Summary of key issues

- During the week ending 22 May 2019 rainfall was mostly restricted to parts of northern, central and southern Australia. Little to no rainfall was recorded across the rest of Australia.

- In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 50 millimetres was recorded across western South Australia and southern Western Australia during the week ending 22 May 2019. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres were recorded in the remaining South Australian and Western Australian cropping regions, as well as southern cropping regions in Victoria. Little to no rainfall was recorded across cropping regions in New South Wales and Queensland.

- For the week ending 21 May 2019, maximum temperatures were 2°C to 4°C above average across north-western, central and south-eastern Australia. Minimum temperatures were 2°C to 8°C above average across central and north-eastern Australia. In contrast, minimum temperatures were -2°C to -6°C below average across the south-western quarter of Australia.

- During the next eight days, little to no rainfall is expected across large areas of Australia. Rainfall is likely to be restricted to far north and south-eastern Australia.

- In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 25 millimetres is expected across parts of southern Victoria and central South Australia. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres are expected in southern Victoria and central New South Wales and remaining cropping regions in Victoria and South Australia. Little to no rainfall is expected for cropping regions in northern New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia.

- Water storage levels in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) increased between 15 May and 21 May 2019 by 24 gigalitres (GL). The current volume of water held in storage is 8,300 GL which represents 33 per cent of total capacity. This is 36 percentage points or 4,630 GL less than at the same time last year.

- Allocation prices in the southern Murray-Darling Basin decreased from $504 per ML in the week ending 6 May 2019 to $491 per ML in the week ending 13 May 2019. Water volume traded remains low as we approach the end of the current water season and water demand declines.
1. Climate

1.1. Rainfall this week

During the week ending 22 May 2019 rainfall was mostly restricted to parts of northern, central and southern Australia. Little to no rainfall was recorded across the rest of Australia.

Rainfall of between 10 and 50 millimetres was recorded across parts of north-eastern New South Wales, the north and eastern coast of Queensland, southern Western Australia, northern and southern South Australia, western Tasmania, and the south and north of the Northern Territory. Higher rainfall in excess of 50 millimetres was recorded across north-eastern Queensland surrounding Cairns.

In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 50 millimetres was recorded across western South Australia and southern Western Australia during the week ending 22 May 2019. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres were recorded in the remaining South Australian and Western Australian cropping regions, as well as southern cropping regions in Victoria. Little to no rainfall was recorded across cropping regions in New South Wales and Queensland.

Rainfall for the week ending 22 May 2019

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Note: The rainfall analyses and associated maps utilise data contained in the Bureau of Meteorology climate database, the Australian Data Archive for Meteorology (ADAM). The analyses are initially produced automatically from real-time data with limited quality control. They are intended to provide a general overview of rainfall across Australia as quickly as possible after the observations are received. For further information go to http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/rainfall/
1.2. Temperature anomalies this week

For the week ending 21 May 2019, maximum temperatures were 2°C to 4°C above average across north-western, central and south-eastern Australia. Minimum temperatures were 2°C to 8°C above average across central and north-eastern Australia. In contrast, minimum temperatures were -2°C to -6°C below average across the south-western quarter of Australia. Average (-2°C to 2°C) minimum and maximum temperatures were recorded across the remainder of the country.

Note: Spatial temperature analyses are based on historical weekly temperature data provided by the Bureau of Meteorology. These temperature anomaly maps show the departure of the maximum and minimum temperatures from the average over the 1961 to 1990 reference period.
1.3. **Rainfall forecast for the next eight days**

During the next eight days, little to no rainfall is expected across large areas of Australia. Rainfall is likely to be restricted to far north and south-eastern Australia.

Rainfall totals of between 10 and 50 millimetres are forecast for parts of south-eastern New South Wales, much of Victoria, scattered areas along the north-east coast of Queensland, south-eastern South Australia and much of Tasmania. Heavier falls in excess of 50 millimetres are forecast for parts of eastern Victoria and western Tasmania.

