



MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE

POSTAL ADDRESS:  
BOX 4041, G.P.O.  
MELBOURNE, VIC. 3001

16 SEP 1982

Mr. K. Fitzgibbon,  
Secretary, Central Council,  
Commercial Egg Producers' Association  
of Victoria,  
STRATHFIELDSAYE, Vic. 3551

Dear Mr. Fitzgibbon,

I refer to your letter of 6th September, 1982.

In view of the drought situation very large quantities of wheat are being held at country silos and the normal bulk movement to the ports has ceased. Movements are limited to special requirements for particular contracts or for access to particular silos for construction and maintenance purposes.

As a result there is an adequate stock of wheat to meet the projected demands of drought feeding in addition to the requirements of traditional year-round users.

The stock position is continually under review as the demand can vary quite largely depending on further changes in the seasonal conditions and movements in livestock to slaughter and elsewhere for agistment and fattening.

As the demand from egg producers has also been subject to some fluctuations in past seasons it would assist the Australian Wheat Board in forward planning of the supply position if you could advise the Board's Victorian Manager, G.P.O. Box 4562, Melbourne of the total requirement of your members on a monthly tonnage basis for the 15 months to December 1983.

In addition to your specific advice the Department of Agriculture is engaged in broad scale monitoring of the availability of fodder and feed grains as a basis for advice to the Government and organisations such as the Australian Wheat Board on Victoria's total needs.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Eric Kent".

ERIC KENT  
MINISTER OF AGRICULTURE