Summary of key issues

- During the week ending 11 September 2019 little to no rainfall was recorded across most of Australia, with falls restricted to far south-east.

- Across cropping regions rainfall totals of between 5 to 15 millimetres were recorded in southern New South Wales, much of Victoria and parts of South Australia. Little to no rainfall was recorded across cropping regions in Queensland and Western Australia, and remaining cropping regions in New South Wales and South Australia.

- Following below average August 2019 rainfall across much of Australia, 8-month deficiencies have increased over north-eastern New South Wales, south-eastern Queensland, eastern South Australia, the Northern Territory and eastern Western Australia.

- Over the next eight days, frontal activity is expected to result in limited rainfall, isolated to areas in the far south of Australia.

- Across Australia’s winter cropping regions, the 8-day rainfall forecast indicates that falls of between 5 and 10 millimetres are expected across part of southern Western Australia. Little to no rainfall is expected across remaining cropping regions.

- Water storage levels in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) increased between 3 September and 10 September 2019 by 6 gigalitres (GL). Current volume of water held in storage is 10,353 GL which represents 41 per cent of total capacity. This is 28 percentage points or 4,109 GL less than at the same time last year.

- Allocation prices in the Victorian Murray below the Barmah Choke increased from $703 per ML on 26 August 2019 to $792 per ML on 2 September 2019. Trade restrictions are currently binding in several catchments, leading to differences in water prices across the Murray Darling Basin.
1. Climate

1.1. Rainfall this week

During the week ending 11 September 2019 little to no rainfall was recorded across most of Australia, with falls restricted to far south-eastern Australia.

Across cropping regions rainfall totals of between 5 to 15 millimetres were recorded in southern New South Wales, much of Victoria and parts of South Australia. Little to no rainfall was recorded across cropping regions in Queensland and Western Australia, and remaining cropping regions in New South Wales and South Australia.

Rainfall for the week ending 11 September 2019
1.2. Temperature anomalies this week

For the week ending 10 September 2019, maximum temperatures were 2°C to 4°C above average across large parts of Western Australia and isolated parts of eastern Australia. In contrast, minimum temperatures were 2°C to 6°C below average across parts of south-western, central and north-eastern Australia, with temperatures up to 10°C below average in small parts of northern Queensland. 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 10 September 2019

Minimum temperature anomalies for the week ending 10 September 2019

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.
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 8-month period ending August 2019, north-eastern New South Wales, south-eastern Queensland, large areas of southern and eastern Western Australia, and much of South Australia and 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. Following below average rainfall during August, rainfall deficiencies increased in severity and extent across New South Wales, northern Victoria, southern Queensland and eastern South Australia for the 17 months ending August 2019. 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’, 5 September 2019).

![Rainfall deficiencies for the 8-month period 1 January to 31 August 2019](image-url)
Rainfall deficiencies for the 17-month period 1 April 2018 to 31 August 2019

Rainfall Deficiencies: 17 months
1 April 2018 to 31 August 2019
Distribution Based on Gridded Data
Australian Bureau of Meteorology

http://www.bom.gov.au
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Issued: 05/09/2019
1.4. Rainfall forecast for the next eight days

Over the next eight days, frontal activity is expected to result in some rainfall over the far south of Australia. However, persistent high-pressure systems over the Great Australian Bight during the next eight days, is likely to restrict the movement of rain-bearing systems and resulting in little to no rainfall forecast for much of mainland Australia.

Rainfall of between 10 and 25 millimetres is forecast for southern Victoria and far south-west Western Australia. Higher rainfall totals up to 100 millimetres are forecast for western Tasmania. Rainfall of between 1 and 10 millimetres is forecast for south-eastern New South Wales, the south-west of Western Australia, south-eastern South Australia and remaining areas of Victoria.

In cropping regions, rainfall of between 5 and 10 millimetres is expected across part of southern Western Australia. Lighter falls of between 1 and 5 millimetres are forecast across cropping regions in south-eastern New South Wales, Victoria, south-eastern South Australia and much of Western Australia. Little to no rainfall is expected across cropping regions in Queensland, northern Western Australia and remaining cropping regions in New South Wales and South Australia.

Total forecast rainfall (mm) for the period 12 September to 19 September 2019
2. Water

2.1. Water markets – current week

Water storage in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 6 gigalitres (GL) between 3 September and 10 September 2019. The current volume of water held in storage is 10,353 GL, which represents 41% of total capacity. This is 28% or 4,109 GL less than at the same time last year.


Allocation prices in the Victorian Murray below the Barmah Choke increased from $703 per ML on 26 August 2019 to $792 per ML on 2 September 2019. Trade restrictions are currently binding in several catchments, leading to differences in water prices across the Murray Darling Basin.

