



Weekly Australian Climate, Water and Agricultural Update

No. 24/2022

23 June 2022

Summary of key issues

- For the week ending 22 June 2022, low-pressure systems and associated cold fronts brought rainfall to western and southern parts of the country, while high-pressure systems were the dominant climate feature across remaining parts of Australia bringing clear, dry and colder than normal conditions (see Section 1.1).
- Dry conditions across New South Wales and Queensland would have been a welcome reprieve for many growers, allowing field access for the harvesting of summer crops and the planting of winter crops. Most growers have completed their winter planting programs across cropping regions of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, with previous rainfall supporting the establishment and development of crops. Rainfall across Western Australian cropping regions has provided a much-needed boost to soil moisture levels, where dry conditions have persisted over recent weeks.
- The 2021–22 La Niña event seems to be at an end, with key indicators having returned to neutral. However, some models suggest that La Niña may re-form during the southern hemisphere spring later in 2022. While back-to-back La Niña events are not uncommon, and have occurred in approximately half of all past events since 1900, three in a row is less common and has only occurred three times since 1900: 1954–57, 1973–76, and 1998–2001. Despite the end of the 2021–22 La Niña, the Bureau's long-range climate outlook remains wetter than average for most of Australia, reflecting a range of climate drivers including a developing negative Indian Ocean Dipole, and warmer than average waters around Australia (see Section 1.2).
- The outlook for July 2022 indicates that there is a 75% chance of rainfall totals between 10 and 50 millimetres across New South Wales, south-east Queensland, Victoria, southern South Australia, the southwest of Western Australia and Tasmania. Rainfall totals in excess of 100 millimetres are expected across alpine regions of New South Wales and Victoria, as well as the far southwest of Western Australia and western Tasmania (see Section 1.3).
- Over the 8-days to 30 June 2022, frontal activity moving across southern Australia is expected to bring moderate rainfall to parts of south-eastern Australia. Meanwhile, high pressure systems are forecast to be the dominant climate feature across much of the country, resulting in clear, dry conditions. If realised, a third week of dry conditions across cropping regions in New South Wales and Queensland should see soil moisture levels continuing to decrease, allowing improved access to fields for the harvest of summer crops and the sowing of winter crops (see Section 1.4).
- Water storage in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 5 gigalitres (GL) between 15 June 2022 and 22 June 2022. The current volume of water held in storage is 22,150 GL, which represents 88 of total capacity. This is 41% or 6,443 GL more than at the same time last year.
- Allocation prices in the Victorian Murray below the Barmah Choke decreased from \$19 per ML on 10 June 2022 to \$18 per ML on 17 June 2022. Prices are lower in the Murrumbidgee and regions above the Barmah choke due to the binding of the Murrumbidgee export limit and Barmah choke trade constraint.

1. Climate

1.1. Rainfall this week

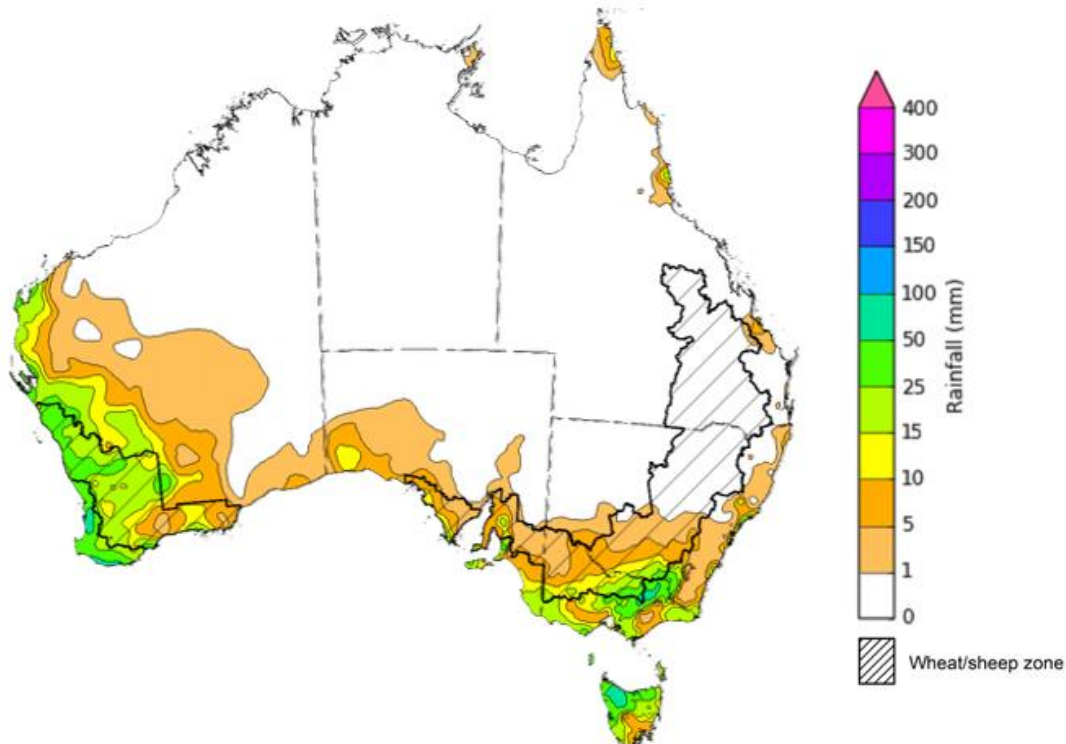
For the week ending 22 June 2022, low-pressure systems and associated cold fronts brought rainfall to western and southern parts of the country, while high-pressure systems were the dominant climate feature across remaining parts of Australia bringing clear, dry and colder than normal conditions.

Rainfall totals of between 10 and 50 millimetres were recorded across alpine areas of New South Wales and Victoria, southern Victoria, the far south-east of South Australia, the south-west of Western Australia and much of Tasmania. Rainfall totals in excess of 50 millimetres were recorded in isolated parts of the south-west of Western Australia, as well as north-western Tasmania. Remaining parts of Australia received little to no rainfall.

In cropping regions, rainfall totals of between 10 and 50 millimetres were recorded in isolated parts of South Australia, southern New South Wales, southern and eastern Victoria and most of Western Australia. Little to no rainfall was recorded across cropping regions in New South Wales, Queensland, northern Victoria and remaining parts of South Australia.

Dry conditions across New South Wales and Queensland would have been a welcome reprieve for many growers, allowing field access for the harvesting of summer crops and the planting of winter crops. Most growers have completed their winter planting programs across cropping regions of Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia, with previous rainfall supporting the establishment and development of crops. Rainfall across Western Australian cropping regions has provided a much-needed boost to soil moisture levels, where dry conditions have persisted over recent weeks.

Rainfall for the week ending 22 June 2022



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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/>

Issued: 22/6/2022

1.2. Climate Drivers

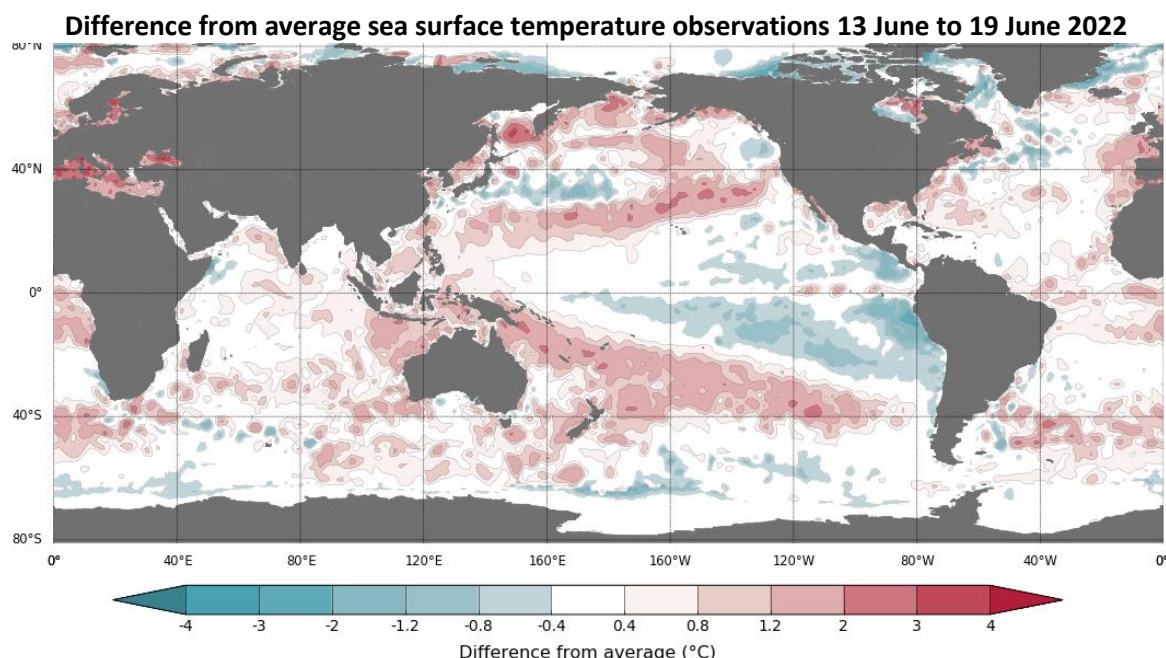
Throughout winter, the climate drivers with the largest potential impact on Australia's climate patterns are the El Niño–Southern Oscillation (ENSO), the Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) and the Southern Annular Mode (SAM). These climate drivers are likely to influence pasture growth across southern Australia and the germination and growth for winter crops.

The 2021–22 La Niña event seems to be at an end, with key indicators having returned to neutral. However, some models suggest that La Niña may re-form during the southern hemisphere spring later in 2022. While back-to-back La Niña events are not uncommon, and have occurred in approximately half of all past events since 1900, three in a row is less common and has only occurred three times since 1900: 1954–57, 1973–76, and 1998–2001. Despite the end of the 2021–22 La Niña, the Bureau's long-range climate outlook remains wetter than average for most of Australia, reflecting a range of climate drivers including a developing negative Indian Ocean Dipole, and warmer than average waters around Australia.

The IOD is currently neutral. All international climate models surveyed by the Bureau of Meteorology indicate a negative IOD event could develop during early to mid-winter. A negative IOD increases the chances of above average winter–spring rainfall for much of Australia.

The Southern Annular Mode (SAM) index is currently negative but is expected to return to neutral values for at least the next two weeks. Neutral SAM conditions typically has little influence on Australian rainfall.

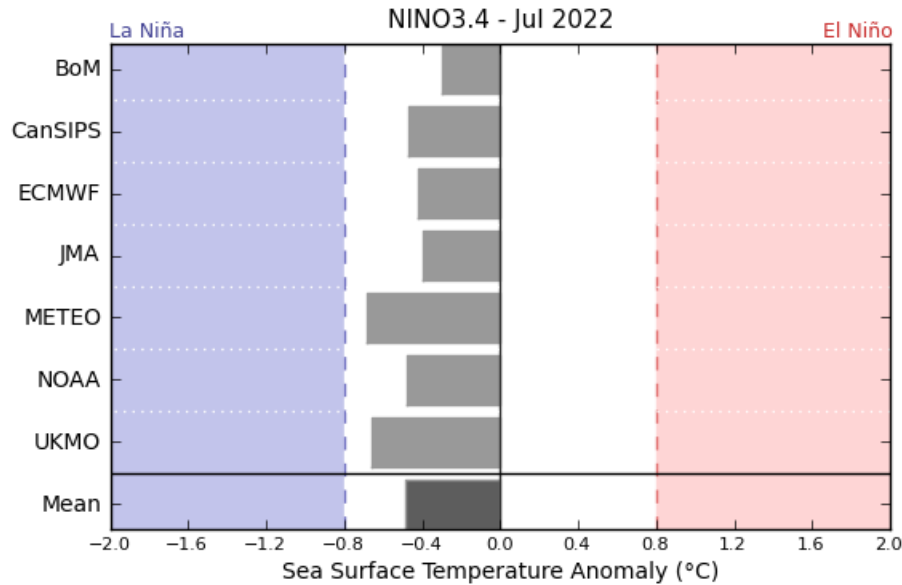
Compared to two weeks ago, tropical Pacific Ocean sea surface temperatures (SST) have cooled slightly, over much of the tropical central and eastern Pacific south of the equator. Meanwhile, SSTs close to the equator were generally near average, and small areas of warm anomalies have emerged in some parts of the eastern equatorial Pacific. Warmer than average sea surface temperatures around much of Australia are likely to be contributing to wetter outlooks over the coming months, and the forecast sea surface temperature pattern in the tropical Pacific still favours average to above average winter rainfall for eastern Australia.



