



We are now accepting email submissions. The form below must be filled out and attached in an email and sent to [ifoa.remake@epa.nsw.gov.au](mailto:ifoa.remake@epa.nsw.gov.au) If this form is not attached or incomplete the submission will be lodged as confidential and will not be published.

**Make a submission – Contact Details**

**First Name\*:** Ross

**Last Name\*:** Skinner

**Phone:**

**Mobile\*:** [REDACTED]

**Email\*:** [REDACTED]

**Postcode\*:** [REDACTED]

**Country\*:** Australia

**Stakeholder type (circle)\*:**

Community group	Local Government	Aboriginal group
Industry group	Other government	Forest user group
Environment group	Individual	Staff

**Other, please specify:**

**Organisation name:** Almond Board Australia

**What is your preferred contact method (circle):** Mobile, Email or phone? Email

**Would you like to receive further information and updates on IFOA and forestry matters?**  
Yes

**Can the EPA make your submission public\* (circle)?**

**Yes**    No    Yes, but anonymous

**Have you previously engaged with the EPA on forestry issues?**



**Make a submission – Form**

**1. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA are most important to you? Why?**

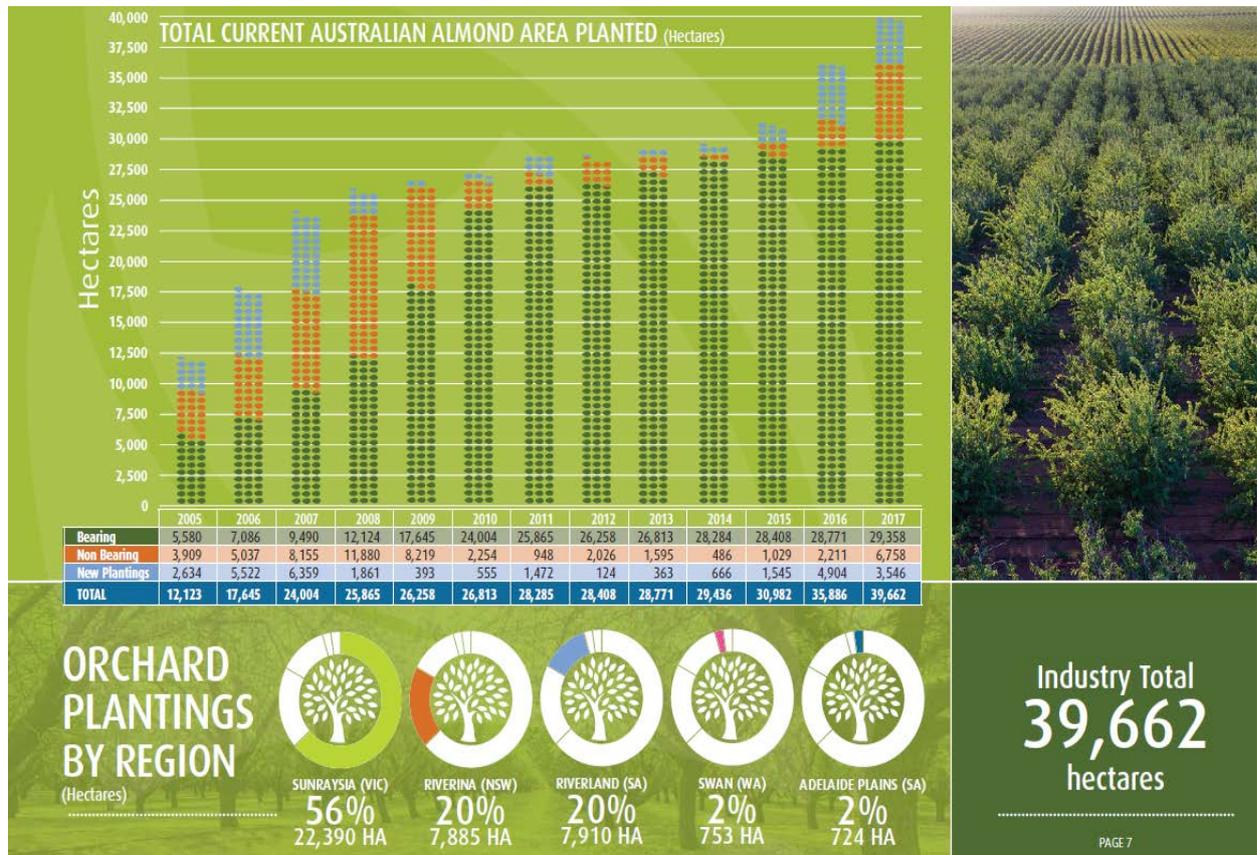
Timber Harvesting Limits.

**Pollination Dependent Industries Need to be Considered in Coastal IFOA**

The Almond Board of Australia, is gravely concerned that the changes to the conditions on timber harvesting in New South Wales will jeopardize the apiary industry which in turn will jeopardize the Australian almond industry and other pollination dependent industries.