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-120919
## 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>
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<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Australian Dollar – AUD/USD Exchange Rate</td>
<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>US$/A$</td>
<td>0.68</td>
<td>0.67</td>
<td>1% ↑</td>
<td>0.71</td>
<td>-4% ↓</td>
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<tr>
<td>Wheat – US no. 2 hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf</td>
<td>10-Sep</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>199</td>
<td>197</td>
<td>1% ↑</td>
<td>239</td>
<td>-17% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Coarse Grains – US no. 2 yellow corn, fob Gulf</td>
<td>04-Sep</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>155</td>
<td>157</td>
<td>-1% ↓</td>
<td>160</td>
<td>-3% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Canola – Rapeseed, Europe, fob Hamburg</td>
<td>10-Sep</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>425</td>
<td>422</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↑</td>
<td>439</td>
<td>-3% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Cotton – Cotlook ‘A’ Index</td>
<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>USc/lb</td>
<td>70.4</td>
<td>70.0</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↑</td>
<td>92.0</td>
<td>-23% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool – Eastern Market Indicator</td>
<td>05-Sep</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,365</td>
<td>1,375</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
<td>2,088</td>
<td>-35% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Wool – Western Market Indicator</td>
<td>06-Sep</td>
<td>Ac/kg clean</td>
<td>1,383</td>
<td>1,416</td>
<td>-2% ↓</td>
<td>2,255</td>
<td>-39% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selected domestic crop indicator prices</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Milling Wheat – ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA</td>
<td>10-Sep</td>
<td>AS$/t</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>367</td>
<td>-18% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Wheat – General purpose, Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>AS$/t</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>365</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>430</td>
<td>-15% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Feed Barley – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>AS$/t</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>360</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>-12% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Grain Sorghum – Sydney, NSW</td>
<td>11-Sep</td>
<td>AS$/t</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>325</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>410</td>
<td>-21% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Selected domestic livestock indicator prices</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Beef – Eastern Young Cattle Indicator</td>
<td>05-Sep</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>500</td>
<td>504</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
<td>489</td>
<td>2% ↑</td>
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<tr>
<td>Mutton – Mutton indicator (18–24 kg fat score 2–3), Vic</td>
<td>06-Sep</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>579</td>
<td>583</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↓</td>
<td>479</td>
<td>21% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Lamb – Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator</td>
<td>05-Sep</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>803</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>855</td>
<td>-6% ↓</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Pig – Eastern Seaboard (60.1–75 kg), average of buyers &amp; sellers</td>
<td>30-Aug</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>386</td>
<td>385</td>
<td>&lt;1% ↑</td>
<td>248</td>
<td>56% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Goat – Eastern States (12.1–16 kg)</td>
<td>09-Sep</td>
<td>Ac/kg cwt</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>902</td>
<td>0% ●</td>
<td>540</td>
<td>67% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live cattle – Light steers ex Darwin to Indonesia</td>
<td>07-Sep</td>
<td>Ac/kg lwt</td>
<td>315</td>
<td>310</td>
<td>2% ↑</td>
<td>300</td>
<td>5% ↑</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Live sheep – Live wether (Muchea WA saleyard) to Middle East</td>
<td>13-May</td>
<td>$/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>
<tr>
<td><strong>Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices</strong>&lt;sup&gt;a&lt;/sup&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Whole milk powder</td>
<td>03-Sep</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>3,076</td>
<td>3,100</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>2,821</td>
<td>9%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Skim milk powder</td>
<td>03-Sep</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>2,500</td>
<td>2,478</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>2,005</td>
<td>25%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Cheddar cheese</td>
<td>03-Sep</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>3,827</td>
<td>3,857</td>
<td>&lt;1%</td>
<td>3,631</td>
<td>5%</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Dairy – Anhydrous milk fat</td>
<td>03-Sep</td>
<td>US$/t</td>
<td>4,988</td>
<td>5,061</td>
<td>-1%</td>
<td>5,316</td>
<td>-6%</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<sup>a</sup> 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 10 September 2019

World coarse grains indicator price
US corn No. 2, fob Gulf
Week ended 4 September 2019

World canola indicator price
Europe fob Hamburg
Week ended 10 September 2019

World cotton indicator price
Cotlook ‘A’ index
Week ended 11 September 2019
3.2. Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices

- Whole milk powder price
  - 3 September 2019

- Skim milk powder price
  - 3 September 2019

- Cheddar cheese price
  - 3 September 2019

- Anhydrous milk fat price
  - 3 September 2019
3.3. Selected domestic crop indicator prices

Grain sorghum indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 11 September 2019

Feed barley indicator price
Sydney, NSW
Week ended 11 September 2019

Feed wheat indicator price
General Purpose, Sydney, NSW
Week ended 11 September 2019

Milling wheat indicator price
ASW1, track quote, Port Adelaide, SA
Week ended 10 September 2019
3.4. Selected domestic livestock indicator prices

Eastern Young Cattle Indicator
Week ended 5 September 2019

Mutton indicator price in Victoria
(18–24 kg fat score 2–3)
Week ended 6 September 2019

Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator
Week ended 5 September 2019

Pig indicator price Eastern Seaboard
(60.1–75 kg)
Week ended 30 August 2019
3.5. Selected fruit and vegetable prices – week ended 12 September 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

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