Summary of key issues

- During the week ending 7 August 2019 little to no rainfall was recorded across most of Australia, with falls restricted to isolated areas of eastern and southern Australia.

- Rainfall of between 10 to 25 millimetres recorded across southern Western Australia, will particularly benefit crop and pasture growth in those regions that recorded below average falls during July.

- Following below average July 2019 rainfall across large areas of southern Australia, 7-month deficiencies have increased over north-eastern New South Wales and south-eastern Queensland, and south-western Western Australia.

- Over the next eight days, an intense low-pressure system is expected to produce a mix of dangerous weather, including heavy rain, thunderstorms, hail, snow, damaging winds and blizzards across a broad region of south-eastern Australia.

- Across Australia’s winter cropping regions, the 8-day rainfall forecast indicates falls of between 10 and 25 millimetres are expected across southern Victoria and central South Australia. Lighter falls of between 1 and 10 millimetres are forecast across the remainder of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, and across southern New South Wales.

- Water storage levels in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) increased between 30 July and 6 August 2019 by 122 gigalitres (GL). Current volume of water held in storage is 9,653 GL which represents 38% of total capacity. This is 31% or 4,390 GL less than at the same time last year.

- Allocation prices in the southern Murray-Darling Basin increased from $610 per ML in the week ending 29 July 2019 to $622 per ML in the week ending 5 August 2019.
1. Climate

1.1. Rainfall this week

During the week ending 7 August 2019 little to no rainfall was recorded across most of Australia, with falls restricted to isolated areas of eastern and southern Australia.

Rainfall of between 10 to 25 millimetres was recorded across winter cropping regions in northern Queensland and southern Western Australia during the week ending 7 August 2019. These falls will particularly benefit crop and pasture growth those areas in southern Western Australia that recorded below average falls during July.

Lighter rainfall between 1 to 10 millimetres was recorded across most remaining winter cropping Queensland and Western Australia during the week ending 7 August 2019. Cropping regions in New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia recorded little to no rainfall.

Rainfall for the week ending 7 August 2019
1.2. Temperature anomalies this week

For the week ending 6 August 2019, maximum temperatures were 2°C to 4°C above average across much of eastern New South Wales and large areas of Western Australia, and minimum temperatures were 2°C to 6°C above average across isolated parts of western and northern Australia. In contrast, minimum temperatures were -2°C to -8°C below average across most of New South Wales and eastern South Australia. Average (-2°C to 2°C) minimum and maximum temperatures were recorded across the remainder of the country.

**Maximum temperature anomalies for the week ending 6 August 2019**

![Maximum temperature anomalies map](http://www.bom.gov.au)

**Minimum temperature anomalies for the week ending 6 August 2019**

![Minimum temperature anomalies map](http://www.bom.gov.au)

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. 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. Rainfall deficiencies

The rainfall deficiencies presented below are sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology’s monthly ‘Drought Statement’. As short to longer-term deficiencies become evident the Bureau of Meteorology monitors these events through their lifecycle—from emergence through to their dissipation—with the time-period of analysis each month increasing from a fixed starting point to the easing of the deficiencies.


For the 7-month period ending Error! Reference source not found. 2019, north-eastern New South Wales, south-eastern Queensland, large areas of southern and eastern Western Australia, western and central South Australia and much of the Northern Territory recorded rainfall totals in the lowest 5 to 10 per cent of the historical record (serious or severe rainfall deficiencies).

Areas recording rainfall totals in the lowest 5 to 10 per cent of the historical record are also evident at longer timescales. For the 16-months ending Error! Reference source not found. 2019, serious or severe rainfall deficiencies have decreased along the west coast of Western Australia. In contrast, rainfall deficiencies increased in severity and extent across New South Wales, southern Western Australia and southern Queensland. Serious to severe rainfall deficiencies persist across much of northern and western New South Wales, parts of Victoria and south-eastern Queensland, large areas of eastern South Australia, parts of northern and southern Western Australia and much of the Northern Territory (Bureau of Meteorology ‘Drought Statement’, 7 August 2019).