In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 25 millimetres is expected across parts of southern Victoria and central South Australia. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres are expected in southern and central New South Wales and remaining cropping regions in Victoria and South Australia. Little to no rainfall is expected for cropping regions in northern New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia.

**Total forecast rainfall (mm) for the period 23 May to 30 May 2019**
2. Water

2.1. Water markets – current week

Water storage in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 24 gigalitres (GL) between 15 May and 21 May 2019. The current volume of water held in storage is 8,300 GL, which represents 33 per cent of total capacity. This is 36 percent or 4,630 GL less than at the same time last year.


Allocation prices in the southern Murray–Darling Basin decreased from $504 per ML in the week ending 6 May 2019 to $491 per ML in the week ending 13 May 2019. Water volume traded remains low as we approach the end of the current water season and water demand declines.

Surface water trade activity, Southern Murray–Darling Basin

Note: The trades shown reflect estimated market activity and do not encompass all registered trades. The price line reflects value weighted average prices for the entire southern Murray-Darling Basin. Data shown is current as at Thursday 23 May 2019, and encompasses water activity until 13 May 2019. ABARES has changed the data source for this output. Data is now sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology water dashboard.

To access the full, interactive, weekly water dashboard, which contains the latest and historical water storage, water market and water allocation information, please visit http://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/publications/weekly_update/weekly-update-230519
## 3. Commodities

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Week ended</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Latest price</th>
<th>Price week prior</th>
<th>Weekly change</th>
<th>Price 12 months prior</th>
<th>Year-on-year change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Australian Dollar – AUD/USD Exchange Rate</td>
<td>22-May</td>
<td>US$/A$</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>0.70</td>
<td>-1% ↓</td>
<td>0.75</td>
<td>-8% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat – US no. 2 hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf</td>
<td>21-May</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>210</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>6% ↑</td>
<td>246</td>
<td>-15% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coarse Grains – US no. 2 yellow corn, fob Gulf</td>
<td>22-May</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>8% ↑</td>
<td>180</td>
<td>-4% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canola – Rapeseed, Europe, fob Hamburg</td>
<td>21-May</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>403</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↑</td>
<td>407</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton – Cotlook 'A' Index</td>
<td>22-May</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>77.6</td>
<td>79.0</td>
<td>-2% ↓</td>
<td>94.2</td>
<td>-18% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar – Intercontinental Exchange, nearby futures, no.11 contract</td>
<td>22-May</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
<td>11.8</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool – Eastern Market Indicator</td>
<td>16-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,893</td>
<td>1,952</td>
<td>-3% ↓</td>
<td>1,943</td>
<td>-3% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool – Western Market Indicator</td>
<td>17-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,995</td>
<td>2,062</td>
<td>-3% ↓</td>
<td>2,080</td>
<td>-4% ↓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Selected domestic crop indicator prices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Week ended</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Latest price</th>
<th>Price week prior</th>
<th>Weekly change</th>
<th>Price 12 months prior</th>
<th>Year-on-year change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Milling Wheat – ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA</td>
<td>21-May</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>252</td>
<td>244</td>
<td>3% ↑</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>-11% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Wheat – General purpose, Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>22-May</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>376</td>
<td>-3% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Barley – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>22-May</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>363</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>-2% ↓</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>4% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canola – Portland, Vic.</td>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>na</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>11% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Sorghum – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>22-May</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>-12% ↓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**Selected domestic livestock indicator prices**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Indicator</th>
<th>Week ended</th>
<th>Unit</th>
<th>Latest price</th>
<th>Price week prior</th>
<th>Weekly change</th>
<th>Price 12 months prior</th>
<th>Year-on-year change</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Beef – Eastern Young Cattle Indicator</td>
<td>16-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>461</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>-8% ↓</td>
<td>491</td>
<td>-6% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutton – Mutton indicator (18–24 kg fat score 2–3), Vic</td>
<td>17-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>559</td>
<td>568</td>
<td>-2% ↓</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>15% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamb – Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator</td>
<td>16-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>787</td>
<td>765</td>
<td>3% ↑</td>
<td>617</td>
<td>28% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig – Eastern Seaboard (60.1–75 kg), average of buyers &amp; sellers</td>
<td>10-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>30% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat – Eastern States (12.1–16 kg)</td>
<td>20-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>798</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>484</td>
<td>65% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live cattle – Light steers ex Darwin to Indonesia</td>
<td>18-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg lwt</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>280</td>
<td>4% ↑</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>12% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live sheep – Live wether (Muchea WA saleyard) to Middle East</td>
<td>13-May</td>
<td>$/head</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>23% ↑</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>42% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td>Week ended</td>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>Latest price</td>
<td>Price week prior</td>
<td>Weekly change</td>
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<tr>
<td>---------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices ¹</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Whole milk powder</td>
<td>21-May</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>3,180</td>
<td>3,249</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>3,226</td>
<td>-1%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Skim milk powder</td>
<td>21-May</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>2,529</td>
<td>2,521</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>2,047</td>
<td>24%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Cheddar cheese</td>
<td>21-May</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>4,851</td>
<td>4,217</td>
<td>15%</td>
<td>4,205</td>
<td>15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Anhydrous milk fat</td>
<td>21-May</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>6,140</td>
<td>6,217</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>6,354</td>
<td>-3%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