Data: BOM SST
Climatology baseline: 1961 to 1990
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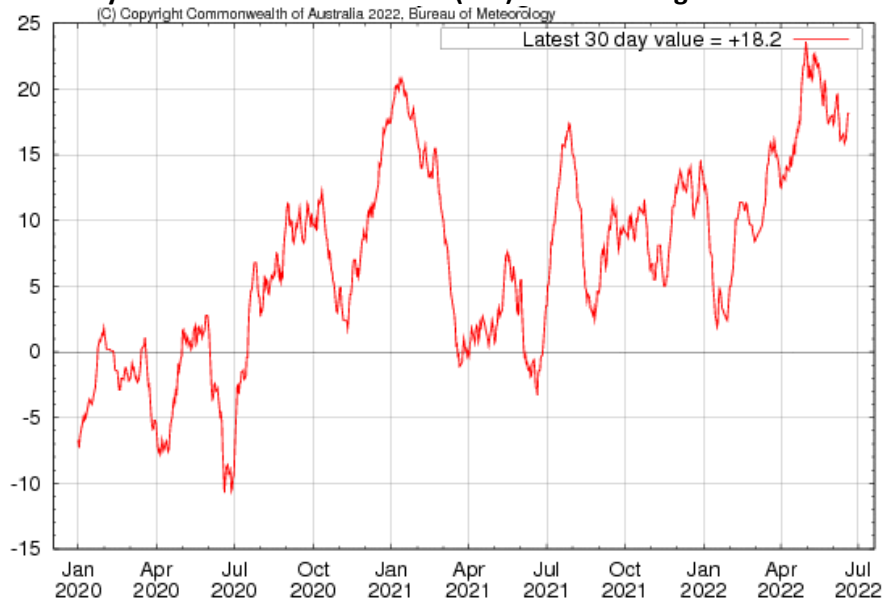
<http://www.bom.gov.au/climate> Weekly average: 19 June 2022
Created: 20/06/2022

International climate model outlooks for the NINO 3.4 region in July 2022



Most climate models surveyed by the Bureau of Meteorology indicate that ENSO conditions have returned to neutral (neither El Niño nor La Niña). However, some models suggest that La Niña may re-form during the southern hemisphere spring later in 2022. For October, four of the seven international climate models surveyed by the Bureau indicate SSTs in the central equatorial Pacific Ocean could reach or exceed La Niña threshold values. Three of the seven models anticipate that the current ENSO-neutral state will continue through to at least November. ENSO events are usually most active throughout spring and summer, then decay and return to neutral conditions in autumn. For the period ending 19 June 2022, the 30-day and 90-day SOI value was +18.1, both well above the La Niña threshold of +7. While trade winds have returned to average strength in the Pacific, cloudiness near the Date Line remains below average.

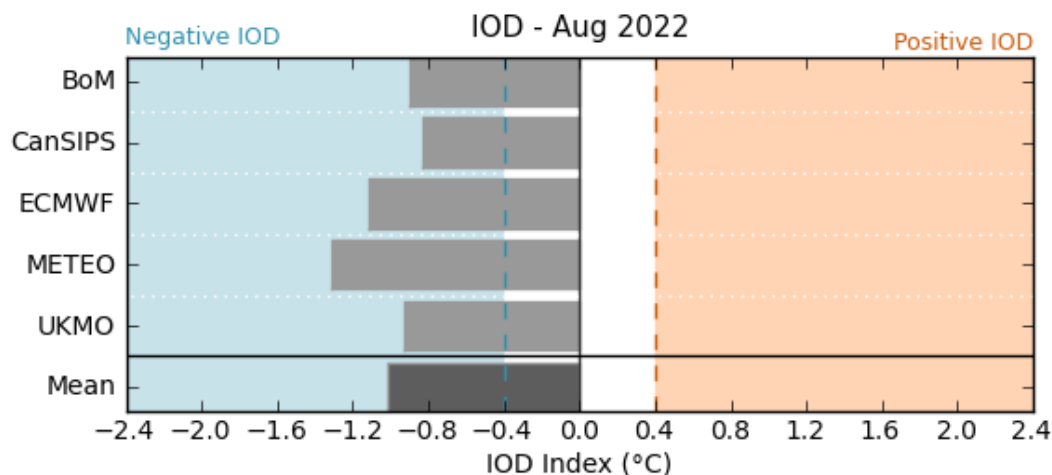
30-day Southern Oscillation Index (SOI) values ending 19 June 2022



The Indian Ocean Dipole (IOD) is currently neutral. However, the IOD index has been below zero for the last six weeks with several of those weeks being around or below the negative IOD threshold (-0.4°C). The latest IOD index value for the week ending 19 June 2022 was -0.49°C . Cool anomalies are present near the Horn of Africa, while warm anomalies have persisted across waters to the north and north-west of Australia. The establishment of a clear gradient in the temperature anomalies across the Indian Ocean is consistent with a developing negative Indian Ocean Dipole pattern.

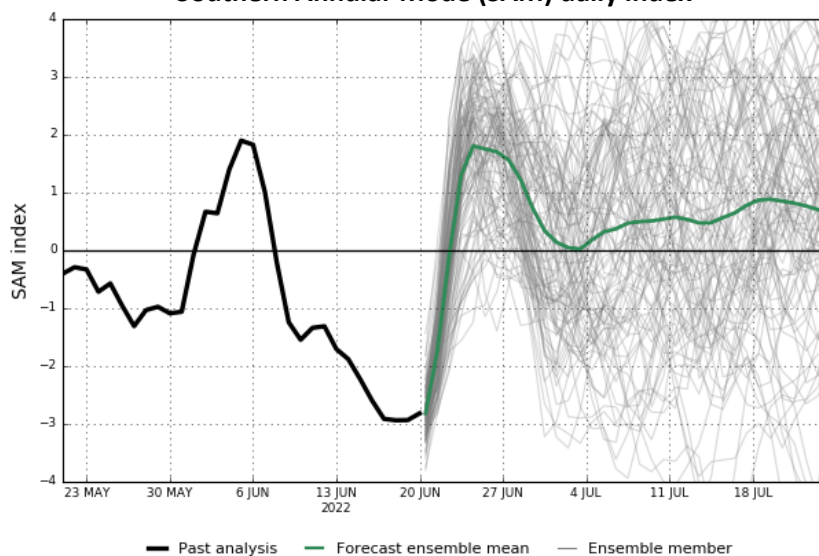
All international climate models surveyed by the Bureau of Meteorology indicate a negative IOD event will develop during early to mid-winter, with several forecasting strong negative values of the IOD index by August.

International climate model outlooks for the IOD index in August 2022



The Southern Annular Mode (SAM) has become increasingly negative over the past fortnight but is expected to return to neutral values and remain neutral over the coming weeks. The SAM refers to the north-south shift of the band of rain-bearing westerly winds and weather systems in the Southern Ocean compared to the usual position. A negative SAM in winter is associated with increased rainfall for parts of south-western and south-eastern Australia. It is also associated with decreased rainfall for parts of eastern Australia.

Southern Annular Mode (SAM) daily index



www.bom.gov.au/climate
Commonwealth of Australia 2022, Australian Bureau of Meteorology

Model run: 20 Jun 2022 Model: ACCESS-S2
Base period 1990-2012

1.3. National Climate Outlook

These climate outlooks are generated by ACCESS–S (Australian Community Climate Earth-System Simulator–Seasonal). ACCESS–S is the Bureau of Meteorology's dynamical (physics-based) weather and climate model used for monthly, seasonal and longer-lead climate outlooks.

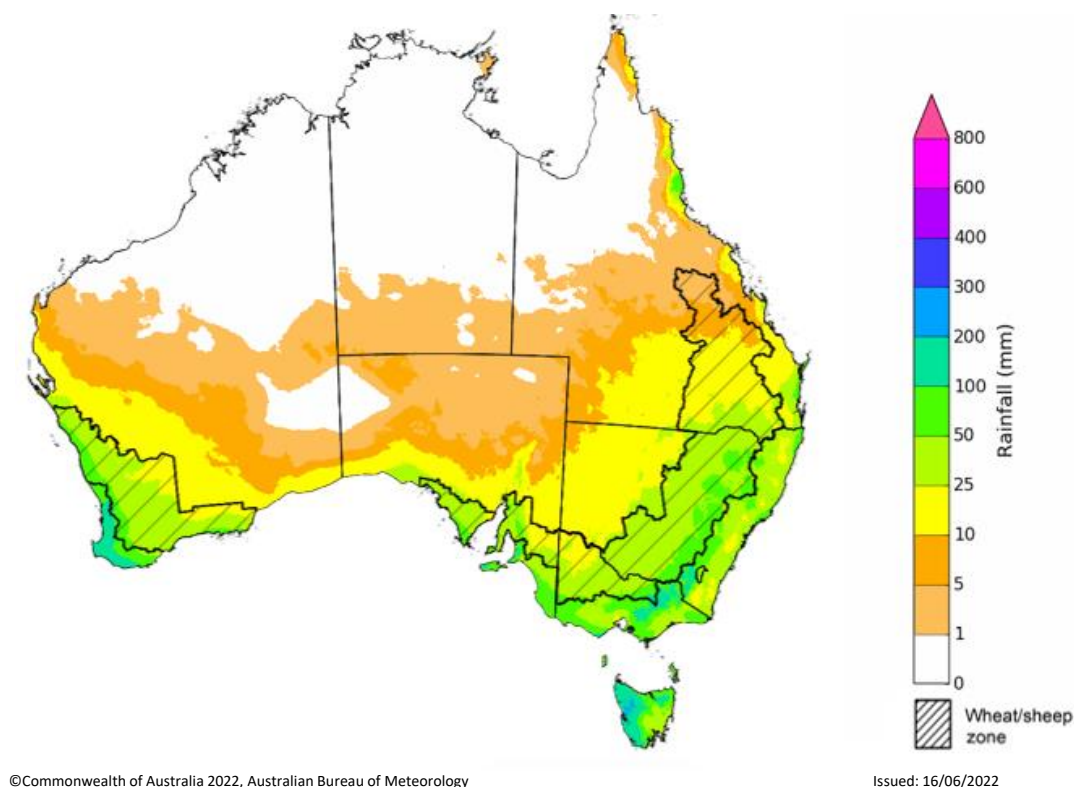
For further information, go to <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead/about/>

The Bureau of Meteorology's latest rainfall outlook indicates wetter than average conditions are expected across the majority of Australia during July. The ACCESS-S climate model suggests there is close to a 65% chance of exceeding median for most of Australia, while the south-west and far south-east of Australia have roughly equal chances of being above or below median.

The outlook for July 2022 indicates that there is a 75% chance of rainfall totals between 10 and 50 millimetres across New South Wales, south-east Queensland, Victoria, southern South Australia, the southwest of Western Australia and Tasmania. Rainfall totals in excess of 100 millimetres are expected across alpine regions of New South Wales and Victoria, as well as the far southwest of Western Australia and western Tasmania.

