

Quarterly Report

for the Nine Months to 31 March 1998

Name of Entity

WESFARMERS LIMITED

ACN

008 984 049

Nine months ended

31 MARCH 1998

For announcement to the market

				\$A'000
Sales (or equivalent operating) revenue (item 1.1)	up	7.6%	to	1,954,681
Abnormal items after tax attributable to members (item 1.5)				Nil
Operating profit (loss) after tax attributable to members (item 1.10)	up	15.6%	to	112,102
Extraordinary items after tax attributable to members (item 1.13)				Nil
Operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax attributable to members (item 1.16)	up	15.6%	to	112,102*
*				
Consists of				
Profit before goodwill amortisation	up	14.9%	to	117,498
Goodwill amortisation				5,396
Profit after goodwill amortisation	up	15.6%	to	112,102

Consolidated profit and loss account

	Current 9 Months \$A'000	Previous Corresponding 9 Months \$A'000
1.1 Sales (or equivalent operating) revenue	1,954,681	1,816,105
1.2 Share of associates "net profit (loss) attributable to members"	4,611	-
1.3 Other revenue	42,961	86,530
Total Revenue	2,002,253	1,902,635
1.4 Operating profit (loss) before abnormal items and tax	176,381	150,835
1.5 Abnormal items before tax (detail in item 2.4)	-	-
1.6 Operating profit (loss) before tax (items 1.4 + 1.5)	176,381	150,835
1.7 Less tax	63,786	53,576
1.8 Operating profit (loss) after tax but before outside equity interests	112,595	97,259
1.9 Less outside equity interests	493	258
1.10 Operating profit(loss) after tax attributable to members *	112,102	97,001
1.11 Extraordinary items after tax (detail in item 2.6)	-	-
1.12 Less outside equity interests	-	-
1.13 Extraordinary items after tax attributable to members	-	-
1.14 Total operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax (items 1.8 + 1.11)	112,595	97,259
1.15 Operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax attributable to outside equity interests (items 1.9 + 1.12)	493	258
1.16 Operating profit (loss) and extraordinary items after tax attributable to members (items 1.10 + 1.13)	112,102	97,001
* Consists of:		
Profit before goodwill amortisation	117,498	102,236
Goodwill amortisation	5,396	5,235
Profit after goodwill amortisation	112,102	97,001

Earnings per security (EPS)

	Current 9 Months	Previous Corresponding 9 Months
Calculation of EPS in accordance with AASB 1027: Earnings per Share		
Basic		
(a) Before goodwill amortisation	48.2¢	44.0¢
(b) After goodwill amortisation	46.0¢	41.8¢
The diluted EPS is not materially different from the basic EPS.		

Supplementary information - "cashflow per share"

In accordance with general principles used by financial analysts, "cashflow per share" has been calculated by adding all forms of depreciation and amortisation to operating profit after tax and before abnormal items and dividing by the weighted average number of ordinary shares on issue during the year.

GROUP	
Current 9 Months	Previous Corresponding 9 Months
78.3¢	75.6¢

Details of specific receipts/outlays, revenues/expenses

	Current 9 Months \$A'000	Previous Corresponding 9 Months \$A'000
Interest revenue included in determining item 1.4	4,189	8,245
Interest revenue included in item 1.2 but not yet received (if material)	-	-
Interest expense included in item 1.4 (include all forms of interest, lease finance charges, etc.)	14,079	20,889
Interest costs excluded from item 1.4 and capitalised in asset values (if material)	3,033	1,118
Outlays (except those arising from the acquisition of an existing business) capitalised in intangibles (if material)	-	-
Depreciation (excluding amortisation of intangibles)	73,431	73,395
Amortisation of intangibles	5,396	5,235

Comments by directors

Material factors affecting the revenues and expenses of the economic entity for the current period.

Refer to the press release dated 5 May 1998 accompanying this statement.

A description of each event since the end of the current period which has had a material effect and is not related to matters already reported, with financial quantified. (if possible)

Nil

Compliance statement

- 1 This statement has been prepared under accounting policies which comply with accounting standards as defined in the Corporations Law.
- 2 This statement gives a true and fair view of the matters disclosed.
- 3 This statement is based on financial statements which have not been audited
- 4 The entity has a formally constituted audit committee.

Sign here:


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(Assistant Company Secretary)

Date: 5 May 1998

Print name:

P S GARDINER