

## AGRICULTURE IN THE NORTHERN RIVERS REGION

**Use the maps of the region on the Google Site to answer each of the following questions.**

1. What is the boundary of the region in:-  
a) The East? \_\_\_\_\_  
b) The North? \_\_\_\_\_
2. List 3 important towns within the region and name an important agricultural industry carried out around the town area.  
a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_
3. In what part of the region is the greatest variety of agriculture industries carried out i.e. where in the region is agriculture most diverse?  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Can you think of three reasons for diversity in this area?  
a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_
4. The sugar industry is concentrated in two main areas within the region. Can you think of reasons why sugar cane is grown in these places.  
a) \_\_\_\_\_  
b) \_\_\_\_\_  
c) \_\_\_\_\_
5. Which tropical fruit is grown over the region's largest area?  
\_\_\_\_\_
6. Can you give a reason why soybeans are being grown around the towns of Kyogle, Casino and Tabulam?  
\_\_\_\_\_
7. Which agricultural industry is found only in the Tweed Valley and in no other part of the region?  
\_\_\_\_\_
8. Which agriculture industry used the largest amount of land within the region?

## AGRICULTURE ON THE NORTH COAST

Since early settlement, agriculture has always been important on the North Coast. Many industries that were first established have continued to be important and are known as traditional industries. They include dairying, beef cattle raising, pig production, sugar cane growing, and banana growing.

Rapid change occurred in agriculture in the 1970's. A lot of newer agricultural enterprises were set up. Current industries include macadamia nut growing, coffee, fish farming, herb and flower growing (see graph).

Today's agriculture contributes over \$650 million to our economy and this rises to \$1 billion when processing is included, particularly in meat, sugar cane, milk and macadamias.

Approximately 1 in 12 working people are employed in agriculture. Again this is higher when processing is included. Many more people work for agricultural suppliers, transporters, and machinery centres in the region.

The contribution of agriculture to the region is immense.

1. List the traditional agricultural industries on the North Coast.

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2. List a range of newer/more current industries on the North Coast.

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3. What is the total economic value of Agriculture in our region?

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4. What fraction of people work in agriculture? -----

5. Does any of your family work in an industry that involves agriculture? List the jobs that relate to agriculture in your family

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6. Have you considered a career in agriculture? If so describe what job and explain why.

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