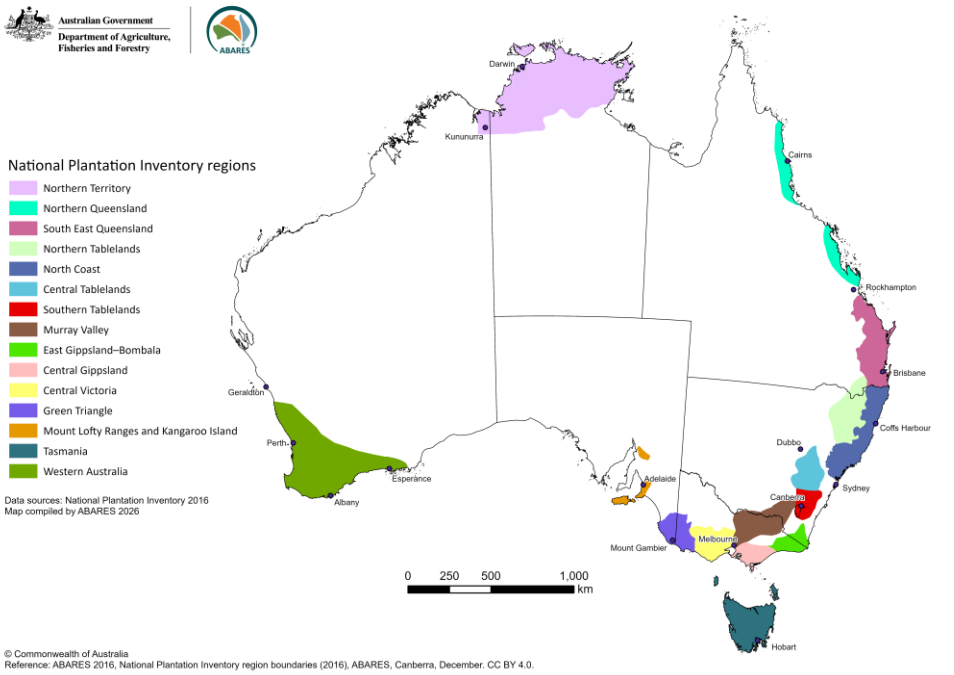


Resource title	National Plantation Inventory regions boundaries (2016) dataset Version 2
Graphic(s)	 <p>The graphic is a map of Australia divided into 15 distinct regions, each color-coded. A legend on the left lists the regions: Northern Territory (purple), Northern Queensland (cyan), South East Queensland (pink), Northern Tablelands (light green), North Coast (blue), Central Tablelands (teal), Southern Tablelands (red), Murray Valley (brown), East Gippsland-Bombala (green), Central Gippsland (orange), Central Victoria (yellow), Green Triangle (dark green), Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island (dark blue), Tasmania (dark teal), and Western Australia (light green). Major cities are marked with dots, and a scale bar at the bottom indicates distances up to 1,000 km. Logos for the Australian Government and ABARES are in the top left.</p>
Citation	ABARES 2026, <i>National Plantation Inventory Regions boundaries (2016) dataset Version 2</i> , Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, Canberra, October. CC BY 4.0
Digital object identifier (DOI)	https://doi.org/10.25814/3fa8-5356
Custodian	Australian Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry – Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES)
Jurisdiction	Australia
Contact organisation	ABARES
Address	GPO Box 858 Canberra ACT Australia 2601
Email	Info.ABARES@aff.gov.au
Summary	<p>The <i>National Plantation Inventory regions boundaries (2016) dataset</i> describes the boundaries of the 15 National Plantation Inventory (NPI) regions for Australia. The NPI is a component of the National Forest Inventory (NFI), managed by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES). This updated version removes a minor duplication in the dataset attribute table and data not directly related to the regional boundaries. No changes have been made to the NPI regions boundaries since 2016.</p>
Abstract	<p>The National Plantation Inventory (NPI) is a component of the National Forest Inventory (NFI), managed by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES).</p> <p>The National Plantation Inventory (NPI) regions were established by the Bureau of Resource Sciences (now ABARES) in 1995 to facilitate national reporting on Australia’s commercial (industrial) plantation estate regionally, as well as at state,</p>

	<p>territory and national levels. The boundaries were developed in consultation with the NPI Reference Committee which consisted largely of grower and industry representatives.</p> <p>The 15 NPI regions are largely based on the extant plantation estate and represent economic wood supply zones. Wood flows are not constrained by political borders, and thus six of the regions span state or territory borders: Northern Tablelands (New South Wales/Queensland); Southern Tablelands (Australian Capital Territory/New South Wales); Murray Valley (New South Wales/Victoria); East Gippsland/Bombala (Victoria/New South Wales); Green Triangle (Victoria/South Australia); and Northern Territory (Northern Territory/Western Australia).</p> <p>This dataset represents the date that the NPI regions boundaries were last modified (2016). The first compilation of spatial data for commercial plantations, reported by the NPI regions, was completed in 1996 with a map-based report published in 1997 (National Forest Inventory, 1997). An update to the regions boundaries occurred for the 2006 five-yearly spatial NPI report (Parsons et al. 2006) with the renaming of the Lofty Block NPI region to Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island to better reflect the geographic extent of the region; the expansion of the North Queensland NPI region to include additional plantations between Rockhampton and Mackay, effectively merging the central and southern areas; and the expansion of the Western Australia NPI region to encompass the Esperance region. The Northern Territory NPI region was expanded for the 2016 five-yearly spatial NPI report (ABARES 2016) to encompass existing and potential plantations in the Daly River area in the Northern Territory and the Ord River irrigation area in northeastern Western Australia.</p> <p>The NPI regions were designed to capture most of the plantation estate. However, commercial and farm forestry plantations can occur outside the currently defined NPI regions, in accordance with landholder decision making.</p> <p>NPI reporting of annual tabular (non-spatial) plantation statistics began in 1999, to complement the 5-yearly spatial updates, with reporting limited to state, territory and national levels. Validation and reporting by each NPI region is only possible in the comprehensive five-yearly spatial reports (Wood et al, 2001).</p> <p>The <i>National Plantation Inventory regions boundaries (2016) dataset</i> is used by the Australian Government for domestic reporting.</p>
Purpose	To facilitate national reporting on Australia’s plantation estate and wood flows.
ANZLIC search words	<p>FORESTS</p> <p>FORESTS Natural</p> <p>FORESTS Plantation</p> <p>FORESTS Production</p> <p>FORESTS Agroforestry</p> <p>BOUNDARIES Administrative</p>
Keyword(s)	<p>Australia</p> <p>Forest</p> <p>Forestry</p> <p>Plantation</p> <p>Farm forestry</p>

