



Weekly Australian Climate, Water and Agricultural Update

No. 30/2025

31 July 2025

Summary of key issues

- In the week ending 30 July 2025, cold fronts brought rainfall totals of up to 100 millimetres to parts of southern, central and eastern Australia. High-pressure systems kept much of northern Australia largely dry.
 - Rainfall was recorded across all cropping regions, with Western Australia and Queensland seeing 5-100 millimetres, and South Australia and Victoria seeing 15-100 millimetres. Meanwhile, New South Wales recorded 5-50 millimetres.
 - Widespread rainfall over the past week across South Australia and Victoria has bolstered the yield potential for crops after a late and sporadic start to the season.
 - General rains across much of Western Australia, Queensland and New South Wales have provided useful follow-up moisture in these areas to support crop growth and development and to see some improvement in soil moisture reserves.
- Over the coming eight days, rainfall is expected to be highly variable across cropping regions.
 - Western Australia and northern New South Wales are forecast to receive between 10-50 millimetres.
 - Meanwhile, parts of southern Queensland, central New South Wales, southern Victoria and western South Australia are forecast to receive between 5-15 millimetres. Remaining cropping regions are expected to remain largely dry.
 - If realised the falls in these areas are likely to provide some useful follow-up moisture to support crop growth and development and continue to build soil moisture reserves.
- The northern rainfall onset for 2025–26 is likely to be earlier than usual for most eastern parts of northern Australia but later than normal for much of the west.
- Water storage levels in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 381 gigalitres (GL) between 24 July 2025 and 31 July 2025. The current volume of water held in storages is 13,920 GL, equivalent to 63% of total storage capacity. This is 22% or 3,956 GL less than the same time last year. Water storage data is sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).
- Allocation prices in the Victorian Murray below the Barmah Choke decreased from \$286/ML on 24 July 2025 to \$266/ML on 31 July 2025. Trade from the Goulburn to the Murray is closed. Trade downstream through the Barmah Choke is closed. Trade from the Murrumbidgee to the Murray is open.

1. Climate

1.1. Rainfall this week

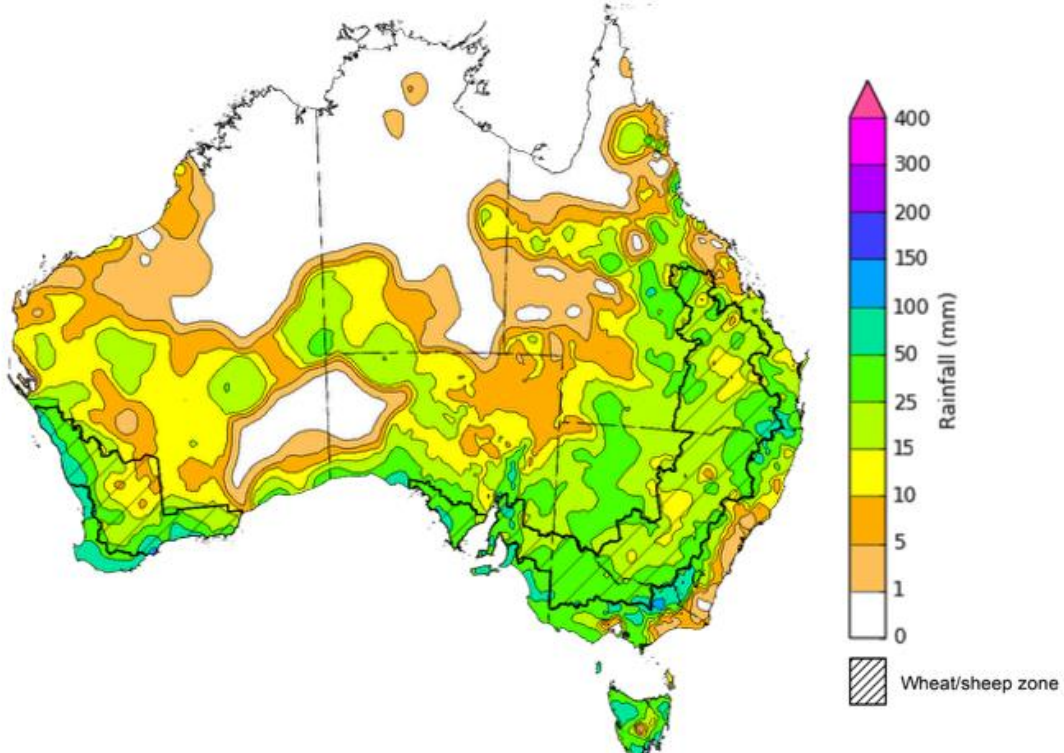
In the week ending 30 July 2025, **cold fronts and low-pressure systems** brought rainfall to parts of southern, central and eastern Australia, while northern areas of Australia stayed largely dry.

