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## Signposts for Australian Agriculture

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## Signposts for Australian Agriculture

- A partnership between
  - Industry
  - The Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
  - The National Land & Water Resources Audit
  - The Bureau of Rural Sciences
- To help industries, governments and the community understand the environmental, economic and social benefits and impacts of Australian agricultural industries.



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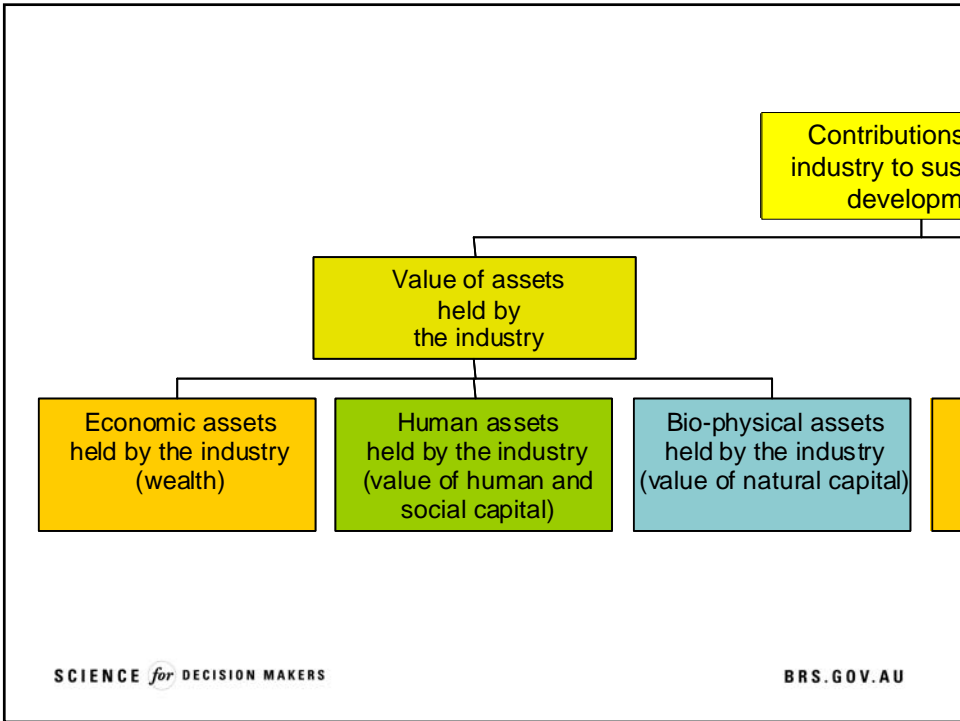
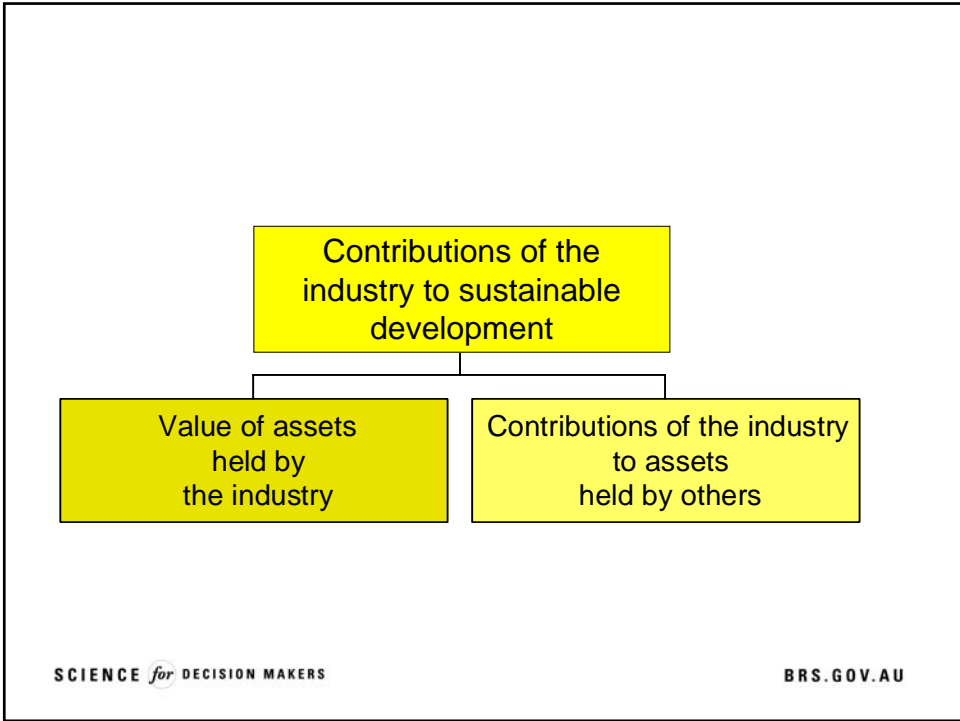
## The Signposts framework