**Rainfall deficiencies for the 7-month period 1 January to 31 Error! Reference source not found. 2019**
Rainfall deficiencies for the 16-month period 1 April 2018 to 31 July 2019

Rainfall Deficiencies: 16 months
1 April 2018 to 31 July 2019
Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Rainfall Percentile Ranking

©Commonwealth of Australia 2019, Australia Bureau of Meteorology

Issued: 07/08/2019
1.4. Rainfall forecast for the next eight days

Over the next eight days, an intense low-pressure system is expected to produce a mix of dangerous weather, including heavy rain, thunderstorms, hail, snow, damaging winds and blizzards across a broad region of south-eastern Australia. However, heavy rainfall is expected to be mainly restricted to the far east and south of Australia, with little to no rainfall forecast for most of the country.

Rainfall of between 10 and 50 millimetres is forecast for parts of southern New South Wales, much of Victoria, the far south and west of Western Australia, southern South Australia and much of Tasmania. Rainfall of between 50 and 100 millimetres is forecast for alpine regions of New South Wales, parts of southern Victoria and the far south of Tasmania.

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

Total forecast rainfall (mm) for the period 8 August to 15 August 2019

Note: This rainfall forecast is produced from computer models. As the model outputs are not altered by weather forecasters, it is important to check local forecasts and warnings issued by the Bureau of Meteorology.
2. Water

2.1. Water markets – current week

Water storage in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 122 gigalitres (GL) between 30 July and 6 August 2019. The current volume of water held in storage is 9,653 GL, which represents 38% of total capacity. This is 31% or 4,390 GL less than at the same time last year.


Allocation prices in the southern Murray-Darling Basin increased from $610 per ML in the week ending 29 July 2019 to $622 per ML in the week ending 5 August 2019. Water volume traded remains low due to low seasonal demand.

