Summary of key issues

- During the week ending 5 June 2019 rainfall was largely restricted to eastern and south-eastern Australia.
- In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 25 millimetres was recorded across parts of eastern New South Wales, and south-eastern Queensland during the week ending 5 June 2019. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres were recorded across Victoria, South Australia, southern and far northern Queensland and the remaining cropping regions in New South Wales.
- Rainfall for May 2019 was mixed across Australia, with particularly low rainfall across much of Western Australia and well below average rainfall across parts of eastern New South Wales and south-eastern Queensland.
- For cropping regions in southern New South Wales, eastern Victoria and western South Australia, May 2019 rainfall was above average to extremely high. Cropping regions in central New South Wales, eastern Queensland, and much of Western Australia recorded well below average to severely deficient rainfall in May.
- Autumn 2019 rainfall was well below average to extremely low for cropping regions in northern and central New South Wales, eastern and western Victoria, eastern South Australia and much of Western Australia. Autumn rainfall was above average for north-western Queensland and average for the remaining cropping regions. Autumn 2019 was particularly dry across the western half of Australia.
- Upper and lower layer soil moisture in May across Western Australia, as well as parts of eastern New South Wales and eastern Queensland, was extremely low to well below average for this time of year. Soil moisture was generally average to above average for cropping regions in southern New South Wales, Victoria, north-western Queensland and South Australia.
- During the next eight days, rainfall is expected across north-eastern, south-eastern and western Australia. In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 50 millimetres is expected across southern New South Wales, Victoria, northern Queensland, South Australia and much of Western Australia. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres are expected in the remaining cropping regions of New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia.
- Water storage levels in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) increased between 29 May and 5 June 2019 by 140 gigalitres (GL). Current volume of water held in storage is 8,500 GL which represents 34 per cent of total capacity. This is 35 percentage points or 4,560 GL less than at the same time last year.
- Water allocation prices in the southern Murray-Darling Basin remained stable at $545 per ML in the week ending 27 May 2019 on low trade volumes.
1. Climate

1.1. Rainfall this week

During the week ending 5 June 2019 rainfall was restricted to eastern and south-eastern Australia. Little to no rainfall was recorded across the rest of Australia.

Rainfall of between 10 and 50 millimetres was recorded across eastern New South Wales, southern Victoria, parts of eastern Queensland and much of Tasmania. Rainfall in excess of 50 millimetres was recorded across isolated parts of coastal New South Wales, south-eastern Victoria and western Tasmania.

In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 25 millimetres was recorded across parts of eastern New South Wales, and south-eastern Queensland during the week ending 5 June 2019. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres were recorded across Victoria, South Australia, southern and far northern Queensland and the remaining cropping regions in New South Wales. Little to no rainfall was recorded across the remaining cropping regions in Queensland and Western Australia.

Rainfall for the week ending 5 June 2019
1.2. Monthly temperatures

May 2019 mean maximum and minimum temperatures were above average for large parts of the country, in contrast, mean minimum temperatures were below average across southern Western Australia. The national mean temperature was 0.65 °C above average. Mean maximum temperatures were 1.04 °C above average and mean minimum temperatures were 0.25 °C above average.

Maximum temperature deciles for May 2019

Minimum temperature deciles for May 2019

Note: Maximum and minimum temperatures for May 2019 compared with temperature recorded for that period during the historical record (1900 to present). For further information go to: [http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/index.jsp](http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/index.jsp)
1.3. Monthly rainfall

Rainfall for May 2019 was mixed across Australia, with particularly low rainfall across much of Western Australia. Additionally, rainfall was well below average across parts of eastern New South Wales and south-eastern Queensland.

May rainfall was well above average to extremely high for parts of southern New South Wales, large areas of Victoria, parts of south-western and northern Queensland, the north and south-east of South Australia and much of the north and south of the Northern Territory.

May 2019 rainfall was above average to extremely high for cropping regions in southern New South Wales, eastern Victoria and western South Australia. Well below average to severely deficient rainfall was recorded across isolated cropping regions in central New South Wales, eastern Queensland, and much of Western Australia.

Rainfall percentiles for May 2019

Source: Bureau of Meteorology
Note: Rainfall for May 2019 is compared with rainfall recorded for that period during the historical record (1900 to present). For further information, go to http://www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/
1.4. Seasonal rainfall

Autumn 2019 was particularly dry across the western half of Australia. Rainfall for the season was severely deficient to well below average for large areas of Western Australia, western and south-eastern South Australia, the west of the Northern Territory, and parts of north-eastern New South Wales, western Victoria, north-western Queensland and eastern Tasmania.

In contrast, two tropical cyclones in March contributed to above average rainfall in Queensland and the Pilbara. Well above average to extremely high rainfall was experienced across much of central and northern Queensland, and parts of western New South Wales, the north-west of Western Australia and east of the Northern Territory.