The Almond Board of Australia represents the interest of 98% of Australian almond production through membership of growers, processors and marketers. The almond industry in 2017/18 had a farm gate value of \$650 million and with non-bearing and new plantings occurring the industry will in the near future generate farm revenue of in excess of \$1 billion, most of which will be earned on export markets as almonds continue to be Australia's most valuable horticultural export product.

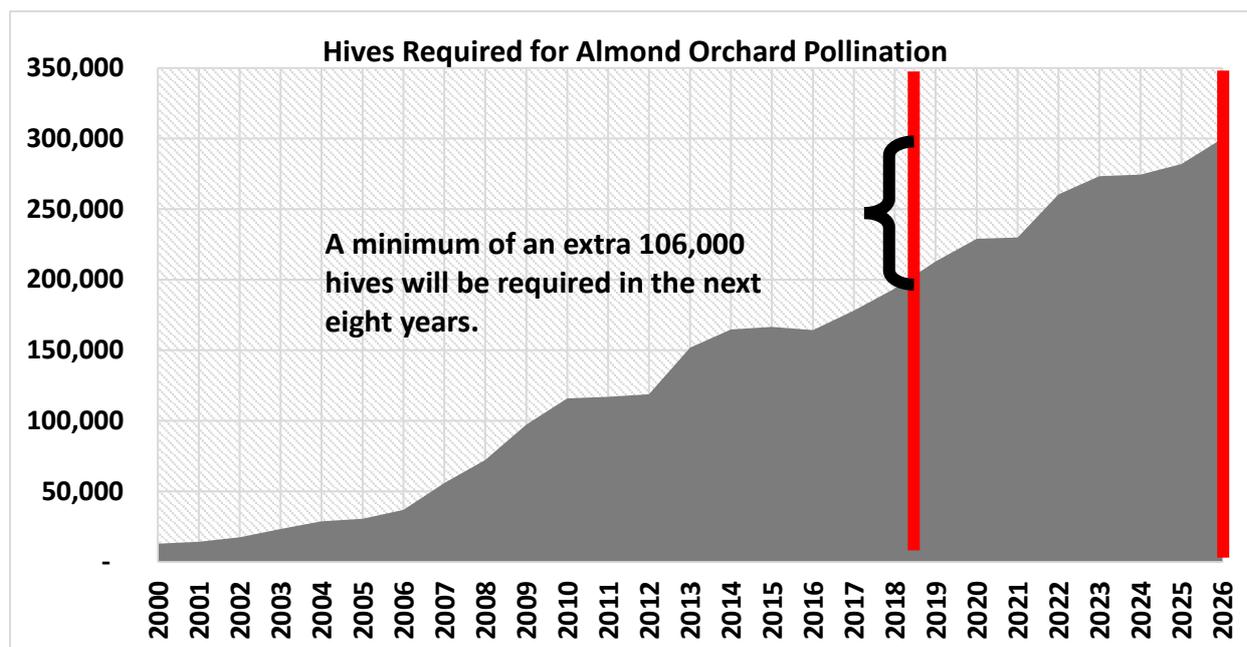
With more Australian almond orchards reaching full production and orchard plantings set to expand further, the almond industry is providing important economic support to the river Murray communities at threat from the loss of irrigation capacity resulting from the implementation of the Murray Darling Basin Plan.





The almond industry is growing rapidly in New South Wales with 7,885 hectares planted. There has been a doubling of NSW's percentage share of Australia's almond orchards since 2015 and this will continue to increase in future.

The orchard area in Australia is expected to reach 50,000 hectares by 2021. The almond industry is a totally pollination dependent industry drawing hives from along the Eastern seaboard and South Australia. The required number of European honey bee hives required for pollination will increase from the current level by 106,000 hives to 300,000 hives by 2026.



The surety of pollination services is a major concern and actions that threaten the size of the honey bee industry by reducing floral resources available to bee keepers will impact severely on the almond industry and other pollination dependent industries such as apple, pear, macadamias, citrus, summerfruit, melons, canola, to name some of the major ones.

The new conditions for timber harvesting need to ensure floral resources are maintained or preferably increased and not reduced which would have severe economic impacts for pollination dependent industries.



2. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a positive outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?

3. What parts of the draft Coastal IFOA do you think have a negative outcome on the management of environmental values or the production of sustainable timber? Why?

Harvesting of mature trees will reduce the volume of flowers impacting on the number of hives that can be sustained. This in turn will reduce available hives for pollination services impacting on the pollination dependent industries. The sustainability of other industries needs to be considered not just timber.

4. What are your views on the effectiveness of the combination of permanent environmental protections at the regional, landscape and operational scales (multi-scale protection)?

5. In your opinion, would the draft Coastal IFOA be effective in managing environmental values and a sustainable timber industry? Why?

6. General comments