Across cropping regions there is a 75% chance of rainfall totals of between 25 and 50 millimetres across most of New South Wales, Victoria, South Australia and Western Australia. There is a 75% chance of rainfall less than 25 millimetres for northwest Victoria, parts of eastern South Australia, most of Queensland, and eastern cropping regions in Western Australia.

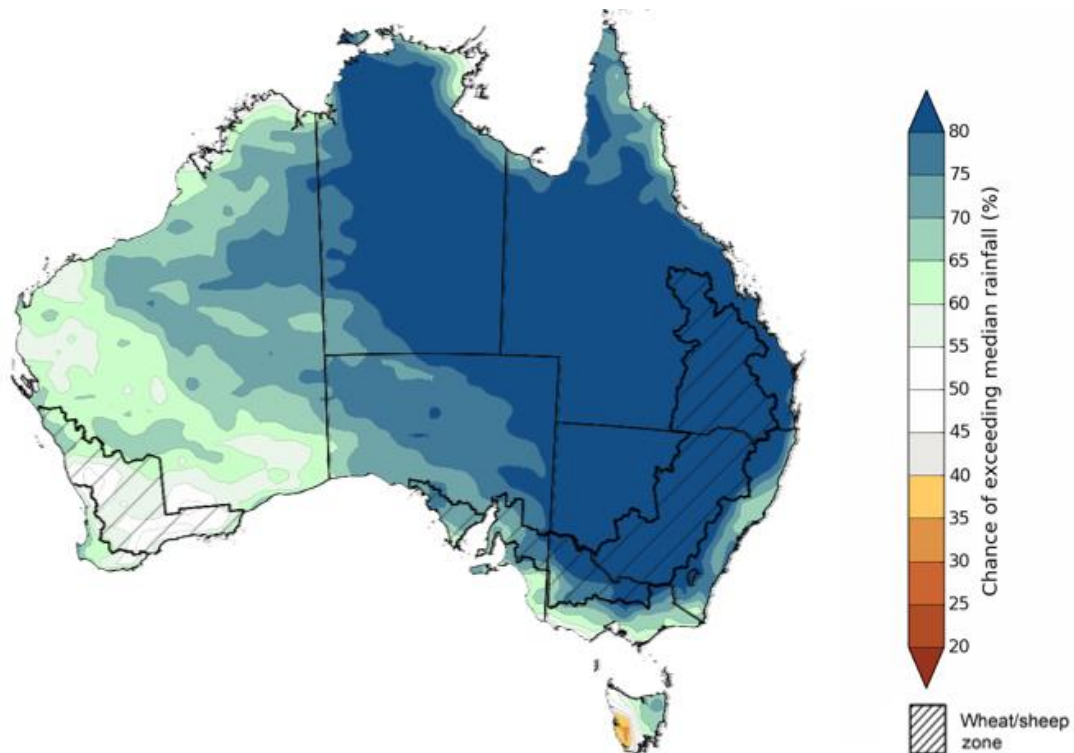
Rainfall totals that have a 75% chance of occurring July 2022



The rainfall outlook for July to September 2022 suggests there is a greater than 80% chance of exceeding median rainfall across most of New South Wales, Queensland, parts of South Australia, northern Victoria, as well as the Northern Territory. For remaining regions of Australia, there is an increased chance of above median rainfall between July to September 2022 (Bureau of Meteorology 'National Climate Outlook', 16 June 2022).

Bureau of Meteorology rainfall outlooks for July to September have greater than 55% past accuracy across most of Australia. Outlook accuracy is greater than 65% across large areas of western and eastern Australia.

Chance of exceeding the median rainfall July to September 2022



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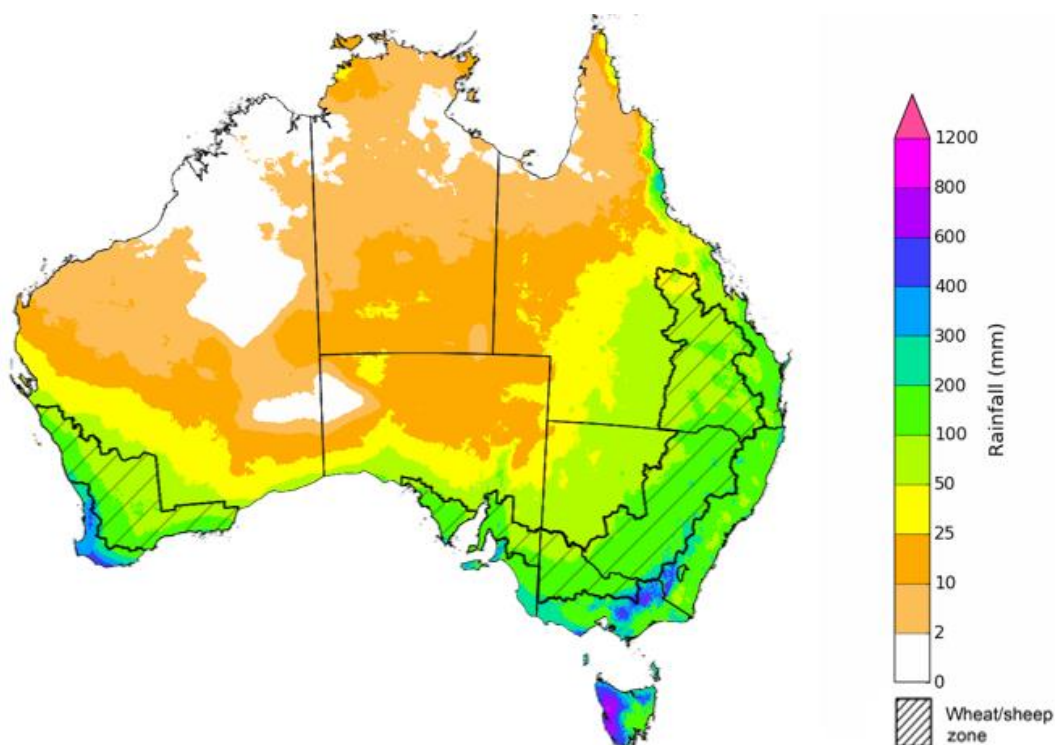
Issued: 16/06/2022

The outlook for July to September 2022 suggests there is a 75% chance of rainfall totals between 50 and 200 millimetres across much of New South Wales, south-eastern Queensland, Victoria, southern parts of South Australia, the south-west of Western Australia and Tasmania. Rainfall totals in excess of 200 millimetres are forecast for alpine regions of New South Wales and Victoria, the far southwest of Victoria, the far southeast of South Australia, the far south-west of Western Australia, and western and northern Tasmania.

Across cropping regions, there is a 75% chance of receiving between 50 and 100 millimetres across much of Queensland, northern Victoria, parts of eastern South Australia and the east of Western Australia. Totals of between 100 and 200 millimetres are expected across much of New South Wales, parts of southern Queensland, much of Victoria, central and western South Australia and western and southern Western Australia.

Root zone soil moisture levels are average to above average across much of the Wheat/sheep zone but below average to average across parts of Western Australia. There is a high—75%—chance that forecast rainfall totals across Western Australian cropping regions will be sufficient to support the establishment and growth of winter crops during the July to September period. In remaining cropping regions, the expectation of above average rainfall over the next three months increases the risk of waterlogging adversely affecting crop growth and development, particularly in areas with above average soil moisture levels for this time of year.

Rainfall totals that have a 75% chance of occurring July to September 2022

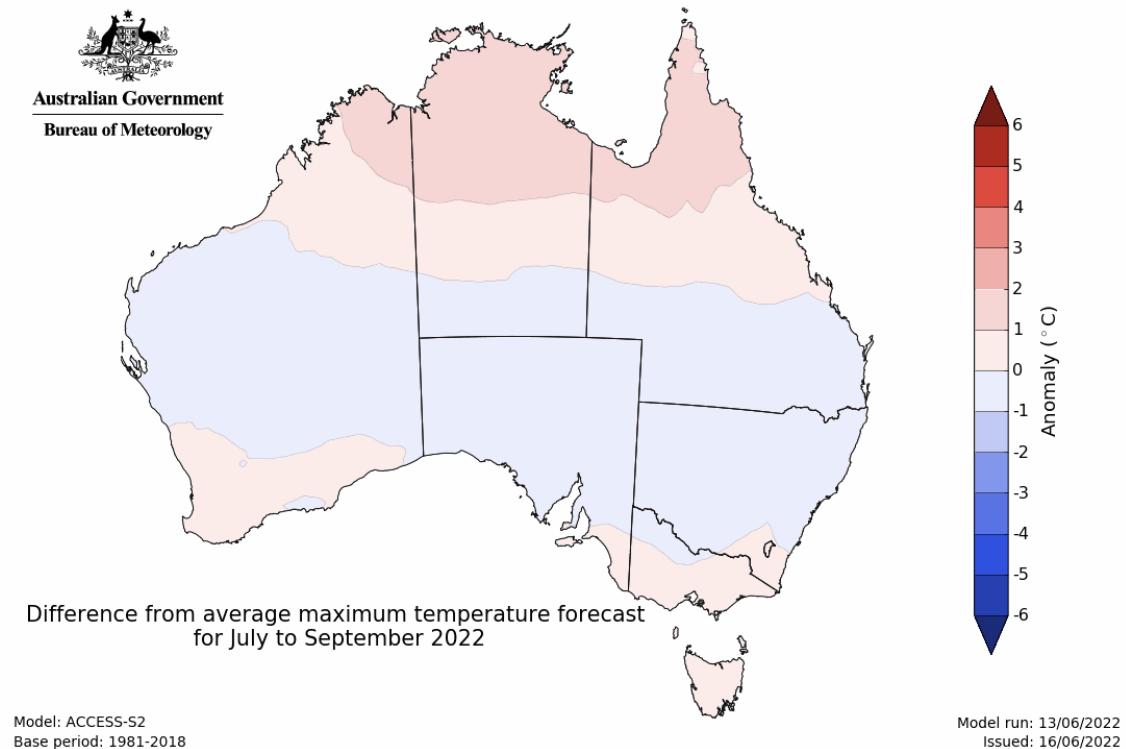


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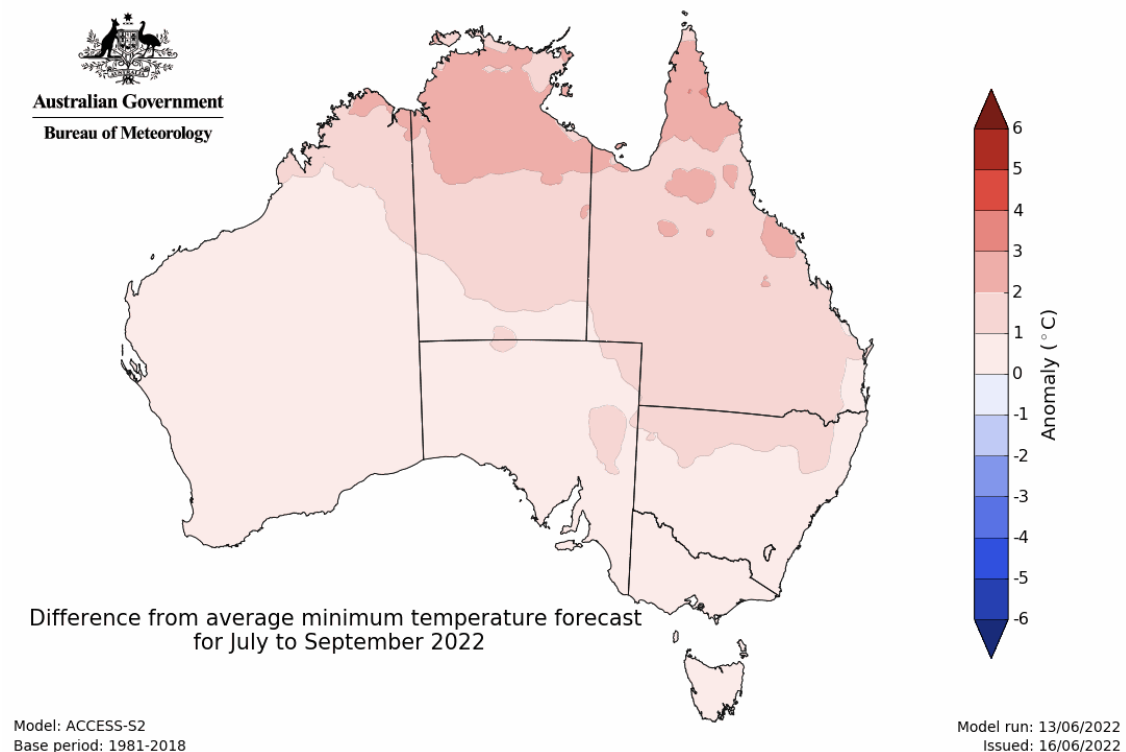
Issued: 16/06/2022

The temperature outlook for July to September 2022 indicates that maximum temperatures across most of Australia are likely to be close to the 1990-2012 average (- 1°C to 1°C), with slightly higher than average temperatures across the tropical north. Minimum temperatures are expected to be slightly above average for much of the northern and eastern Australia, and close to average for the rest of Australia (Bureau of Meteorology 'National Climate Outlook', 16 June 2022).