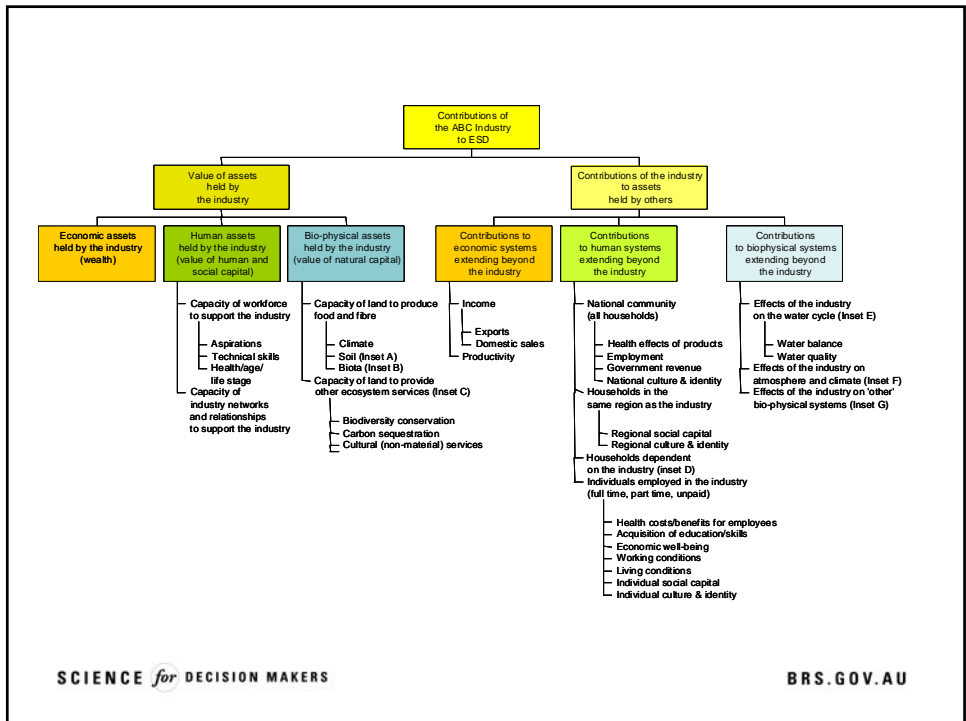
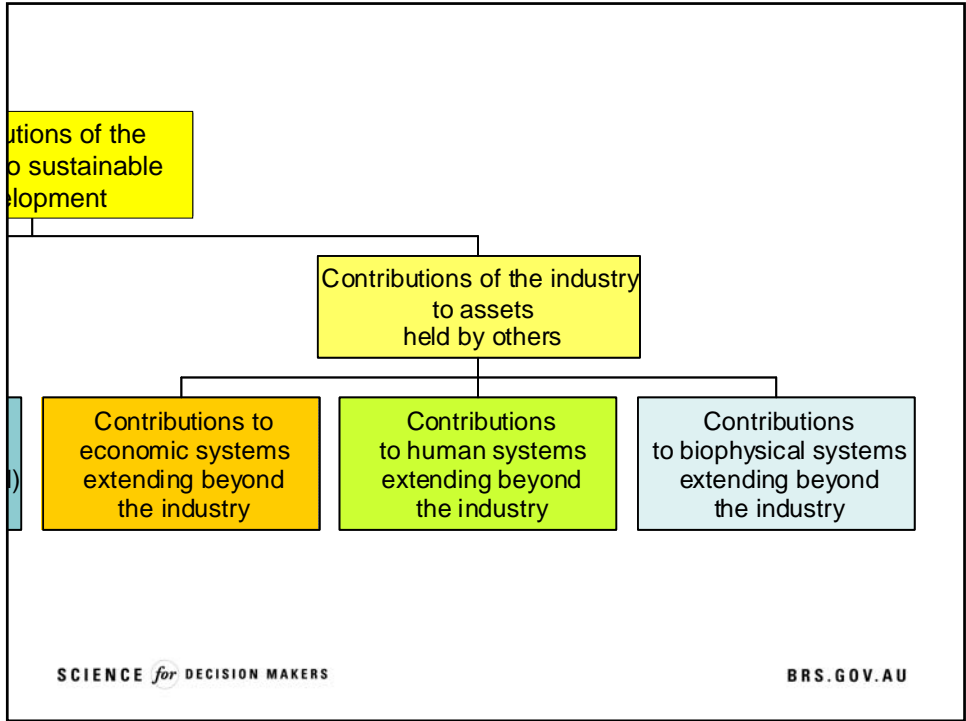
- **Subject**
  - An agricultural industry
- **Question**
  - How does the industry contribute to sustainable development?
- **Scope**
  - All contributions
    - Positive and negative
    - Social, economic and environmental
    - Long and short term

