

# Chapter A2. Summary of NSW vegetable production districts

## PURPOSE OF THIS CHAPTER

To give general information on where vegetables are grown in New South Wales

## CHAPTER CONTENTS

- summary of vegetable-growing districts

## ASSOCIATED CHAPTERS

- all chapters

## SUMMARY OF NSW VEGETABLE PRODUCTION DISTRICTS

Listed are the key vegetable-growing districts in New South Wales and their soil management problems.

### SUNRAYSIA

#### Crops

- melons
- asparagus
- lettuce
- broccoli

#### Problems

- sandy soils with low organic matter levels
- wind erosion and sand blasting
- poor irrigation practices, with nutrient run-off exceeding subsurface drainage

### RIVERINA – MIA

#### Crops

- potatoes
- processing tomatoes
- lettuce
- onions
- carrots
- cucurbits

### **Problems**

- high watertables and salinity
- structural degradation, especially with furrow irrigation, where yields cannot be sustained
- poor (usually excessive) irrigation practices
- nematodes in lighter soils, such as southern Riverina potato country

### **SLOPES AND TABLELANDS**

#### **Crops**

- potatoes
- brassicae, asparagus, sweet corn
- lettuce, peas, cucurbits

#### **Problems**

- erosion, nutrient loss
- soil degradation
- soil-borne diseases

### **SYDNEY BASIN**

#### **Crops**

- full range of fresh market vegetables, including Asian vegetables

#### **Problems**

- soil structural degradation through excessive cultivation
- waterway pollution from soil erosion and nutrient run-off
- isolated areas of extreme salinity
- excessive use of organic and inorganic fertilisers
- poor pesticide application techniques
- irrigation practices usually excessive and not uniform
- lack of farm planning
- cultural and ethnic diversity creates extension problems