Predicted maximum temperature anomaly for July to September 2022



Predicted minimum temperature anomaly for July to September 2022



1.4. Rainfall forecast for the next eight days

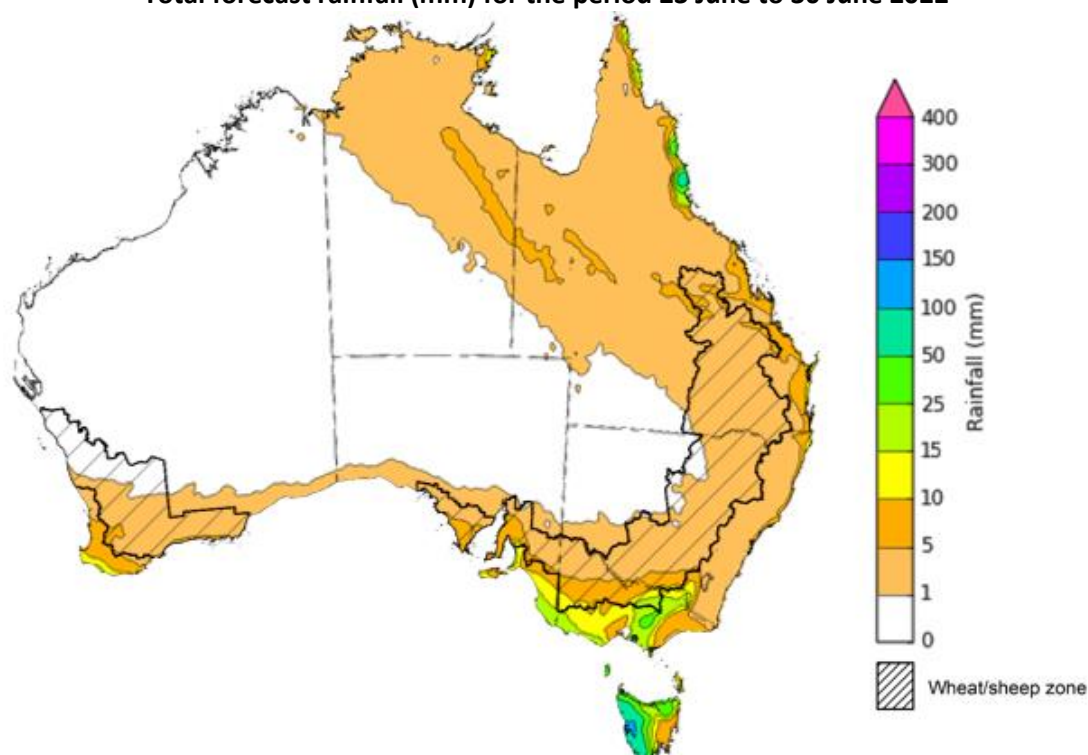
Over the 8-days to 30 June 2022, frontal activity moving across southern Australia is expected to bring moderate rainfall to parts of south-eastern Australia. Meanwhile, high pressure systems are forecast to be the dominant climate feature across much of the country, resulting in clear, dry conditions.

Rainfall totals of between 10 and 50 millimetres are forecast for alpine regions of New South Wales and Victoria, southern parts of Victoria and South Australia, parts of the south-west of Western Australia and western Tasmania. Little to no rainfall is forecast across remaining parts of Australia over the next 8-days.

In Australian cropping regions, rainfall totals of between 10 and 50 millimetres are expected in isolated parts of southern and eastern Victoria. Little to no rainfall is forecast for all remaining cropping regions during the next 8-days.

A third week of dry conditions across cropping regions in New South Wales and Queensland should see soil moisture levels continuing to decrease, allowing improved access to fields. Significant progress has been made over recent weeks to finalise the harvest of summer crops in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales. Likewise, there has been good progress on plantings of winter crops, giving growers the opportunity to plant winter cereals before the planting window closes. Despite relatively dry conditions across cropping regions of southern Australia, soil moisture levels remain average to above average. The large winter crop planting is expected to have sufficient plant available water to support crop development over the coming weeks.

Total forecast rainfall (mm) for the period 23 June to 30 June 2022



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Issued: 23/6/2022

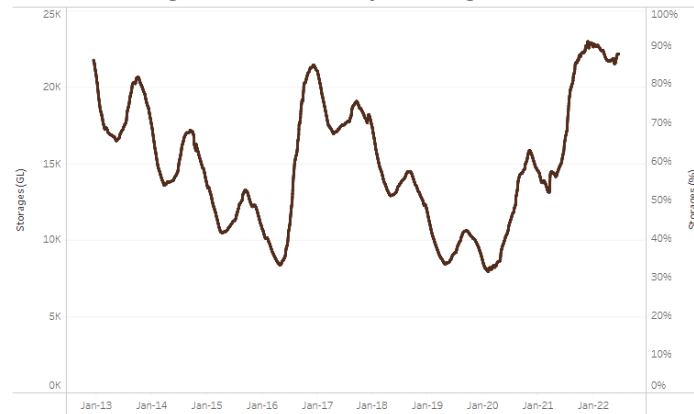
Note: This rainfall forecast is produced from computer models. As the model outputs are not altered by weather forecasters, it is important to check local forecasts and warnings issued by the Bureau of Meteorology.

2. Water

2.1. Water markets – current week

Water storage in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 5 gigalitres (GL) between 15 June 2022 and 22 June 2022. The current volume of water held in storage is 22,150 GL, which represents 88 of total capacity. This is 41% or 6,443 GL more than at the same time last year.

Water storages in the Murray-Darling Basin, 2013–2022

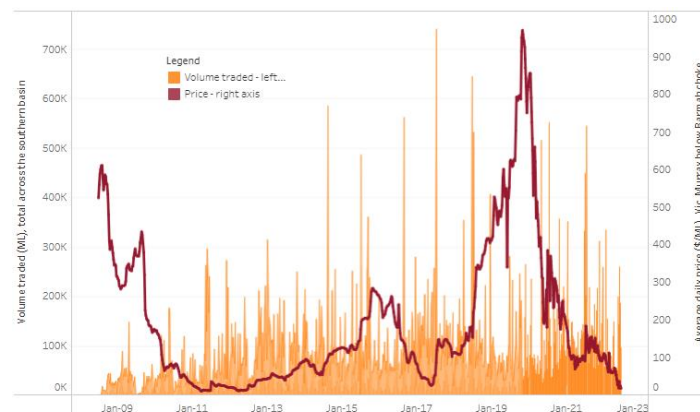


Water storage data is sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology.

Allocation prices in the Victorian Murray below the Barmah Choke decreased from \$19 per ML on 10 June 2022 to \$18 per ML on 17 June 2022. Prices are lower in the Murrumbidgee and regions above the Barmah choke due to the binding of the Murrumbidgee export limit and Barmah choke trade constraint.

Region	\$/ML
NSW Murray Above	1
NSW Murrumbidgee	1
VIC Goulburn-Broken	12
VIC Murray Below	18

Surface water trade activity, Southern Murray–Darling Basin



The trades shown reflect estimated market activity and do not encompass all register trades. The price is shown for the VIC Murray below the Barmah choke. Historical prices (before 1 July 2019) are ABARES estimates after removing outliers from BOM water register data. Prices after 1 July 2019 and prior to the 30 October 2019 reflect recorded transaction prices as sourced from Ruralco. Prices after the 30 October 2019 are sourced from Waterflow. Data for volume traded is sourced from the BOM water register. Data shown is current at 23 June 2022.

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/products/weekly_update/weekly-update-230622