## Desired outcomes

We want agricultural industries that

- Maintain and enhance the value of the assets entrusted to them
- Contribute to the value of assets held by others by
  - Maintaining and increasing positive impacts
  - Decreasing and eliminating negative impacts







# Signposts for Australian Agriculture

Australian Government  
 Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
 Bureau of Rural Science

National Land & Water Resources Audit  
 A program of the Natural Heritage Trust

The Signposts for Australian Agriculture (Signposts) project is a partnership between Research and Development Corporations (RDCs), Governments and the National Land & Water Resources Audit (the Audit). It has continuing funding from the Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry to develop a consistent and credible framework for reporting on the contributions of Australia's agricultural industries to our total quality of life. The project is designed to provide quick and reliable directions for government and industry policy makers to:

- demonstrate and communicate industry performance
- identify challenges and opportunities
- better target policy interventions, research and development and data collection.

Click on the buttons below to navigate to an industry profile









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http://signposts4ag.com/signposts-horticulture/full-component-tree

## Signposts for Australian Agriculture

### Horticulture Industry Profile

working draft version for review only

[home](#) | [component tree](#) | [management practices](#)

you are here: [home](#) → [component tree](#)

navigation

- [Contributions of the horticulture industry](#)
- [Industry assets](#)
- [Others' assets](#)

About Signposts

About This Profile

Glossary

Management Practices

view | edit | properties | sharing

actions | add to folder | state

### component tree

Click on a component to view contents. last modified 2008-06-05 04:45

Contributions of the horticulture industry to ESD

- Value of assets held by the industry
  - Economic assets held by the industry (wealth)
    - Capacity of workforce to support the industry
      - Technical skills
      - Health/age/ life stage
    - Capacity of industry networks and relationships to support the industry
  - Human assets held by the industry (value of human and social capital)
    - Capacity of land to produce food and fibre
      - Soil
        - Soil salinity
        - Soil acidity
        - Soil nitrogen
        - Soil phosphorus
      - Genetic resources
      - Pests, weeds & diseases
    - Capacity of land to provide other services
      - Pests
      - Biodiversity conservation
  - Bio-physical assets held by the industry (value of natural capital)
    - Income
      - Exports
- Contributions of the industry to assets held by others
  - Contributions to economic systems extending beyond the industry
    - National community
      - Health effects of products
      - Employment
    - Regional community
      - National culture & identity
      - Regional social capital
    - Employees
      - Occupational health
  - Contributions to biophysical systems extending beyond the industry
    - Effects of the industry on the water cycle
      - Water balance
      - Extraction
      - Water quality
        - Surface water salinity
        - Groundwater salinity
    - Effects of the industry on atmosphere and climate
      - Greenhouse gas emissions