- Rainfall totals of between 10-100 millimetres were recorded across much southern Western Australia and South Australia, as well as Victoria, New South Wales, Tasmania, and much of southern and central Queensland.
- Falls of between 5-50 millimetres occurred across parts of central Australia and northern Queensland.
- Remaining areas of northern Australia received little to no rainfall over the period.

Rainfall was recorded across all cropping regions in the week ending 30 July 2025.

- Rainfall totals of between 15-100 millimetres occurred across Victoria and South Australia.
 - Widespread rainfall in over the past week across South Australia and Victoria has bolstered the yield potential for crops after a late and sporadic start to the season.
 - Some regions had their first falls of more than 30 millimetres in 18 months or more, creating some run-off to help fill dams, and starting to build soil moisture reserves under cereal, pulse, and canola crops, as well as pastures.
- Between 5-100 millimetres fell across Western Australia and Queensland, while New South Wales saw 5-50 millimetres.
 - These conditions have provided useful follow-up moisture in these areas to support crop growth and development and to see some improvement in soil moisture reserves.

Rainfall for the week ending 30 July 2025



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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/>

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1.2. Rainfall forecast for the next eight days

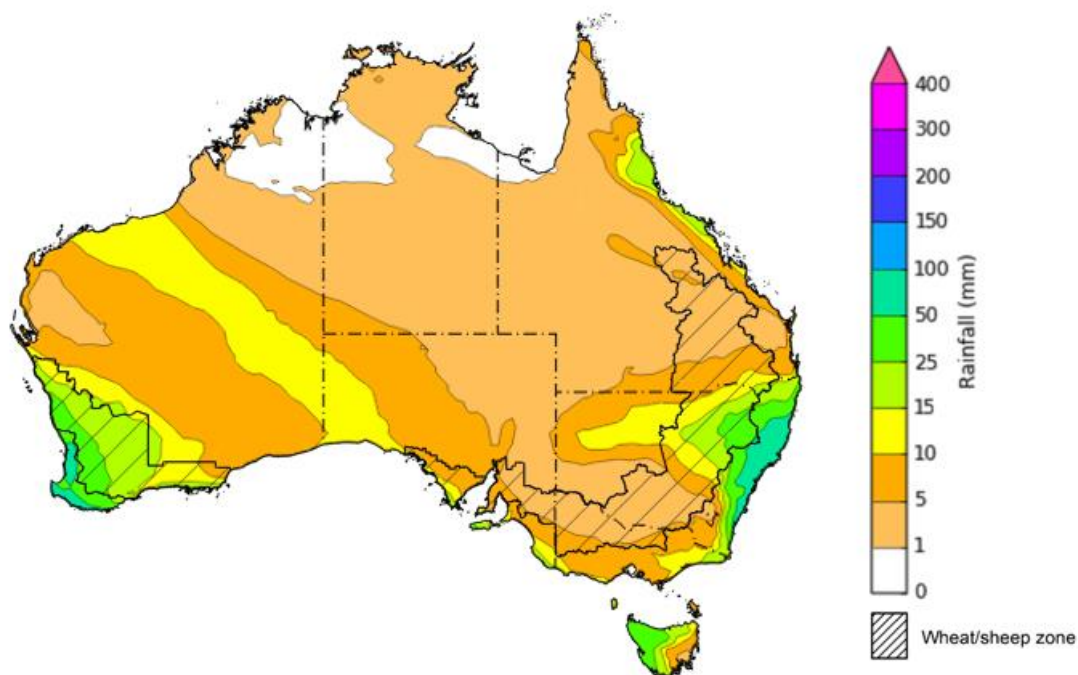
Over the 8 days to 7 August 2025, **low pressure systems** are expected to bring rainfall to parts of the east, south and west of the country, while northern and central regions are expected to remain largely dry.