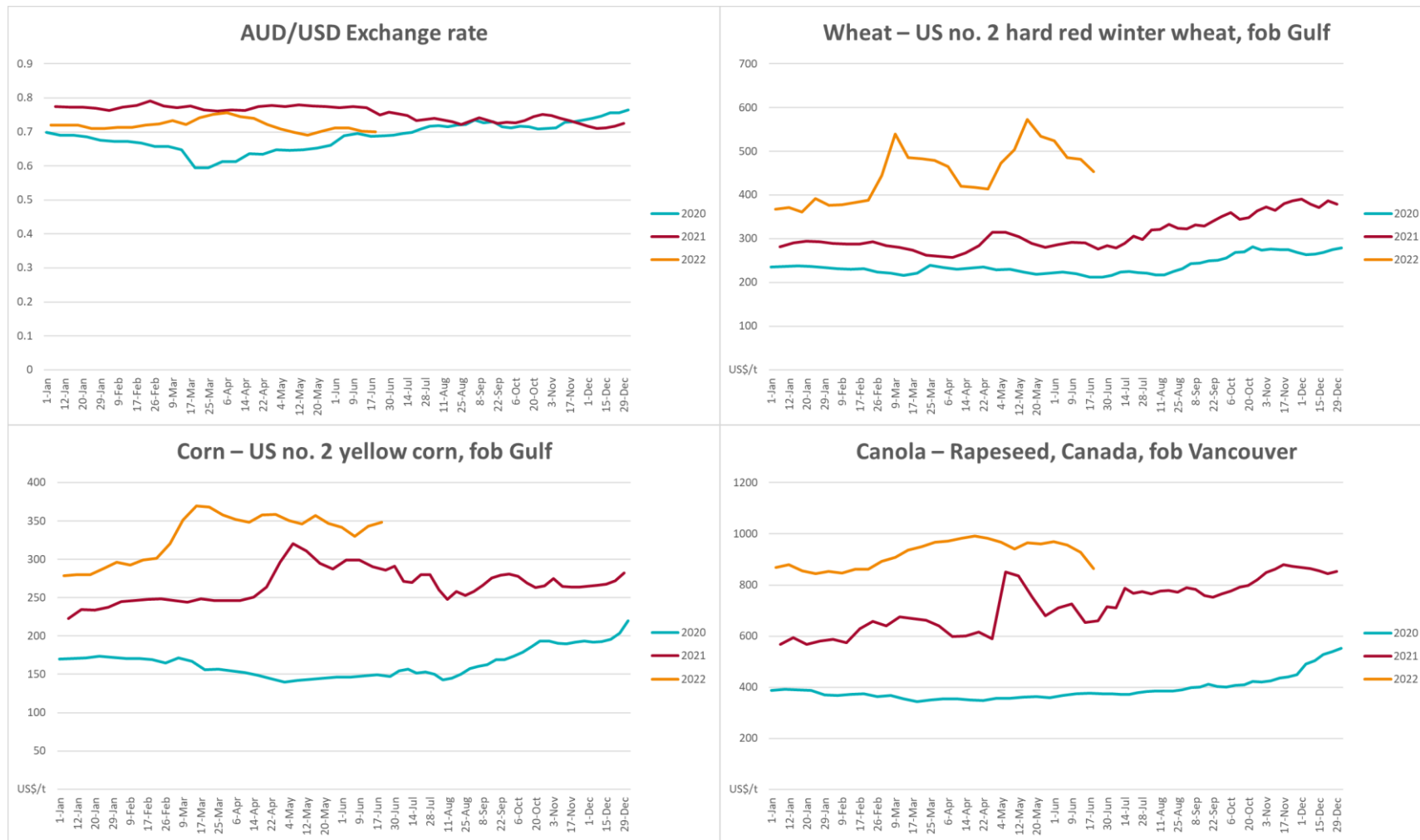
3. Commodities

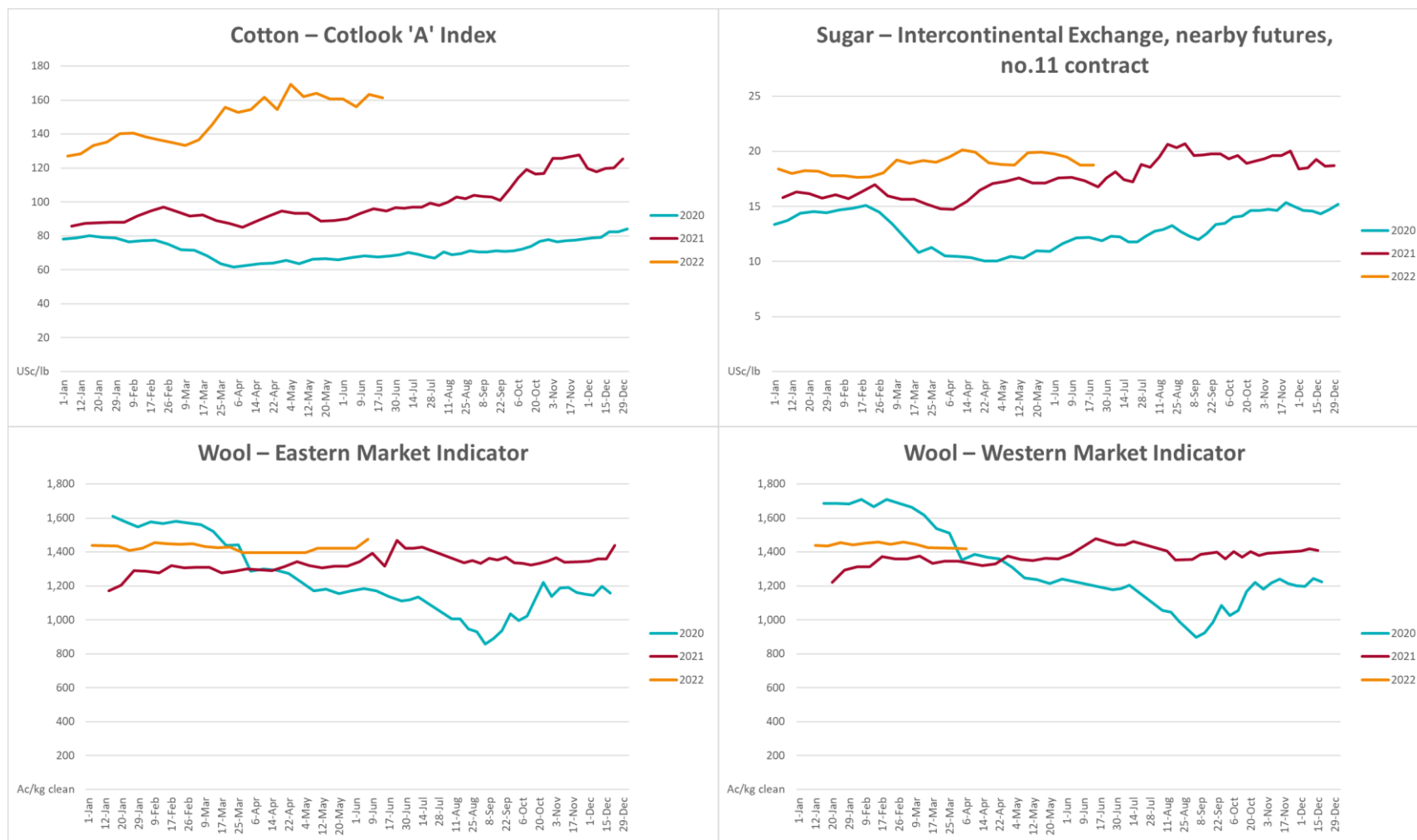
Indicator	Week ended	Unit	Latest price	Previous week	Weekly change	Price 12 months ago	Annual change
Selected world indicator prices							
AUD/USD Exchange rate	22-Jun	A\$/US\$	0.70	0.70	0%	0.76	-7%
Wheat – US no. 2 hard red winter wheat, fob Gulf	22-Jun	US\$/t	453	482	-6%	284	59%
Corn – US no. 2 yellow corn, fob Gulf	22-Jun	US\$/t	348	343	2%	291	20%
Canola – Rapeseed, Canada, fob Vancouver	22-Jun	US\$/t	864	927	-7%	714	21%
Cotton – Cotlook 'A' Index	22-Jun	USc/lb	161	163	-1%	96	67%
Sugar – Intercontinental Exchange, nearby futures, no.11 contract	22-Jun	USc/lb	18.8	18.8	0%	18	7%
Wool – Eastern Market Indicator	08-Jun	Ac/kg clean	1,474	1,420	4%	1,342	10%
Wool – Western Market Indicator	06-Apr	Ac/kg clean	1,417	1,421	0%	1,222	16%
Selected Australian grain export prices							
Milling Wheat – APW, Port Adelaide, SA	22-Jun	A\$/t	628	629	0%	376	67%
Feed Wheat – ASW, Port Adelaide, SA	22-Jun	A\$/t	594	595	0%	372	60%
Feed Barley – Port Adelaide, SA	22-Jun	A\$/t	555	553	0%	329	69%
Canola – Kwinana, WA	22-Jun	A\$/t	1,215	1,238	-2%	733	66%
Grain Sorghum – Brisbane, QLD	22-Jun	A\$/t	475	470	1%	376	26%
Selected domestic livestock indicator prices							
Beef – Eastern Young Cattle Indicator	22-Jun	Ac/kg cwt	1,070	1,107	-3%	898	19%
Mutton – Mutton indicator (18–24 kg fat score 2–3), Vic	22-Jun	Ac/kg cwt	657	688	-5%	659	0%
Lamb – Eastern States Trade Lamb Indicator	22-Jun	Ac/kg cwt	771	788	-2%	812	-5%
Pig – Eastern Seaboard (60.1–75 kg), average of buyers & sellers	30-Mar	Ac/kg cwt	368	357	3%	347	6%
Goats – Eastern States (12.1–16 kg)	12-Jan	Ac/kg cwt	879	879	0%	818	8%
Live cattle – Light steers ex Darwin to Indonesia	01-Jun	Ac/kg lwt	480	480	0%	320	50%
Live sheep – Live wethers (Mucnea WA saleyard) to Middle East	20-Apr	\$/head	113	113	0%	122	-7%

Indicator	Week ended	Unit	Latest price	Previous week	Weekly change	Price 12 months ago	Annual change
Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices ^a							
Dairy – Whole milk powder	22-Jun	US\$/t	4,125	4,158	-1%	2,745	50%
Dairy – Skim milk powder	22-Jun	US\$/t	4,276	4,240	1%	2,373	80%
Dairy – Cheddar cheese	22-Jun	US\$/t	4,875	5,365	-9%	4,115	18%
Dairy – Anhydrous milk fat	22-Jun	US\$/t	5,913	6,201	-5%	3,973	49%

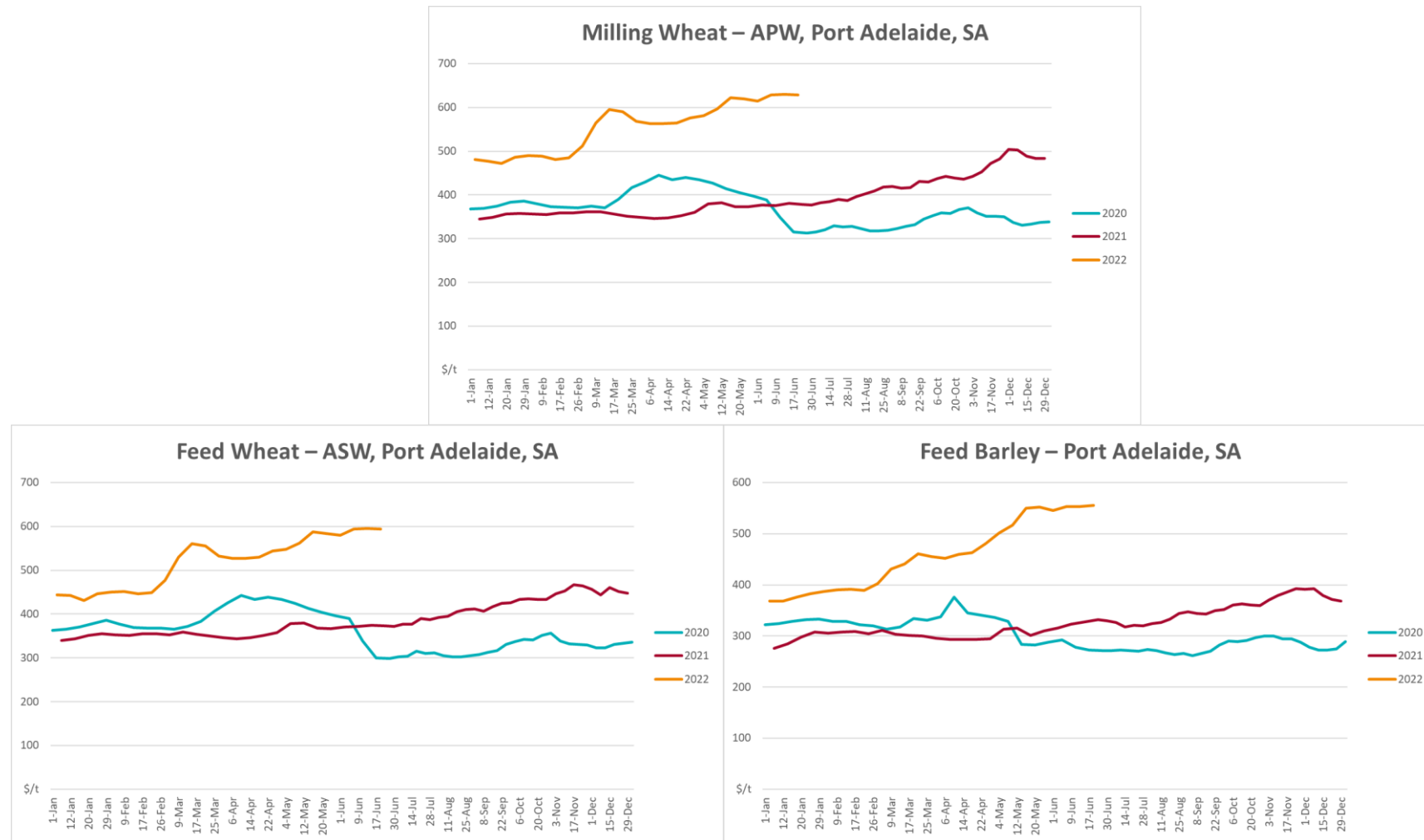
a Global Dairy Trade prices are updated twice monthly on the first and third Tuesday of each month.