Autumn 2019 rainfall was well below average to extremely low for cropping regions in northern and central New South Wales, western Victoria, eastern South Australia and much of Western Australia. Autumn rainfall was above average for north-western Queensland and average for the remaining cropping regions.

Rainfall percentiles for autumn 2019 (1 March to 31 May 2019)
1.5. Monthly soil moisture

Upper layer soil moisture in May 2019 was generally average to well above average across western and southern New South Wales, Victoria, Tasmania, the Northern Territory, much of Queensland and South Australia, and the north-east of Western Australia. In contrast, it was extremely low to well below average across eastern New South Wales, south-eastern Queensland and much of Western Australia.

In cropping regions, upper layer soil moisture was generally above average to well above average across part of southern New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia. It was generally extremely low to below average across cropping regions in Queensland and Western Australia, and was average in remaining cropping regions.

**Modelled upper layer soil moisture for May 2019**

Source: Bureau of Meteorology (Australian Water Resources Assessment Landscape model)

Note: This map shows the levels of modelled upper layer soil moisture (0 to 10 centimetres) during May 2019. This map shows how modelled soil conditions during May 2019 compare with May conditions modelled over the reference period (1911 to 2015). Dark blue areas on the maps were much wetter in May 2019 than during the reference period. The dark red areas were much drier than during the reference period. The bulk of plant roots occur in the top 20 centimetres of the soil profile. Soil moisture in the upper layer of the soil profile is therefore useful indicator of the availability of water, particularly for germinating seed.
Lower layer soil moisture for May 2019 was extremely low to well below average across eastern New South Wales, south-eastern Victoria, parts of south-eastern Queensland, parts of south-western, central and northern Western Australia, and north of the Northern Territory. In contrast, it was well above average to extremely high across much of western New South Wales, south-western and central Queensland, and parts of inland Western Australia, north-eastern and southern South Australia and north of the Northern Territory.

In cropping regions, lower layer soil moisture in May was extremely low to well below average across parts of central and north-eastern New South Wales, eastern Queensland and much of Western Australia. Lower layer soil moisture in cropping regions was above average to extremely high across southern New South Wales, central Victoria, western Queensland and western South Australia. Average lower layer soil moisture was recorded across remaining cropping regions.

**Modelled lower layer soil moisture for May 2019**

Source: Bureau of Meteorology (Australian Water Resources Assessment Landscape model)

Note: This map shows the levels of modelled lower layer soil moisture (10 to 100 centimetres) during May 2019. This map shows how modelled soil conditions during May 2019 compare with May conditions modelled over the reference period (1911 to 2015). Dark blue areas on the maps were much wetter in May 2019 than during the reference period. The dark red areas were much drier than during the reference period. The bulk of plant roots occur in the top 20 centimetres of the soil profile. The lower layer soil moisture is a larger, deeper store that is slower to respond to rainfall and tends to reflect accumulated rainfall events over longer time periods.
1.6. Rainfall forecast for the next eight days

During the next eight days, rainfall is expected across north-eastern, south-eastern and western Australia.

Rainfall totals of between 10 and 50 millimetres are forecast for parts of southern New South Wales, Victoria, north-eastern Queensland, the west of Western Australia, south-east South Australia and much of Tasmania. Rainfall in excess of 50 millimetres is forecast for parts of eastern Victoria, south-west Western Australia and western Tasmania.

In cropping regions, rainfall of between 10 and 50 millimetres is expected across southern New South Wales, Victoria, northern Queensland, South Australia and much of Western Australia. Heavier falls in excess of 50 millimetres are forecast for cropping regions in the west of Western Australia. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres are expected in the remaining cropping regions of New South Wales, Queensland and Western Australia.

Total forecast rainfall (mm) for the period 6 June to 13 June 2019
2. Water

2.1. Water markets – current week

Water storage in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 140 gigalitres (GL) between 29 May and 5 June 2019. The current volume of water held in storage is 8,500 GL, which represents 34 per cent of total capacity. This is 35 percent or 4,560 GL less than at the same time last year.