Surface water trade activity, Southern Murray–Darling Basin

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-080819

The trades shown reflect estimated market activity and do not encompass all register trades. The price line reflects value weighted average prices for the entire southern Murray-Darling Basin up until 1 July 2019. The price line after 1 July 2019 reflects recorded transaction prices in the Victorian Murray (Below the Choke). Data shown is current at 8 August 2019, and encompasses water market activity until 5 August 2019. Data is sourced from the BOM water dashboard, or Ruralco Water for price data after 1 July 2019.
### 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>Selected World Indicator Prices</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Dollar – AUD/USD Exchange Rate</td>
<td>07-Aug</td>
<td>US$/A$</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.69</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>0.74</td>
<td>-8%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wheat – US no. 2 hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf</td>
<td>06-Aug</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>211</td>
<td>216</td>
<td>-2%</td>
<td>260</td>
<td>-19%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coarse Grains – US no. 2 yellow corn, fob Gulf</td>
<td>07-Aug</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>175</td>
<td>186</td>
<td>-6%</td>
<td>167</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canola – Rapeseed, Europe, fob Hamburg</td>
<td>06-Aug</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>420</td>
<td>423</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>444</td>
<td>-5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton – Cotlook ‘A’ Index</td>
<td>07-Aug</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>71.9</td>
<td>75.4</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>98.2</td>
<td>-27%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Sugar – Intercontinental Exchange, nearby futures, no.11 contract</td>
<td>31-Jul</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>12.1</td>
<td>11.7</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>10.8</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool – Eastern Market Indicator</td>
<td>11-Jul</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,754</td>
<td>1,723</td>
<td>2%</td>
<td>1,981</td>
<td>-11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool – Western Market Indicator</td>
<td>12-Jul</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,894</td>
<td>1,867</td>
<td>1%</td>
<td>2,129</td>
<td>-11%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Selected domestic crop indicator prices</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milling Wheat – ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA</td>
<td>02-Jul</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>242</td>
<td>274</td>
<td>-12%</td>
<td>284</td>
<td>-15%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Wheat – General purpose, Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>07-Aug</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>345</td>
<td>350</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>380</td>
<td>-9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Barley – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>07-Aug</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>390</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Sorghum – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>07-Aug</td>
<td>A$/t</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>335</td>
<td>-3%</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>-21%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Selected domestic livestock indicator prices</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Beef – Eastern Young Cattle Indicator</td>
<td>01-Aug</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>533</td>
<td>532</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>477</td>
<td>12%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Mutton – Mutton Indicator (18–24 kg fat score 2–3), Vic</td>
<td>02-Aug</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>593</td>
<td>599</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>428</td>
<td>39%</td>
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<tr>
<td>Lamb – Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator</td>
<td>01-Aug</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>876</td>
<td>926</td>
<td>-5%</td>
<td>788</td>
<td>11%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig – Eastern Seaboard (60.1–75 kg), average of buyers &amp; sellers</td>
<td>26-Jul</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>375</td>
<td>364</td>
<td>3%</td>
<td>247</td>
<td>52%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat – Eastern States (12.1–16 kg)</td>
<td>05-Aug</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>908</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>560</td>
<td>61%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live cattle – Light steers ex Darwin to Indonesia</td>
<td>03-Aug</td>
<td>A$/head</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>0%</td>
<td>●</td>
<td>300</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live sheep – Live wether (Muchea WA saleyard) to Middle East</td>
<td>13-May</td>
<td>$/head</td>
<td>135</td>
<td>110</td>
<td>23%</td>
<td>95</td>
<td>42%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Indicator</td>
<td>Week ended</td>
<td>Unit</td>
<td>Latest price</td>
<td>Price week prior</td>
<td>Weekly change</td>
<td>Price 12 months prior</td>
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<td>--------------------------------------------</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices a</td>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Whole milk powder</td>
<td>06-Aug</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>3,039</td>
<td>3,074</td>
<td>-1% ↓</td>
<td>2,958</td>
<td>3% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Skim milk powder</td>
<td>06-Aug</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>2,482</td>
<td>2,505</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
<td>1,972</td>
<td>26% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Cheddar cheese</td>
<td>06-Aug</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>3,838</td>
<td>3,869</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
<td>3,663</td>
<td>5% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Anhydrous milk fat</td>
<td>06-Aug</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>5,246</td>
<td>5,523</td>
<td>-5% ↓</td>
<td>5,709</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 6 August 2019

- **World coarse grains indicator price**
  US corn No. 2, fob Gulf
  Week ended 7 August 2019

- **World canola indicator price**
  Europe fob Hamburg
  Week ended 6 August 2019

- **World cotton indicator price**
  Cotlook 'A' index
  Week ended 7 August 2019
3.2. Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices

- Whole milk powder price
  - 6 August 2019

- Skim milk powder price
  - 6 August 2019

- Cheddar cheese price
  - 6 August 2019

- Anhydrous milk fat price
  - 6 August 2019
3.3. Selected domestic crop indicator prices

Grain sorghum indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 7 August 2019

Feed barley indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 7 August 2019

Feed wheat indicator price
General Purpose, Sydney, NSW
Week ended 7 August 2019

Milling wheat indicator price
ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA
Week ended 2 July 2019
3.4. Selected domestic livestock indicator prices

Eastern Young Cattle Indicator
Week ended 1 August 2019

Mutton indicator price in Victoria
(18–24 kg fat score 2–3)
Week ended 2 August 2019

Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator
Week ended 1 August 2019

Pig indicator price Eastern Seaboard
(60.1–75 kg)
Week ended 26 July 2019
Goat indicator price Eastern States
(12.1–16 kg)
Week ended 5 August 2019

Live cattle indicator price
light steers ex Darwin
Week ended 3 August 2019

Live sheep indicator price
wether ex Western Australia
Week ended 13 May 2019
3.5. Selected fruit and vegetable prices – week ended 8 August 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
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