

CottonInfo: Moisture Manager, 27 April

[View this email in your browser](#)



The CottonInfo Moisture Manager

In this edition:

- [Latest weather and climate news](#)
- [Australian rainfall analysis \(19-26 April 2015\)](#)
- [Summary of climate indicators](#)
- [Rainfall and temperature guidance summary](#)
- [The BOM/POAMA rainfall predictions for May](#)
- [International El Niño-Southern Oscillation modelling for winter/spring](#)
- [Using seasonal models in winter/spring 2015](#)

Latest weather and climate news

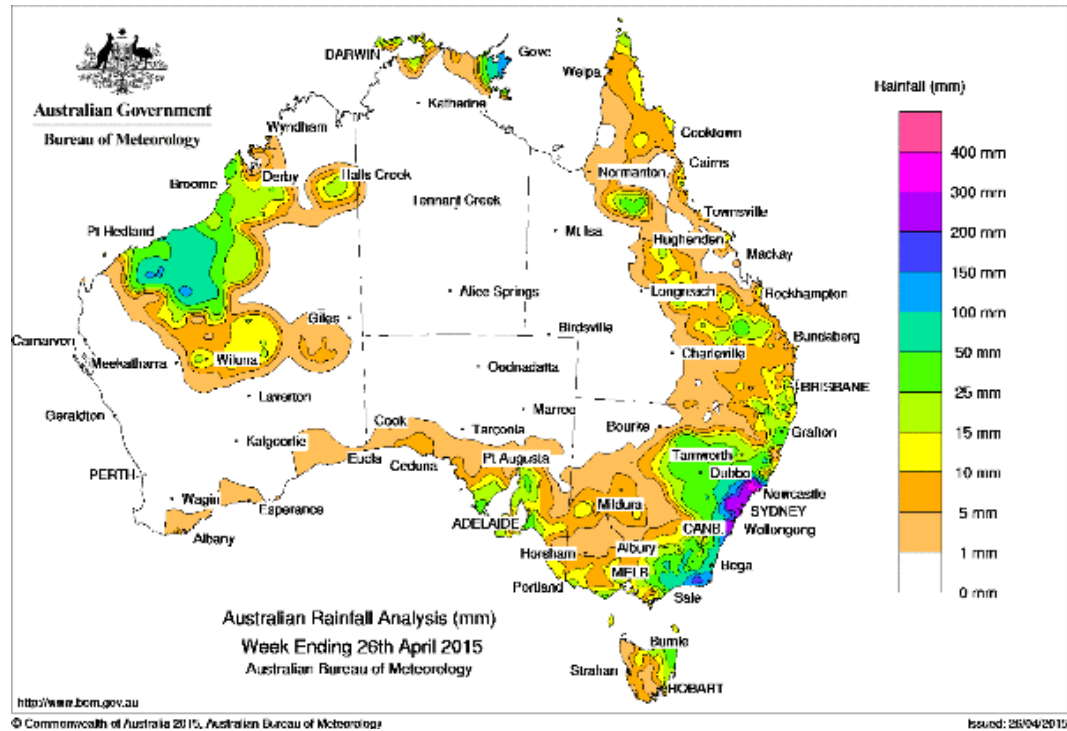
- Multi-week models showing an easterly change at the end of April for most cotton growing areas, followed by average to below average rainfall during the month of May.
- Warm local sea temperatures in the Coral Sea and Arafura/Timor Seas contributing to atmospheric moisture supply, contrary to a developing El Niño condition in the equatorial Pacific.
- The latest BOM/POAMA monthly prediction showing average to below average temperatures for central/eastern Australia during May.
- A summary of ENSO predictions by international research agencies shows consensus on a developing El Niño event for the winter and spring

[Subscribe](#)[Share ▼](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#)

of 2015.

- Rainfall guidance: BOM/POAMA research shows increased model accuracy during La Niña and El Niño events from ENSO neutral years.

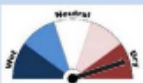
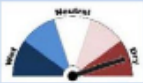
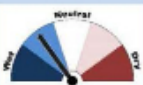
Australian rainfall analysis (19-26 April 2015)



Summary of climate indicators

For more information on what the climatic indicators mean, [click here](#).

