



66% of seafood from Eyre Peninsula

THE seafood industry will contribute 16 per cent of South Australia's \$2.5 billion gross value production in 2006-07.

This makes it the third biggest sector, following livestock (38 per cent) and horticulture (24 per cent).

Of this 66 per cent - or \$244 million (preliminary estimate) - comes from Eyre Peninsula, which produces far more than the second ranked South East region (17 per cent).

"Historically this has been driven by the wild catch fisheries, most notably prawns, rock lobster, abalone and tuna," SA Research and Development Institute executive director Rob Lewis said at the marine seminar in Port Lincoln last week.

"Now equal contribution (comes) from the aquaculture sector, most notably southern bluefin tuna (currently a feedlot operation but with high hopes for a full closure of the life cycle), oysters, abalone, mullocky, barramundi and yellow tail kingfish."