



Weather Watch Cheat Sheet

Get to know the basics:

Bureau of Meteorology – Water and the Land

www.bom.gov.au/watl/

Under 'Our Weather and Climate' is 'Australian Climate Influencers'. Click on any of the named influences and it will link into a really good explanation of how, when and where it can affect Australian climate

Department of Primary Industries Victoria

www.dpi.vic.gov.au/climaterisk

Entertaining way to learn about 4 Climate Drivers – The Climate Dogs

Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD)

http://ioc-goos-oopc.org/state_of_the_ocean/sur/ind/dmi.php

Red is positive dipole mode (less likelihood of rain), Blue is negative dipole mode (more likelihood of rain). A neutral phase is between the dashed lines.

www.jamstec.go.jp/frsgc/research/d1/iod

Know your local climate and weather history:

Bureau of Meteorology

www.bom.gov.au/climate

Click on 'Weather and Climate Data' and have a play around

Daily (if you're really keen!):

Water and the Land

www.bom.gov.au/watl/

For 4 Day Forecast, Wind, Radar and Frost charts

'Forecast Rainfall' box, click on 'Total Forecast Rainfall' for predicted amounts for the next 8 days.

BOM now have a 7 day forecast for your nearest town (this service available for most states).

BOM Interactive Weather and Wave Forecast Maps

www.bom.gov.au/australia/charts/viewer/index.shtml?domain=combinedA&type=mslp-precip

Track 7 days of expected weather system movements. Click on right arrow to start loop.

For estimated rainfall for the coming week

<http://ready.arl.noaa.gov/READYcmet.php>

This is a site used for aviation. Good one, but a bit tricky so here are some instructions:

- Find a good atlas and find the coordinates of where you live, or GPS if you have one.
- Put in Latitude (Quorn is -32.347) and Longitude (138.04)
- Click 'Continue'
- Next screen: Meteorogram, choose a Forecast Dataset with the drop down arrow, press the arrow.
- Click 'GFS Model (0-192h, 3hrly, Global)'. Then click 'Go'
- Click 'Next'
- Scroll down to the bottom to enter the access code.
- Put in those 6 letters (lower case is okay)
- Click: 'Get Meteorogram'
- The first box will give you the total precipitation and when it is expected to fall (the y-axis shows hours along the top). Scroll down to see the days.

Australian Weather News

www.australianweathernews.com/forecast_OCF.htm

7 day forecasts. Click on your area – for example 19 for Quorn which is east of Port Augusta

The Weather Channel

www.weatherchannel.com.au/weathermap

You can customize this for your state and town. Gives an estimated 10 day forecast.

Weekly:

For checking Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) – Useful from April/May to August

<http://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/seasonalclimateoutlook/southernoscillationindex/>

The 'Average SOI for the last 30 days' is the number to look at here. Compare it with the last 3 months. Then on the left click on 'Graphs'.

An El Nino shows up as consistently negative, a La Niña as consistently positive.

For checking the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) – Useful from May – November

http://ioc-goos-oopc.org/state_of_the_ocean/sur/ind/dmi.php

Red is positive dipole mode (less likelihood of rain), Blue is negative dipole mode (more likelihood of rain). A neutral phase is between the dashed lines.

Monthly:

POAMA experimental forecast

<http://poama.bom.gov.au/raintemp.shtml>

Forecasts for the next month and seasonal forecasts

JAMSTEC – Japan Agency for Marine-Earth Science and Technology 3 month forecasts

www.jamstec.go.jp/frsgc/research/d1/iod/

On the left hand side click on 'Seasonal Prediction'. Read the 'Notes' using the scroll on the right of that box.

For rainfall map: under 'Seasonal Forecast', 'Parameter' click on the down arrow, click on 'Precipitation Anomaly'.

APEC – Korea 3 month forecasts

www.apcc21.org/en/services/forecasts/3mon/latest_monthly/

Starts with an explanation of 3 month forecast and world map for expected rainfall and temperature.

Then scroll down to get a monthly breakdown of this in Australia:

'Deterministic MME Forecast', under 'Month' click down arrow e.g. December, under 'Variable' leave as 'Precipitation', under 'Region' click 'Australia'. Click 'Submit'.

For more Global Climate Models

www.climatekelpie.com.au/see-forecasts/global-climate-models

Look at as many seasonal forecasts as possible to get consensus.

Dr. Peter McIntosh CSIRO

<http://www.marine.csiro.au/~mcintosh/SeasonalClimate.htm>

Has links to lots of climate computer models with their forecasts.

Also under 'Useful' have a look at 'ENSO/IOD' years.

Anytime:

Climate Kelpie

www.climatekelpie.com.au

Decision support tools for managing climate variability.

Choose 'Region', 'Commodity', 'Topic'

Under 'Ask a Farmer' click on 'Farmer case studies': ways they are actively & successfully changing practices to cope with climate variability and remain profitable.