[Subscribe](#)[Share ▼](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#)

Measure	Indicator	Current Status		Forecast Trend
Sea Surface Temperature Indices 	Pacific Ocean – Niño 3.4	+0.7		Dry
	Pacific Ocean – Composite Index	+0.6		Neutral
	Indian Ocean	-0.2		Neutral
Mean Sea Level Air Pressure 	Southern Oscillation Index	-3		Neutral
	Southern Annular Mode	+2		Neutral
Tasman Sea Upper Atmospheric Air Pressure 	Blocking	+23		Neutral

Rainfall and temperature guidance summary

Source	Model Accessed	Temperature Forecast	Precipitation Outlook
BOM Extreme Heat Model	27 April	Decreased chance of extreme heat throughout	N/A
POAMA Multi-week(BOM)	27 April	Average to below all areas - May	Average to below from 3 to 20 May all areas
Japan Met Assoc.	27 April	Average to below all areas - May	No general rain events predicted out to 15 May
Beijing Climate Centre	27 April	Average temps May	Rain eastern areas 27 Apr-3 May
NCEP (GFS) 16-Day	27 April	N/A	Emerald: no rain forecast Balonne & DD 30mm 30 Apr Border Rvs/Gwydir: 20mm 30 Apr -1 May Namoi: 10mm 30 Apr-1 May Warren 30mm 30 Apr-2 May Hillston showers 30 Apr – 4 May Hay: no rain forecast

The BOM/POAMA rainfall predictions for May

The BOM/POAMA monthly outlook for the remainder of May looks favourable for cotton picking with average to below average rainfall predicted.

Temperatures are forecast to achieve average levels during the month of May.

The map below shows Indian Ocean moisture streaming through western central Australia, producing rainfall in central and western areas of the

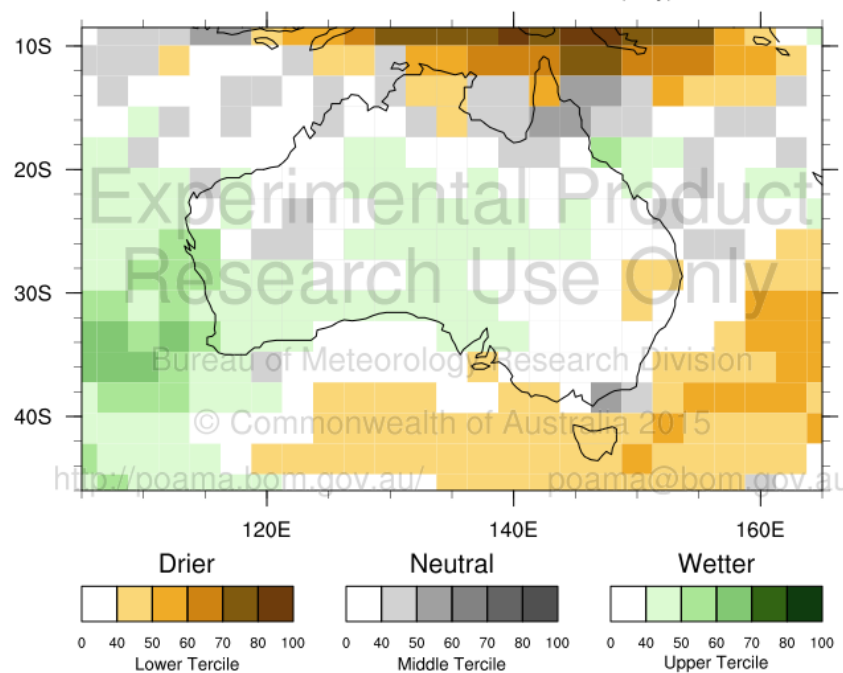
continent.