Allocation prices in the southern Murray-Darling Basin remained stable, moving from $546 per ML in the week ending 20 May 2019 to $545 per ML in the week ending 27 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 6 June 2019, and encompasses water activity until 27 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-060619
## 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><strong>Selected World Indicator Prices</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Dollar – AUD/USD Exchange Rate</td>
<td>05-Jun</td>
<td>US$/A$</td>
<td>0.7</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>1% ⇑</td>
<td>0.76</td>
<td>-8% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheat – US no. 2 hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf</td>
<td>04-Jun</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>230</td>
<td>219</td>
<td>5% ⇑</td>
<td>251</td>
<td>-8% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Coarse Grains – US no. 2 yellow corn, fob Gulf</td>
<td>05-Jun</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>191</td>
<td>183</td>
<td>4% ⇑</td>
<td>173</td>
<td>10% ⇑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Canola – Rapeseed, Europe, fob Hamburg</td>
<td>04-Jun</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>415</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>1% ⇑</td>
<td>406</td>
<td>2% ⇑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Cotton – Cotlook 'A' Index</td>
<td>05-Jun</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>80.0</td>
<td>79.1</td>
<td>1% ⇑</td>
<td>99.7</td>
<td>-20% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Sugar – Intercontinental Exchange, nearby futures, no.11 contract</td>
<td>05-Jun</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>12.0</td>
<td>11.6</td>
<td>3% ⇑</td>
<td>12.3</td>
<td>-2% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wool – Eastern Market Indicator</td>
<td>30-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,887</td>
<td>1,833</td>
<td>3% ⇑</td>
<td>2,027</td>
<td>-7% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wool – Western Market Indicator</td>
<td>31-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,992</td>
<td>1,937</td>
<td>3% ⇑</td>
<td>2,167</td>
<td>-8% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Selected domestic crop indicator prices</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td>Milling Wheat – ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA</td>
<td>04-Jun</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>276</td>
<td>11% ⇑</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>6% ⇑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feed Wheat – General purpose, Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>05-Jun</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>400</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>5% ⇑</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>7% ⇑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Feed Barley – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>05-Jun</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>369</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>5% ⇑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canola – Portland, Vic.</td>
<td>29-Oct</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>597</td>
<td>#DIV/0!</td>
<td>#</td>
<td>536</td>
<td>11% ⇑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Grain Sorghum – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>05-Jun</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>-12% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Selected domestic livestock indicator prices</strong></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Beef – Eastern Young Cattle Indicator</td>
<td>30-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>472</td>
<td>469</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⇑</td>
<td>467</td>
<td>1% ⇑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mutton – Mutton indicator (18–24 kg fat score 2–3), Vic</td>
<td>31-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>605</td>
<td>611</td>
<td>&lt;1% ⇑</td>
<td>486</td>
<td>24% ⇑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lamb – Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator</td>
<td>30-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>888</td>
<td>829</td>
<td>7% ⇑</td>
<td>619</td>
<td>43% ⇑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig – Eastern Seaboard (60.1–75 kg), average of buyers &amp; sellers</td>
<td>24-May</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>344</td>
<td>338</td>
<td>2% ⇑</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>32% ⇑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat – Eastern States (12.1–16 kg)</td>
<td>03-Jun</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>932</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>508</td>
<td>83% ⇑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live cattle – Light steers ex Darwin to Indonesia</td>
<td>01-Jun</td>
<td>Ac/kg Iwt</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>290</td>
<td>0% ●</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>
<td>Price 12 months prior</td>
<td>Year on year change</td>
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<tr>
<td>Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices a</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Whole milk powder</td>
<td>04-Jun</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>3,138</td>
<td>3,180</td>
<td>-1% ↓</td>
<td>3,205</td>
<td>-2% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Skim milk powder</td>
<td>04-Jun</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>2,436</td>
<td>2,529</td>
<td>-4% ↓</td>
<td>2,051</td>
<td>19% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Cheddar cheese</td>
<td>04-Jun</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>3,950</td>
<td>4,851</td>
<td>-19% ↓</td>
<td>3,998</td>
<td>-1% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Anhydrous milk fat</td>
<td>04-Jun</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>5,752</td>
<td>6,140</td>
<td>-6% ↓</td>
<td>6,222</td>
<td>-8% ↓</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

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

World wheat indicator price
US No. 2, hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf
Week ended 4 June 2019

World coarse grains indicator price
US corn No. 2, fob Gulf
Week ended 5 June 2019

World canola indicator price
Europe fob Hamburg
Week ended 4 June 2019

World cotton indicator price
Cotlook ‘A’ index
Week ended 5 June 2019
3.2. Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices

Whole milk powder price
4 June 2019

Skim milk powder price
4 June 2019

Cheddar cheese price
4 June 2019

Anhydrous milk fat price
4 June 2019
3.3. Selected domestic crop indicator prices

Grain sorghum indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 5 June 2019

Feed barley indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 5 June 2019

Feed wheat indicator price
General Purpose, Sydney, NSW
Week ended 5 June 2019

Milling wheat indicator price
ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA
Week ended 4 June 2019
Canola indicator price
Portland, Victoria
Week ended 29 October 2018

A$/t

Jan Feb Mar Apr May Jun Jul Aug Sep Oct Nov Dec

2016 2017 2018
3.4. Selected domestic livestock indicator prices

- **Eastern Young Cattle Indicator**
  - Week ended 30 May 2019

- **Mutton indicator price in Victoria**
  - (18–24 kg fat score 2–3)
  - Week ended 31 May 2019

- **Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator**
  - Week ended 30 May 2019

- **Pig indicator price Eastern Seaboard**
  - (60.1–75 kg)
  - Week ended 24 May 2019
3.5. Selected fruit and vegetable prices – week ended 6 June 2019
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