- Rainfall totals of between 5-100 millimetres are expected across much of Western Australia and eastern and northern regions of New South Wales. In Tasmania, 5-50 millimetres of rainfall are forecast.
- Falls of between 5-15 millimetres are forecast for parts of northern and southern Queensland, southern Victoria and the west and south of South Australia.
- Remaining areas are forecast to remain largely dry.

Rainfall is likely to be highly variable across cropping regions over the coming week.

- Falls of between 10-50 millimetres are forecast across Western Australia and northern New South Wales. Parts of southern Queensland, central New South Wales, southern Victoria and western South Australia are forecast to receive between 5-15 millimetres.
 - If realised the falls in these areas are likely to provide some useful follow-up moisture to support crop growth and development and continue to build soil moisture reserves.
- Remaining cropping regions are expected to remain largely dry.

Total forecast rainfall for the period 31 July to 7 August 2025



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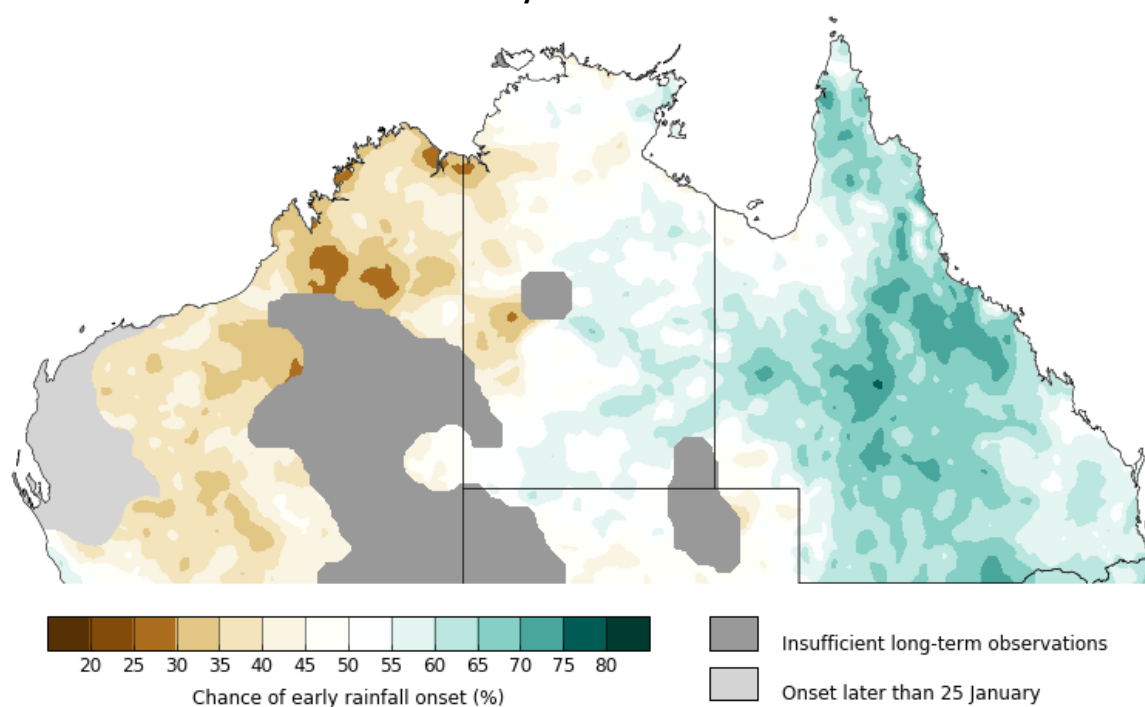
Issued 31/7/2025

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.