# For each component

- Description
- **Desired outcome**
- **Indicator**
- **Summary measure**
- Results
- Responses
- External drivers
- Comment section



Signposts for Australian Agriculture  
Grains Industry Profile
signposts version 1.6

you are here: home → industry assets → bio-physical assets → food, fibre production → soil → acidity
gnorton my folder preferences undo join

**Navigation**

- Contributions of the grains industry
- Contributions of the industry to economic systems
- Contributions of the industry to social systems
- Contributions of the industry to bio-physical systems

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Soil acidity
last modified 2009-06-10 09:43

Soil acidity affects availability of nutrients and toxic elements in the soil which can limit plant growth and agricultural production.

**more**

**Desired outcome**  
To maintain soil acidity at a suitable level for agricultural production.

**more**

**Indicator**  
Topsoil pH (from ASRIS dataset- NLWRA 2001)

**more**

**Summary measure**  
The proportion of land with topsoil pH above 5.5.

**more**

**Results**

**For this component**

Desired outcome

Indicator

Summary measure

Results

# Signposts for Australian Agriculture

## Dairy Industry Profile

working draft version for review only

Home | component tree | management practices

you are here: home → industry assets → bio-physical assets → food, fibre production → genetic resources → dairy cattle

### Dairy cattle genetic resources

The genetic resources available to the Australian dairy industry for the purpose of improved productivity.

**Desired outcome**  
To maintain or improve profitability of dairy cattle through improved milking performance in terms of protein and fat yield, maintained over a number of lactations.

**Indicator**  
Australian selection index (ASI).

**Summary measure**  
The summary measure takes the value of 1, if the indicator is positive, and 0, if the indicator is zero or negative.

**Results**

**For this component**

- Desired outcome
- Indicator
- Results
- Management practices / Responses
- Interactions with other components
- External drivers
- References
- How to cite this report
- Acknowledgements

# Signposts for Australian Agriculture

## Beef Industry Profile

working draft version for review only

Home | component tree | management practices

you are here: home → others' assets → human systems → employees → occupational health

### Occupational health

The impact of the industry on the health of individuals involved in the industry.

**Desired outcome**  
Negative impacts of the industry on health are reduced.

**Indicator**  
The number of accepted workers' compensation claims (excluding journey claims) in the beef industry that were the result of a work-related fatality, permanent or temporary incapacity with an absence from work of one working week or more.

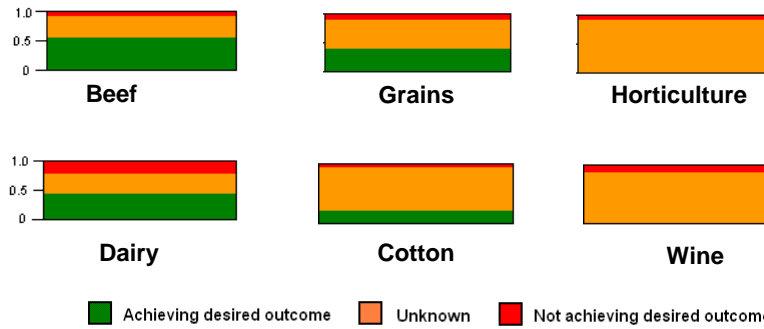
**Summary measure**  
The inverse of the indicator scaled so that the minimum value observed to

**Results**

**For this component**

- Desired outcome
- Indicator
- Summary measure
- Results
- Management practices / Responses
- Interactions with other components
- External drivers

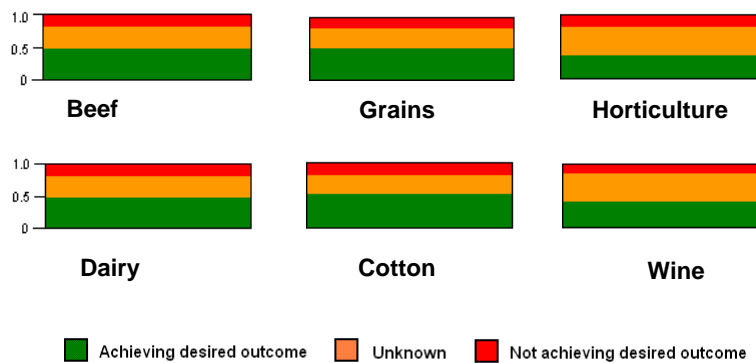
## Are industries maintaining and enhancing the value of their assets?



