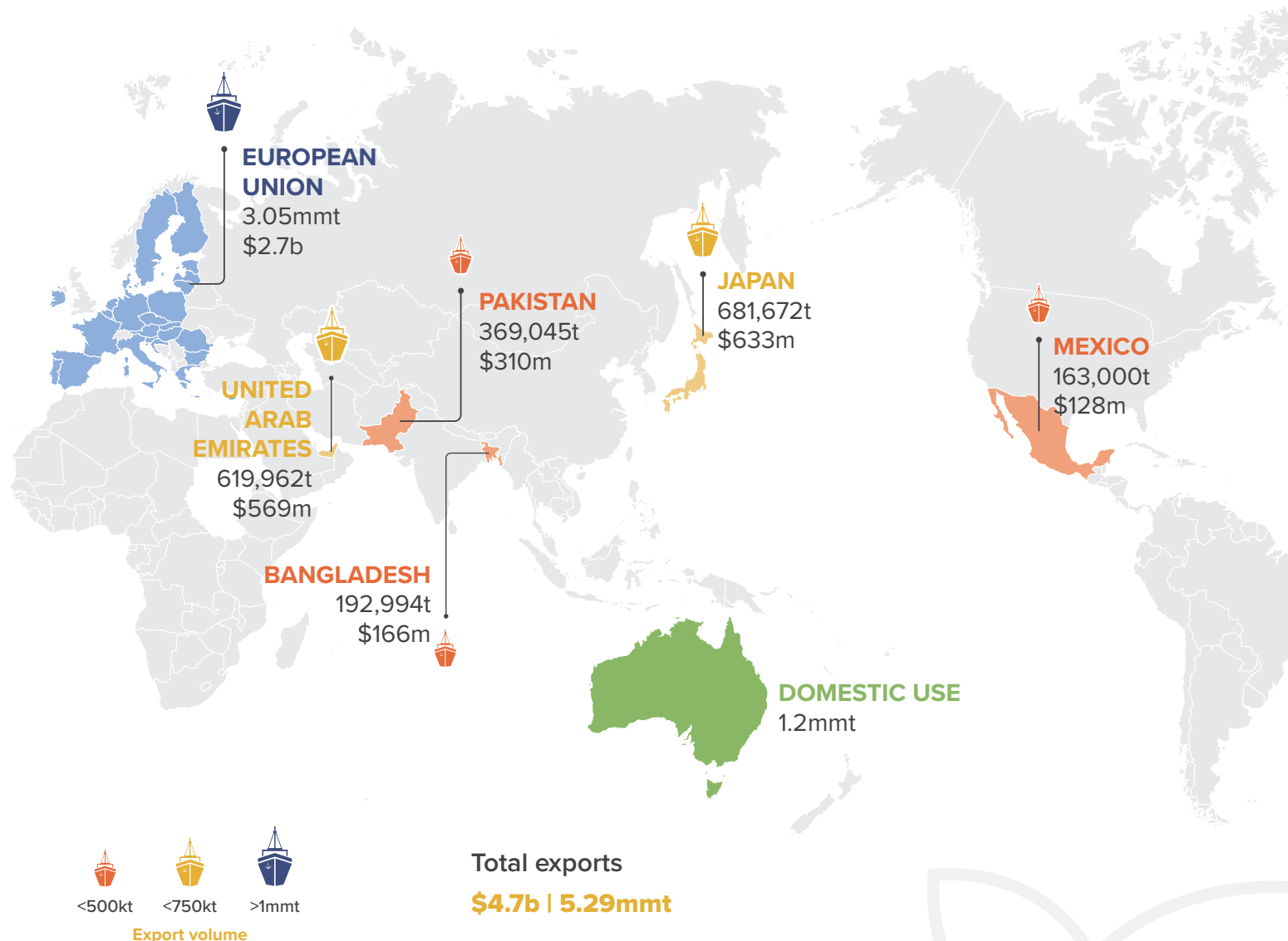
- Australian canola is sought after globally for its use as a high quality food-grade oil, for biofuel production and as a stock feed.
- Australian canola production and exports are on the rise, making up 15–30% of the world's export trade¹.
- Australian canola is grown using sustainable farming systems and can be certified as meeting sustainability criteria for market access to Europe for use in biofuel.



[^] Smaller amounts are also produced in Queensland and Tasmania
Source: ABARES (five-year average up to 2025-26)

¹ Source: UN Comtrade

Major markets for Australian canola



Sources: Exports based on ABS data, Domestic use based on ABARES data (five-year average up to 2024-25). \$ = AUD



The Australian canola export market is fully deregulated and seed can be exported in bulk and shipped in containers. All export shipments require certification by the Australian Government confirming the relevant importing country's phytosanitary conditions are met.

Australian canola is grown using sustainable farming systems and can be certified as meeting sustainability criteria for market access to Europe for use in biofuel, in accordance with the European Union Renewable Energy Directive.

Established markets and emerging opportunities, including China, are central to the ongoing growth and development of Australian canola exports.

End uses

Australia is the second largest exporter of canola globally and is a consistent, reliable supplier of canola to meet varying market requirements.

A healthy premium edible oil is extracted from canola seed. It is low in saturated fats, contains high levels of monounsaturated fatty acids and has the ideal balance of essential omega fatty acids. Canola oil is used in a range of products including margarines and shortening, cooking oils and salad dressings.

As the use of environmentally friendly fuels grows, canola is increasingly in demand for use in the biofuel industry. Its excellent performance under cold conditions provides an advantage over alternative vegetable oils.

Canola meal is a co-product of canola that is available after the seed has been crushed and the oil extracted. The high-quality protein meal provides a suitable protein source for cattle, poultry, swine and aquaculture diets; and as a fertiliser for soil nutrient enrichment. It has an excellent balanced amino acid profile and is high in essential vitamins and minerals.

Industry initiatives

Grains Australia's Oilseed Council provides strategic advice to the Grains Australia Board on oilseed industry matters including priorities and activities, strategic classification requirements, trade and market access issues, market insights, and market education requirements.

Grains Australia works with the Australian Oilseeds Federation (AOF), the peak industry body for the Australian oilseeds value chain and steward of the industry's strategic plan. AOF is committed to improving the industry's influence; encouraging innovation in market and product development; and developing grower capability and management practices. Complementing this work, AOF promotes the value of Australian seed, oil and meal and maintains the related standards and tools, fosters innovation, and supports the development of products aligned with evolving end-user needs.

The quality of Australian canola has benefited from close working relationships between research, government and industry representatives and from new varieties developed by specialised breeding companies.

This publication is supported by the Australian Oilseeds Federation (AOF).



A stronger, more competitive grains industry

Grains Australia works across the grains value chain to improve market access, align what markets need with what Australia provides, and build long-term value for growers, industry and customers.

We deliver this through five integrated functions:

- Trade and market access
- Classification
- Market insights and engagement
- Market education and training
- Technical market solutions

Together, these functions enable a "Team Australia" approach that translates market intelligence and industry priorities into coordinated action, strengthening customer confidence, supporting informed industry decision-making and positioning Australian grain for long-term success.

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