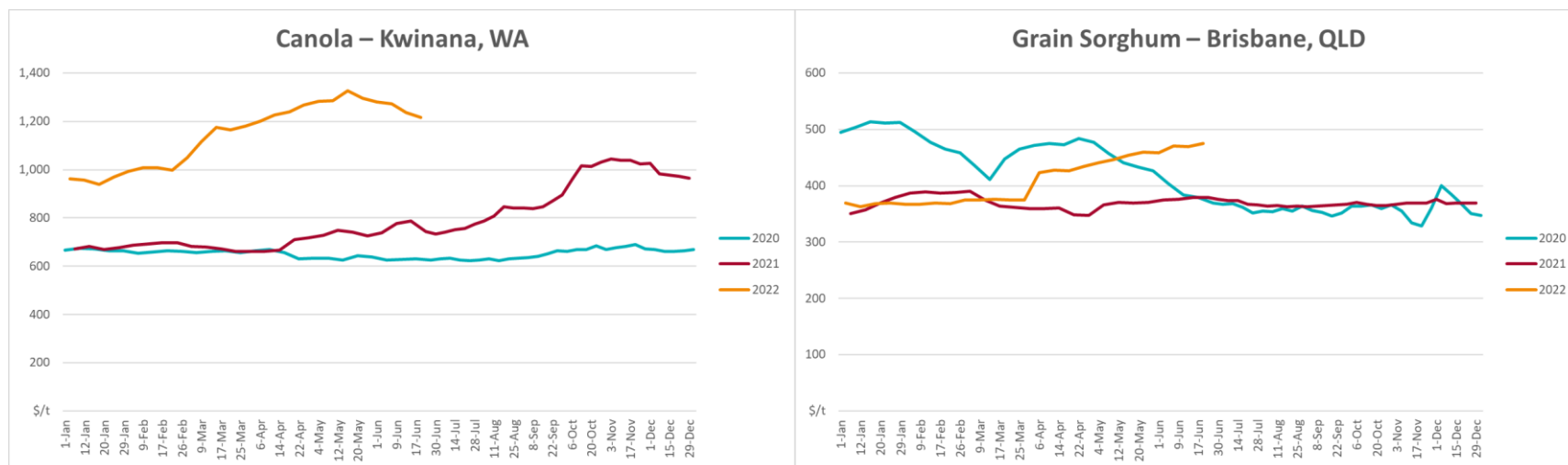
3.1. Selected world indicator prices



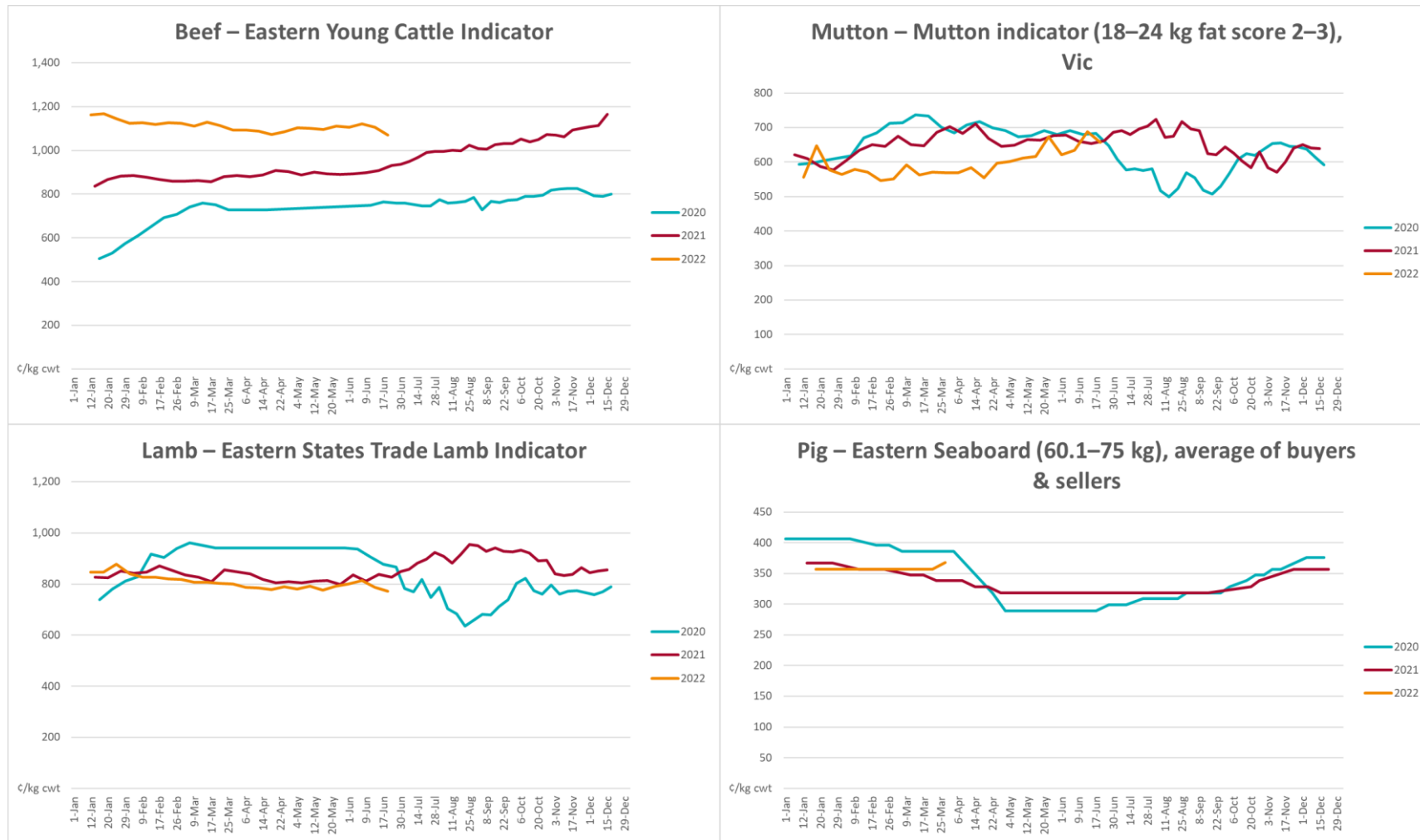


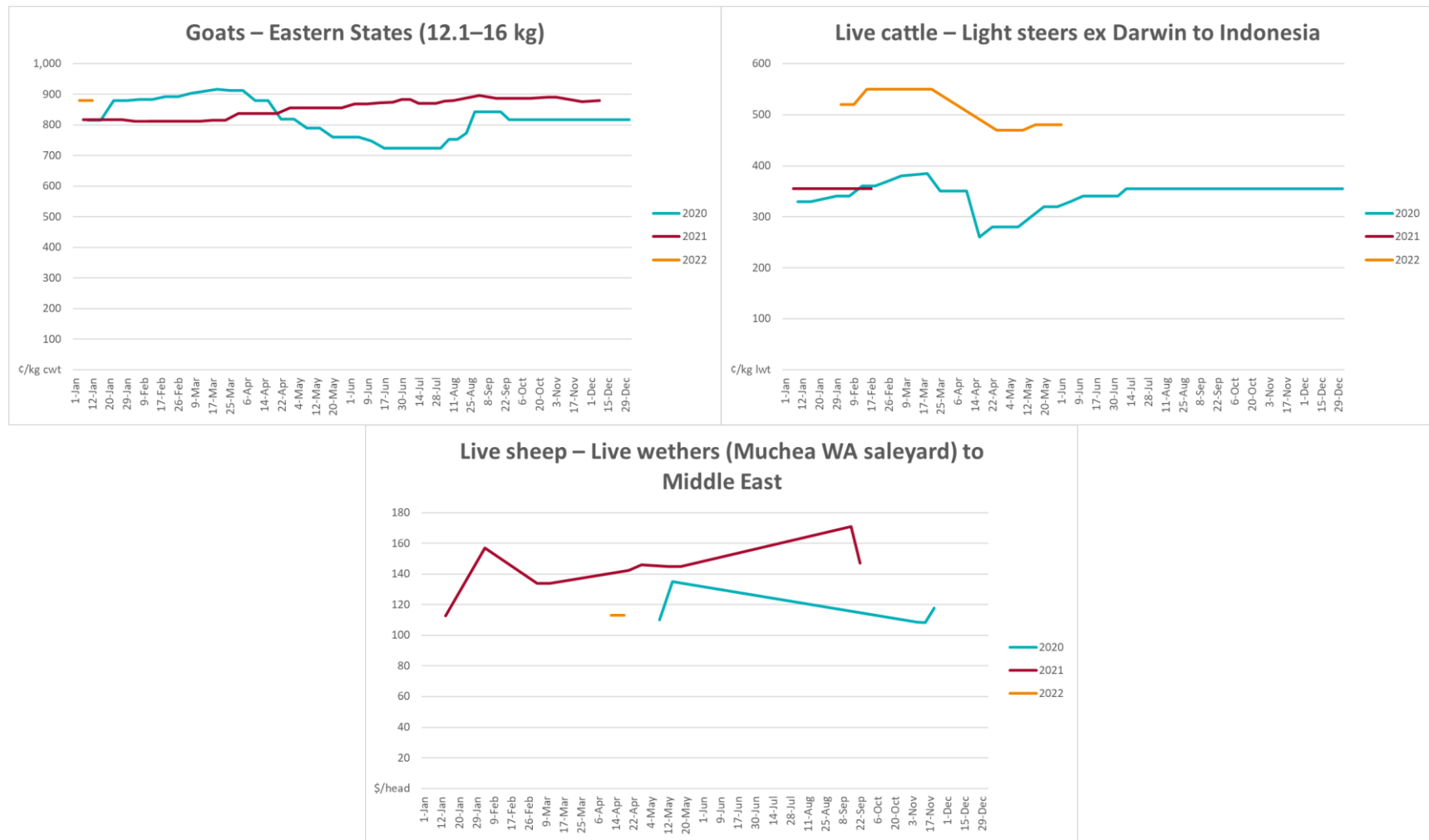
3.2. Selected domestic crop indicator prices