Precipitation / Rainfall Tercile Probabilities

Region: Australia

Start Date: 2015-04-23

Period: (May) 01/05/2015 to 31/05/2015



Climatology: years from 1981 to 2010 with mmdd = 0421

Created: 2015-04-24 15:53:17 +0000

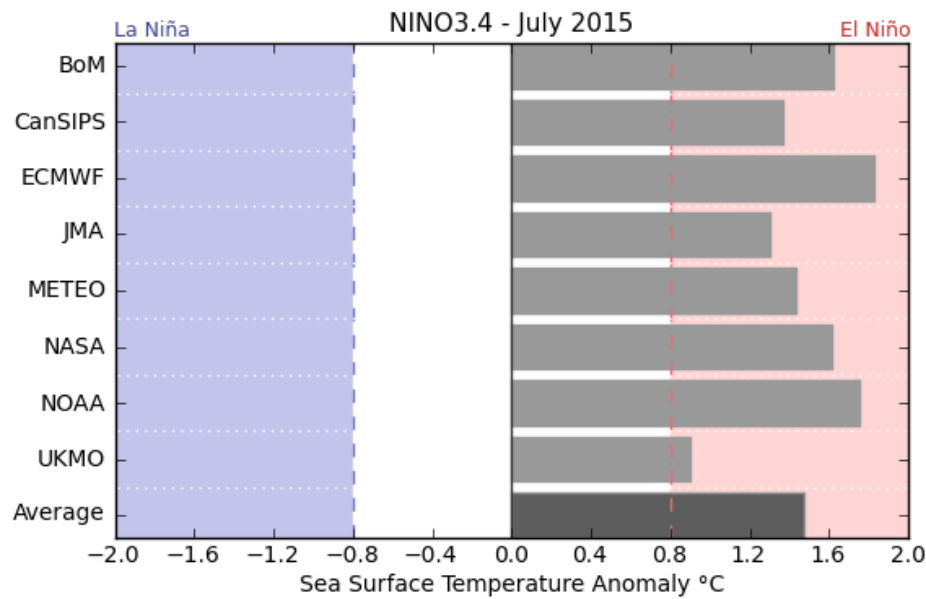
Start Dates (MM/DD): 23/04, 19/04, 16/04

Resource: macts_ / month

International El Niño-Southern Oscillation modelling for winter/spring

El Niño conditions continue to dominate global commentary for the start of the ENSO calendar commencing in May. The atmospheric conditions coupled with sea surface temperatures during the last three week period with some research agencies claiming a 70 percent chance of El Niño conditions through Australian winter and spring seasons.

Table. Summary of Niño 3.4 Sea Surface Temperatures commencing July 2015 from various international research agencies (source: [BOM](#), 2015)

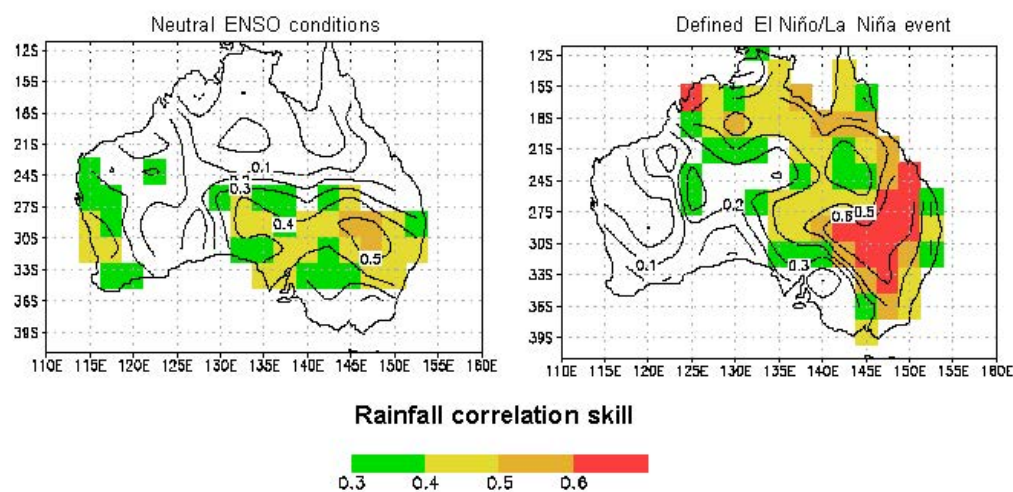
[Subscribe](#)[Share ▼](#)[Past Issues](#)[Translate](#)

© Copyright Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Using seasonal models in winter/spring 2015

With the 2015 El Niño-Southern Oscillation calendar year about to commence, the accuracy of using computer guidance can vary depending on which ENSO 'State' we are in. The Figure below shows the skill of predicting a rain event at 7-14 day lead time improves noticeably during defined El Niño or La Niña conditions. With El Niño conditions predicted for the winter and spring of 2015, accuracy of multi-week guidance will likely be enhanced during this period.

Figure 3. For rainfall forecast in the second fortnight, there is higher skill when ENSO is in an extreme and when the IOD is strong (June, July, August, September, October, November. Source POAMA, 2015).

[f Share](#)[t Tweet](#)[✉ Forward](#)

Subscribe

Share ▼

Past Issues

Translate



is a joint initiative of



Cotton Research and
Development Corporation



Best Practice



Copyright © 2015 CottonInfo, All rights reserved.

[unsubscribe from this list](#) [update subscription preferences](#)

Before relying on the material in any important matter, users should carefully evaluate its accuracy, currency, completeness and relevance for their purposes, and should obtain any appropriate professional advice relevant to their particular circumstances. Header photo courtesy Cotton Australia and Jamie Condon.