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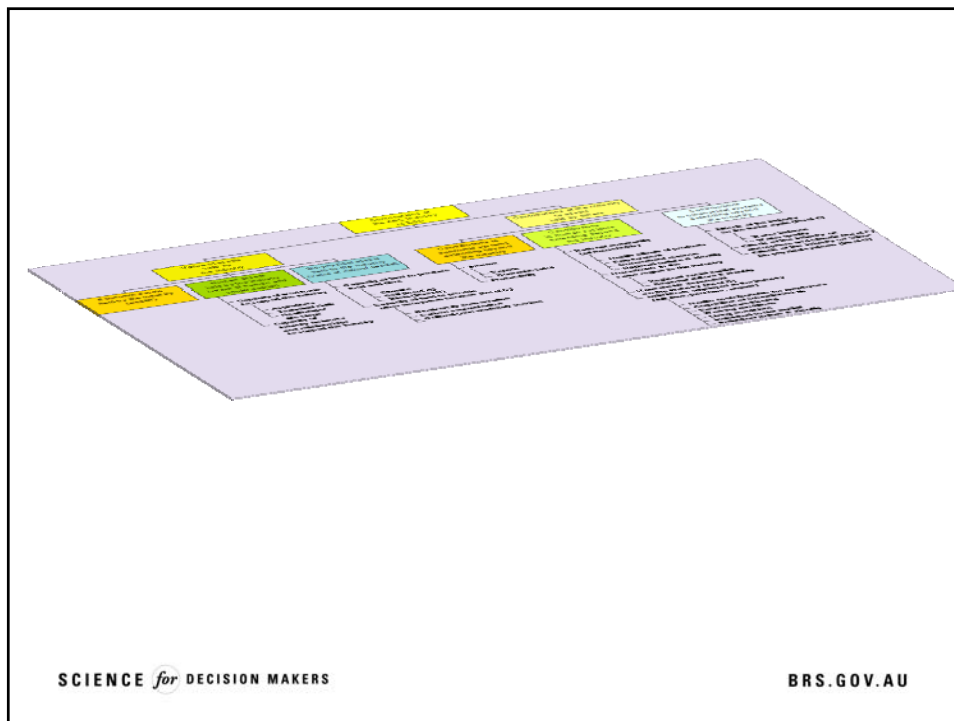
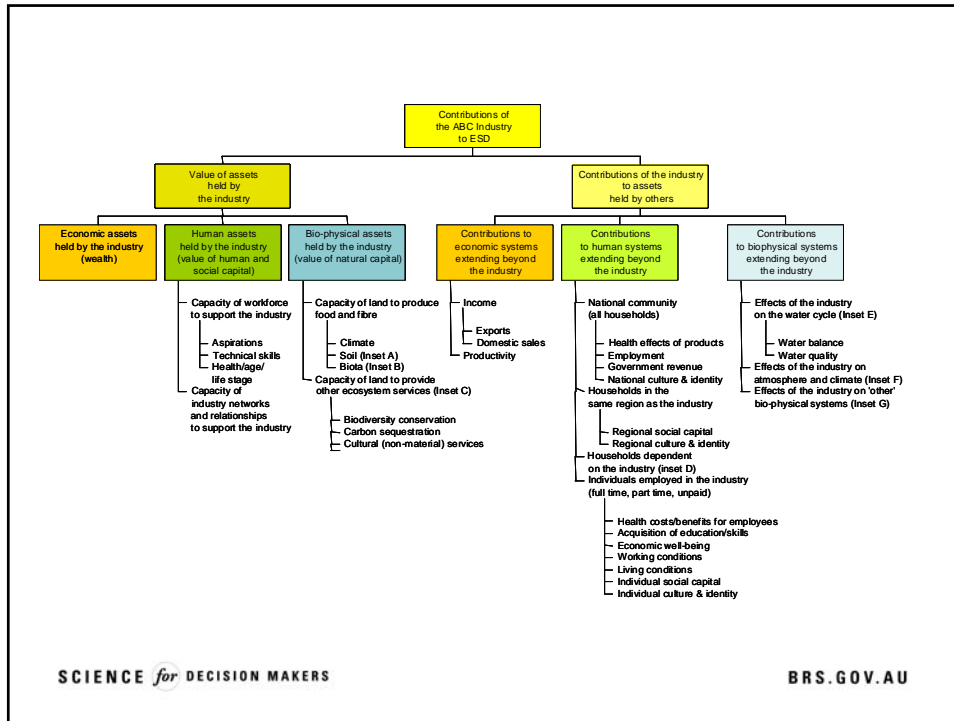
## Are industries improving their impact on assets held by others?