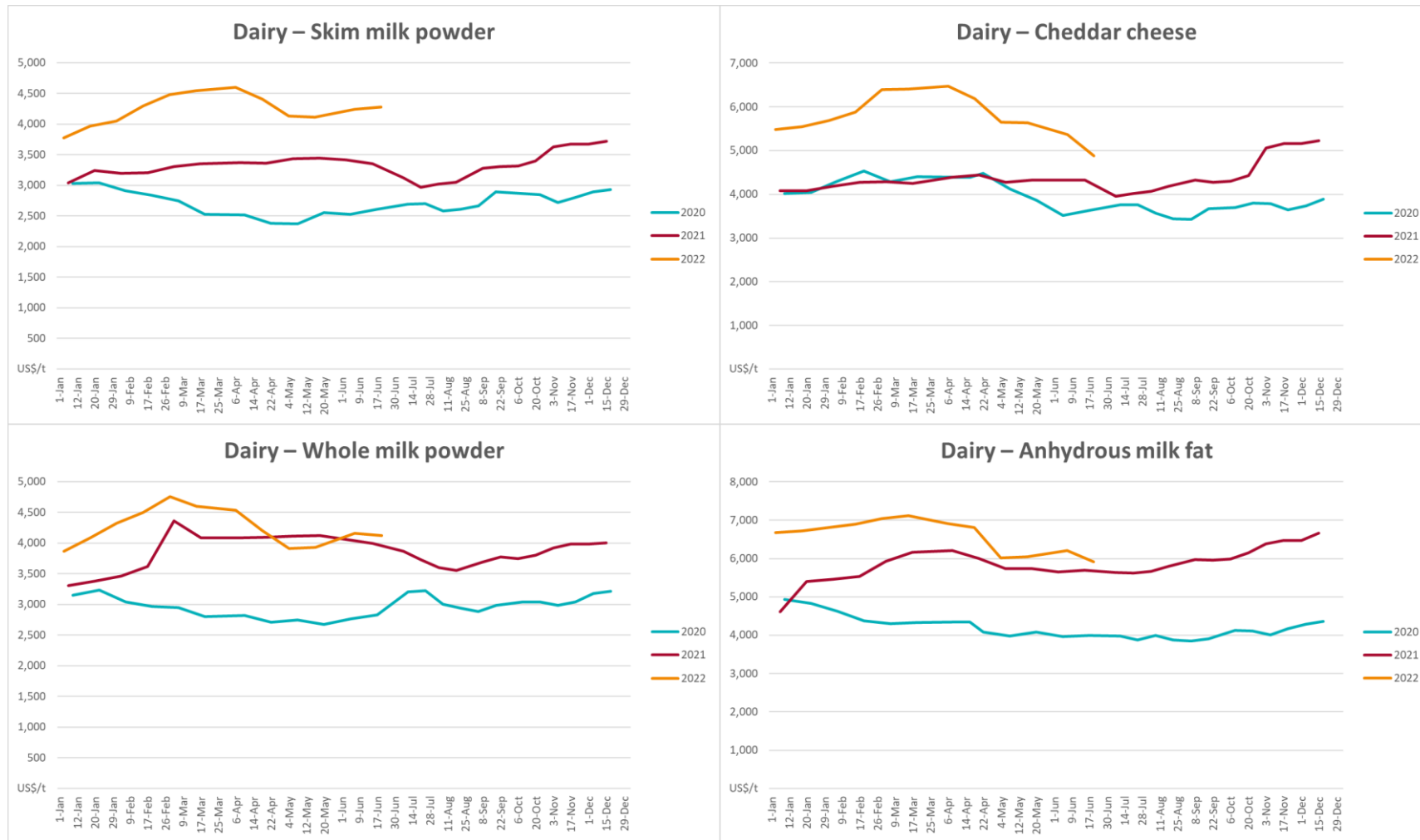


3.3. Selected domestic livestock indicator prices

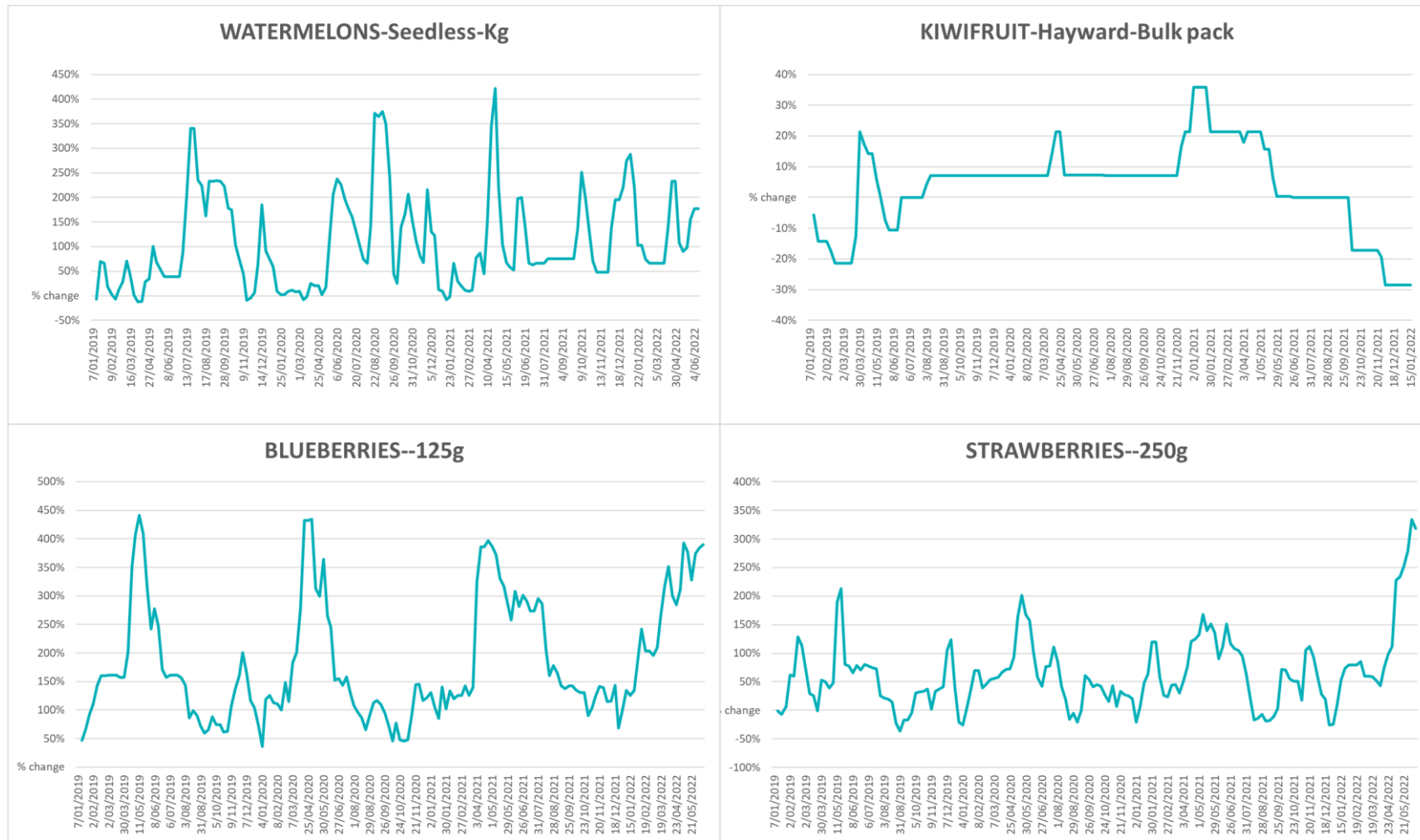


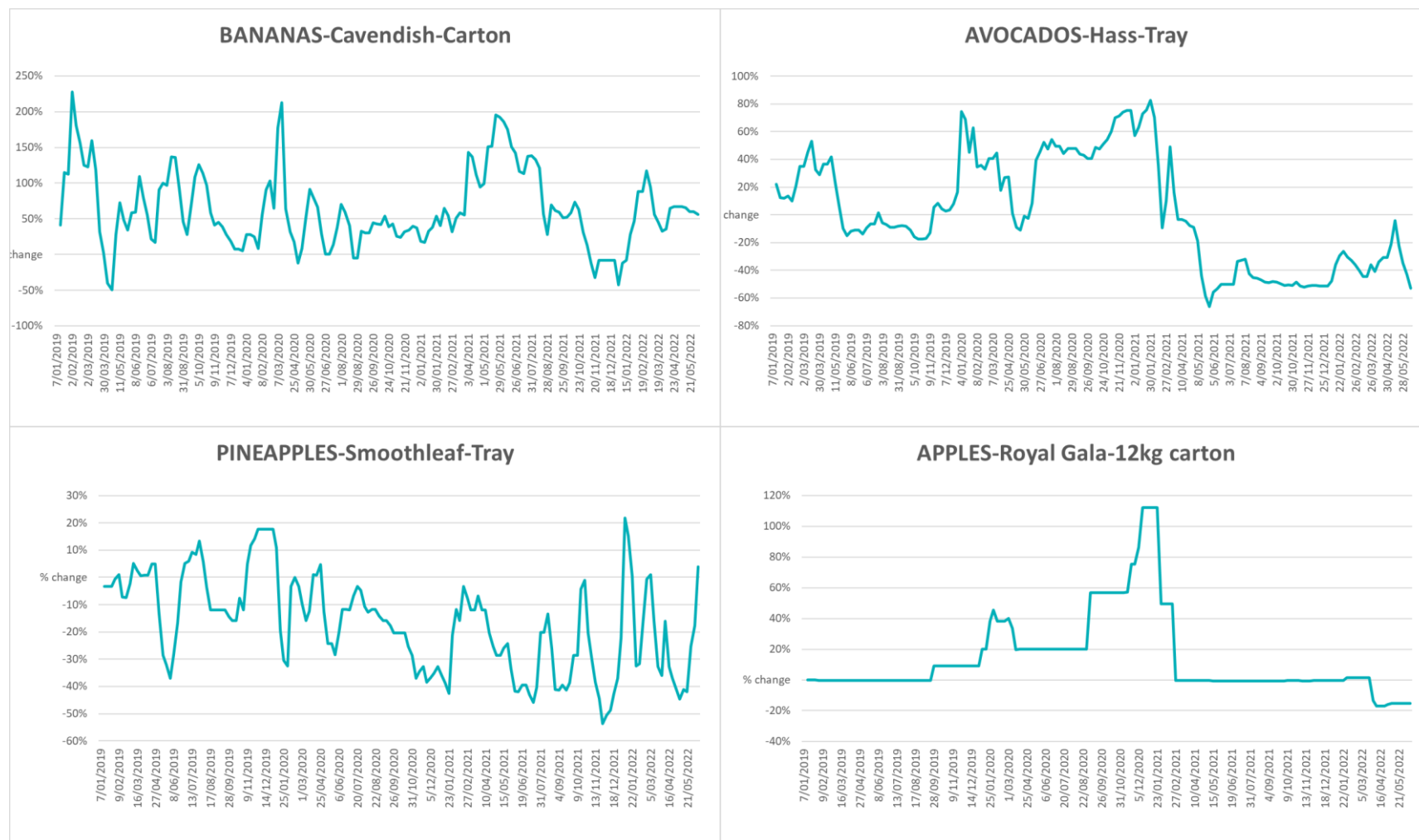


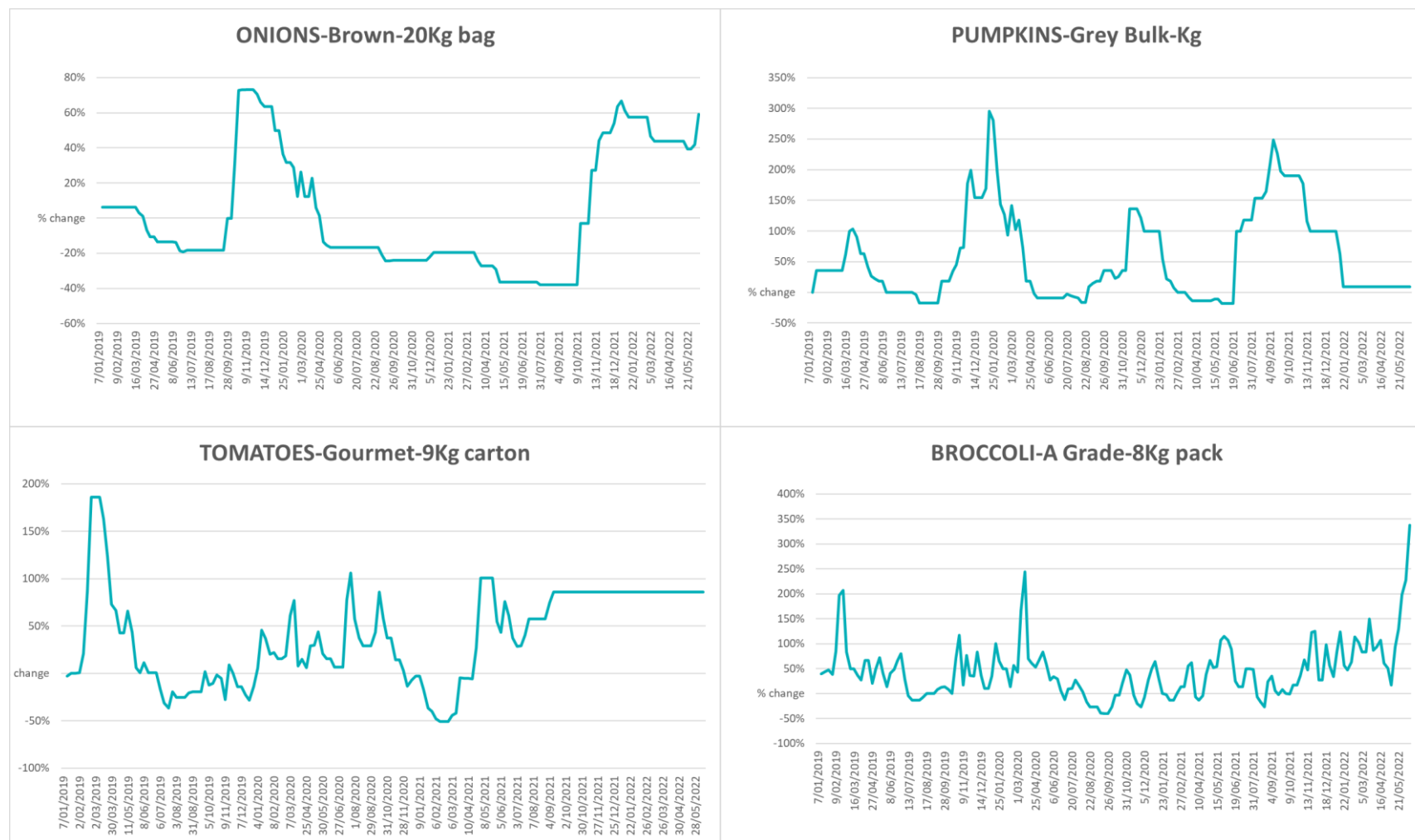
3.4. Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices

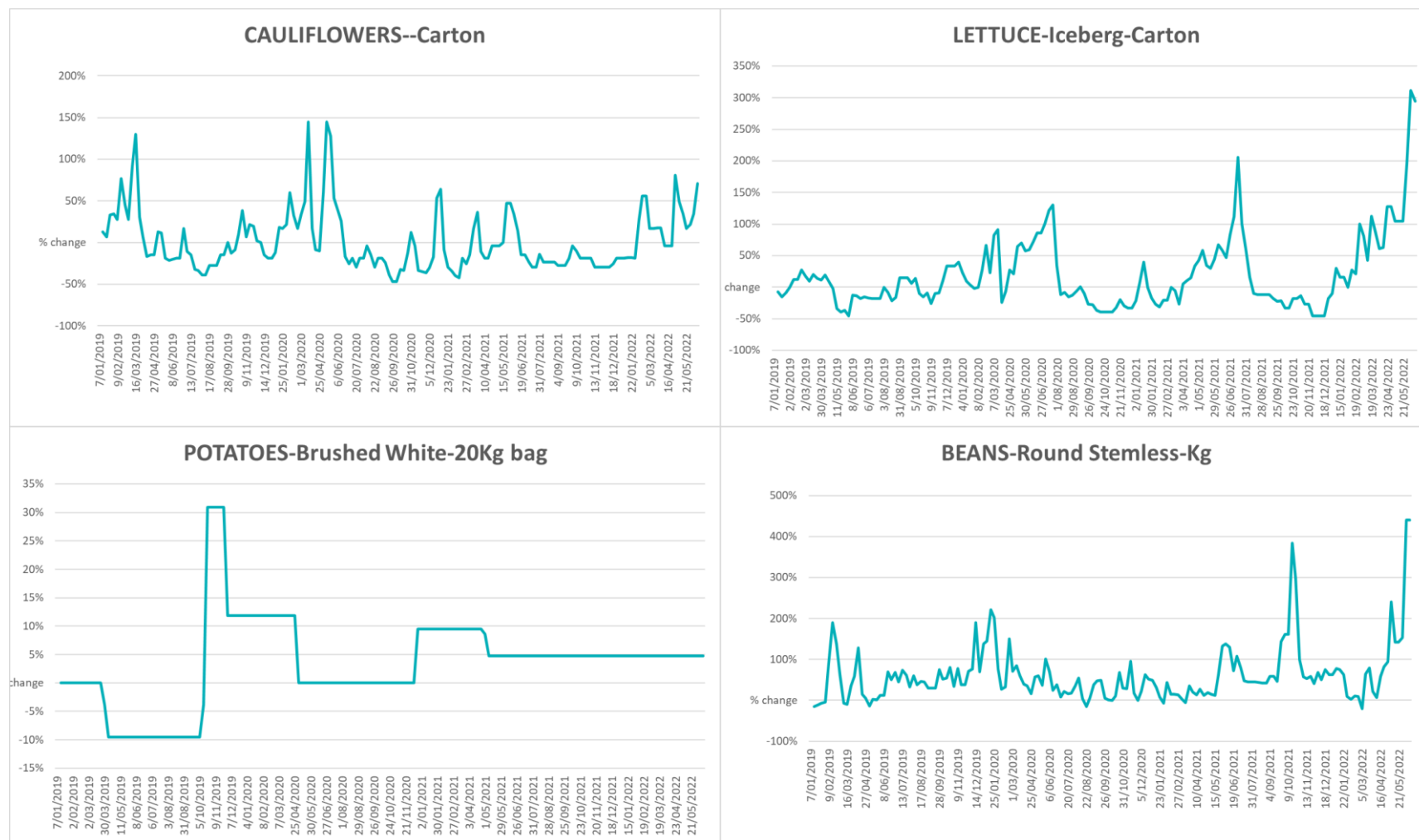


3.5. Selected fruit and vegetable prices

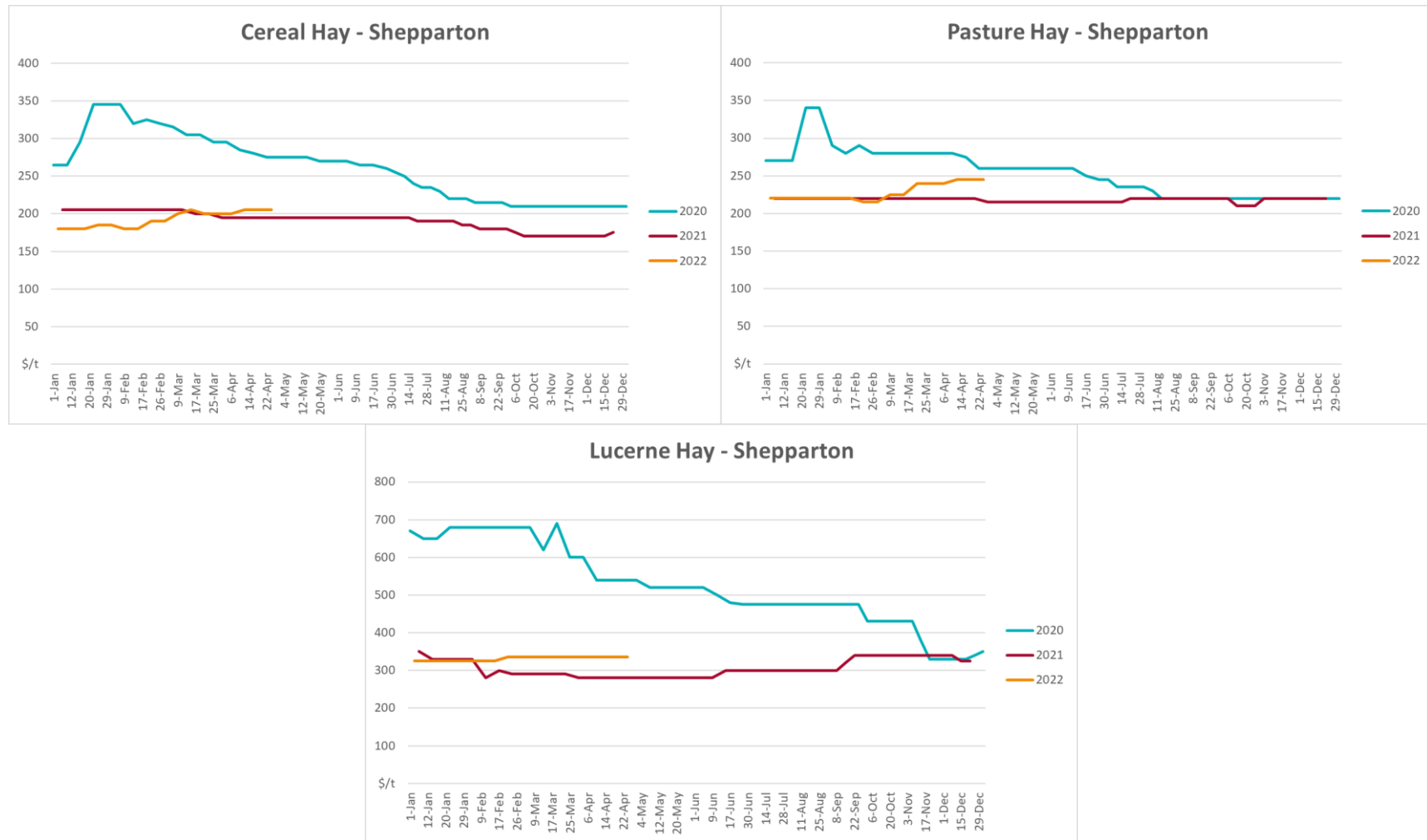








3.6. Selected domestic fodder indicator prices



4. Data attribution

Climate

Bureau of Meteorology

- Weekly rainfall totals: www.bom.gov.au/climate/maps/rainfall/
- Monthly and last 3-month rainfall percentiles: www.bom.gov.au/water/landscape/
- Temperature anomalies: www.bom.gov.au/jsp/awap/temp/index.jsp
- Rainfall forecast: www.bom.gov.au/jsp/watl/rainfall/pme.jsp
- Seasonal outlook: www.bom.gov.au/climate/outlooks/#/overview/summary/
- Climate drivers: <http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/enso/>
- Soil moisture: www.bom.gov.au/water/landscape/

Other

- Pasture growth: www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au/aussiegrass/
- 3-month global outlooks: [Environment and Climate Change Canada](#), [NOAA Climate Prediction Center](#), [EUROBRISA CPTEC/INPE](#), [European Centre for Medium-Range Weather Forecasts](#), [Hydrometcenter of Russia](#), [National Climate Center Climate System Diagnosis and Prediction Room \(NCC\)](#), [International Research Institute for Climate and Society](#)
- Global production: <https://ipad.fas.usda.gov/ogamaps/cropmapsandcalendars.aspx>
- Autumn break: Pook et al., 2009, <https://rmets-onlinelibrary-wiley-com.virtual.anu.edu.au/doi/epdf/10.1002/joc.1833>

Water

Prices

- Waterflow: <https://www.waterflow.io/>
- Ruralco: <https://www.ruralcowater.com.au/>

Bureau of Meteorology:

- Allocation trade: <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/dashboards/#/water-markets/mdb/at>
- Storage volumes: <http://www.bom.gov.au/water/dashboards/#/water-storages/summary/drainage>

Trade constraints:

- Water NSW: <https://www.watarnsw.com.au/customer-service/ordering-trading-and-pricing/trading/murrumbidgee>
- Victorian Water Register: <https://www.waterregister.vic.gov.au/TradingRules2019/>

Commodities

Fruit and vegetables

- Datafresh: www.freshstate.com.au

Pigs

- Australian Pork Limited: www.australianpork.com.au

Dairy

- Global Dairy Trade: www.globaldairytrade.info/en/product-results/

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

- Australian Wool Exchange: www.awex.com.au/
- Domestic wheat, barley, sorghum, canola and fodder
 - Jumbuk Consulting Pty Ltd: <http://www.jumbukag.com.au/>

Cattle, beef, mutton, lamb, goat and live export

- Meat and Livestock Australia: www.mla.com.au/Prices-and-market

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