¹ Global Dairy Trade prices are updated twice monthly on the first and third Tuesday of each month.
3.1. Selected world indicator prices

![Graphs showing selected world indicator prices: World wheat indicator price, World coarse grains indicator price, World canola indicator price, World cotton indicator price. Each graph shows price trends from January to December with data from 2017, 2018, and 2019.](image_url)
3.2. Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices

Whole milk powder price
21 May 2019

Skim milk powder price
21 May 2019

Cheddar cheese price
21 May 2019

Anhydrous milk fat price
21 May 2019
3.3. Selected domestic crop indicator prices

Grain sorghum indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 22 May 2018

Feed barley indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 22 May 2018

Feed wheat indicator price
General Purpose, Sydney, NSW
Week ended 22 May 2018

Milling wheat indicator price
ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA
Week ended 21 May 2019
3.4. Selected domestic livestock indicator prices

![Graphs showing selected domestic livestock indicator prices.](attachment:graphs.png)
3.5. Selected fruit and vegetable prices – week ended 23 May 2019

Weekly wholesale prices for blueberry, pineapple (smoothleaf), watermelon (seedless) & banana (cavendish)

Weekly wholesale prices for kiwifruit (hayward), strawberry, apple (royal gala) & avocado (hass)

Weekly wholesale prices for onion (brown), cauliflower, potato (white, brushed) & tomato (field gourmet)

Weekly wholesale prices for broccoli, lettuce (iceberg), pumpkin (grey bulk) & bean (round stringless)
4. Data attribution

Climate
Bureau of Meteorology

Water
New South Wales
Queensland
- Sunwater: www.sunwater.com.au
- Seqwater: http://seqwater.com.au
South Australia
- South Australian Department of Environment, Water and Natural Resources: www.environment.sa.gov.au
Victoria
- Goulburn–Murray Water: www.g-mwater.com.au

Commodities
Fruit and vegetables
- Datafresh: www.freshstate.com.au
Pigs
- Australian Pork Limited: www.australianpork.com.au
Canola
- Weekly Times: hardcopy
Dairy
World wheat, canola
- International Grains Council
World coarse grains
- United States Department of Agriculture
World cotton
- Cotlook: www.cotlook.com/
World sugar
- New York Stock Exchange - Intercontinental Exchange
Wool
Milling wheat
- ProFarmer
Domestic wheat, barley, sorghum
- The Land: hardcopy or online at www.theland.farmonline.com.au/markets
Domestic canola
- The Weekly Times: hardcopy
Cattle, beef, mutton, lamb, goat and live export