	NPI National Plantation Inventory region Forest industry
Sources used to generate this resource	ABARES (2016). <i>Australian plantation statistics 2016</i> , Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, Canberra, August. CC BY 3.0 National Forest Inventory (1997). <i>National Plantation Inventory of Australia</i> . Bureau of Resource Sciences, Canberra. Parsons M, Gavran M and Davidson J (2006). <i>Australia's plantations 2006</i> . Bureau of Rural Sciences, Canberra. Wood M, Stephens NC, Allison BK and Howell CI (2001). <i>Plantations of Australia 2001 – a report from the National Plantation Inventory and the National Farm Forestry Inventory</i> . National Forest Inventory, Bureau of Rural Sciences, Canberra.
Publication date	11 June 2026
Latest date of information/currency	17 August 2016
Data file name	NPI_regions_2016_v2
Stored data format	GIS files created using Esri ArcPro 3.5.0 software: Shapefile feature vector digital data
Compressed file size	645 KB
Geographic extent	Australia's mainland and close offshore islands, excluding external territories. North bounding Latitude: -8.2° South bounding Latitude: -44.4° East bounding Longitude: 157.2° West bounding Longitude: 109.5°
Scale 1: 250,000	Scale 1: 250,000
Spatial reference	ESPG:3577 GDA94 Australian Albers Coordinate system: GDA_1994_Albers False Easting: 0 False Northing: 0 Central meridian: 132° Standard parallels: -18°, -36° Latitude of origin: 0° Datum: D_GDA_1994
Positional accuracy	Horizontal: ±50 metres Vertical: not applicable
Attribute accuracy	Attributes are compiled exercising due care and skill. However, accuracy of attributes is in part dependent on the accuracy of data supplied to ABARES and therefore cannot be guaranteed.
Completeness	Dataset provides coverage of the fifteen National Plantation Inventory regions boundaries in Australia, listed in Appendix 1, as at date of publishing.
Update frequency	As required

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Access constraints	No restriction, nil cost.
Use constraints	<p>CC BY 4.0 permits:</p> <p>Share – users may copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format.</p> <p>Adapt – users may remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially.</p> <p>Attribution – users must give appropriate credit using the citation listed, provide a link to the licence, and indicate if changes were made. Users may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses the use.</p>
Disclaimer	<p>The Australian Government acting through the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, represented by the Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences, has exercised due care and skill in preparing and compiling the information and data in this publication. Notwithstanding, the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry, ABARES, its employees and advisers disclaim all liability, including liability for negligence and for any loss, damage, injury, expense or cost incurred by any person as a result of accessing, using or relying on any of the information or data in this publication to the maximum extent permitted by law.</p>
Metadata date	11 June 2026
Additional metadata	See Appendix 1 and Appendix 2

Appendix 1

Table 1: Name of National Plantation Inventory regions boundaries

National Plantation Inventory Region	Date of establishment	Notes
Western Australia	2006	Developed in 1996 as the south-west corner of Western Australia from east of Albany to a midpoint between Perth and Geraldton, it was extended to the east to encompass the Esperance region for the 2006 NPI reporting cycle.
Northern Territory	2016	Developed in 1996 as Northern Territory, this region was expanded in the 2016 NPI reporting cycle to encompass areas south of Darwin in the Northern Territory and in the Ord Valley in northeast Western Australia.
Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island	2006	Developed in 1996 as Lofty Block, this region was renamed Mount Lofty Ranges and Kangaroo Island to better reflect its geographical extent.
Green Triangle	1996	
Northern Queensland	2006	Developed in 1996 comprising three areas in North Queensland, this region was expanded in the 2006 NPI reporting cycle to include additional plantations between Rockhampton and Mackay, effectively merging the central and southern areas. The region is included in the shapefile as comprising two separate areas.
South East Queensland	1996	
Northern Tablelands (NSW)	1996	
North Coast (NSW)	1996	
Central Tablelands (NSW)	1996	
Southern Tablelands (NSW)	1996	
Murray Valley	1996	
Central Victoria	1996	
Central Gippsland	1996	
Bombala-East Gippsland	1996	
Tasmania	1996	

Appendix 2

Table 2: Data table description

Attribute name	Description
NPI_region	NPI region name
NPI_ID	Numeric identifier allocated to each NPI region. The two areas comprising North Queensland are represented by the NPI_ID 5, reflecting historic numbering.
REGCODE	Text code allocated to each NPI region, where North Queensland is represented by two areas with codes 5a and 5b, reflecting historic numbering

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