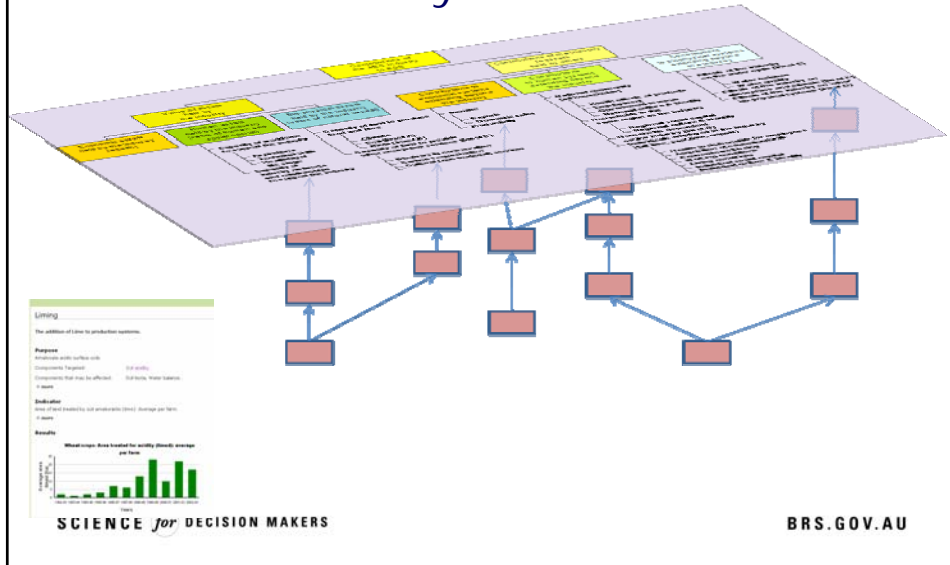
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## Response pathways - linking policy and management responses to industry outcomes



## Uses of Signposts

- Organising thinking about an industry
- Planning
- Making links between industry and other activities such as natural resource management and regional development
- Reporting on industry performance and what industry is doing to improve that performance
- Providing access to industry specific information
- Making comparisons across industries
- Identifying data gaps and research needs

## Further information

- Assessing the environmental performance of the food value chain – An extension of the Signposts for Australian Agriculture framework
  - <http://www.daff.gov.au/agriculture-food/food/publications/food-value-chain>
- Grains Industry Profile
  - [www.brs.gov.au/signposts-grains](http://www.brs.gov.au/signposts-grains)
- Signposts for Australian Agriculture
  - <http://nlwra.gov.au/national-land-and-water-resources-audit/signposts-australian-agriculture>
- Sustainability Indicators
  - <http://affashop.gov.au/product.asp?prodid=13361>
- Chesson (2004) Public Administration Today, Dec/Feb iss
- National ESD Reporting Framework for Australian Fisheries
  - [www.fisheries-esd.com.au](http://www.fisheries-esd.com.au)
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