1.3. Northern rainfall onset

The northern rainfall onset outlook provides an indication of whether the first significant rains after the dry season are likely to be earlier or later than normal. The onset occurs when the total rainfall after 1 September reaches 50 millimetres, which is considered approximately the amount of rainfall required to stimulate plant growth. The northern rainfall onset for the 2025–26 season is likely to be later than usual for most of the western parts of northern Australia, but earlier for much of the east. Much of Western Australia have a 60–75% chance of a later than usual northern rainfall onset. Across Queensland and parts of the east of Northern Territory, the rainfall onset is likely (60–75%) to be earlier than usual. Elsewhere, the northern rainfall onset is likely to be closer to the normal onset date.

Chance of early Northern Rainfall Onset



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Model Run: 14/07/2025
Issued: 17/07/2025

1.4. Water markets – current week

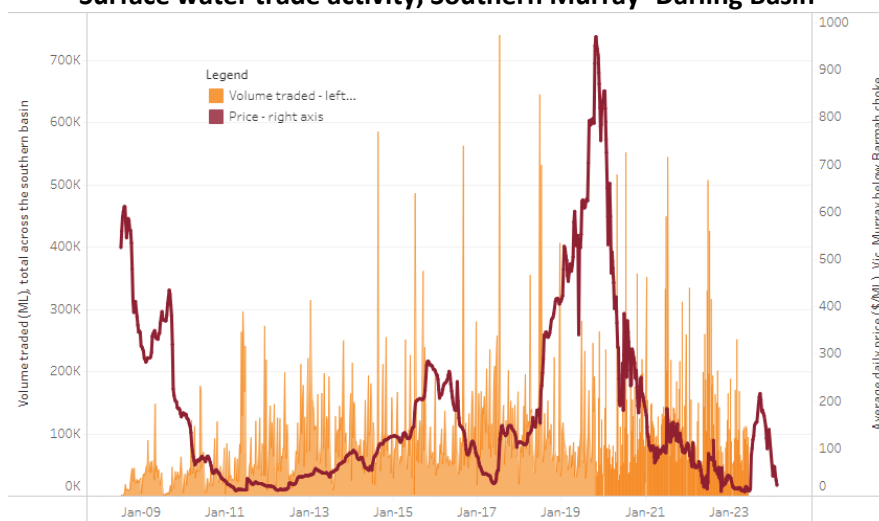
Water storage levels in the Murray-Darling Basin (MDB) increased by 381 gigalitres (GL) between 24 July 2025 and 31 July 2025. The current volume of water held in storages is 13,920 GL, equivalent to 63% of total storage capacity. This is 22% or 3,956 GL less than the same time last year. Water storage data is sourced from the Bureau of Meteorology (BOM).

Water storages in the Murray-Darling Basin, 2013–2025



Allocation prices in the Victorian Murray below the Barmah Choke decreased from \$286/ML on 24 July 2025 to \$266/ML on 31 July 2025. Trade from the Goulburn to the Murray is closed. Trade downstream through the Barmah Choke is closed. Trade from the Murrumbidgee to the Murray is open.

Surface water trade activity, Southern Murray–Darling Basin



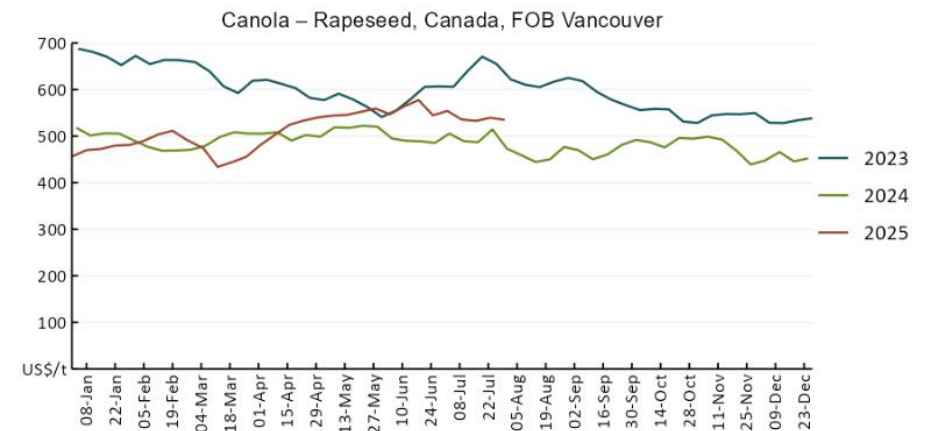
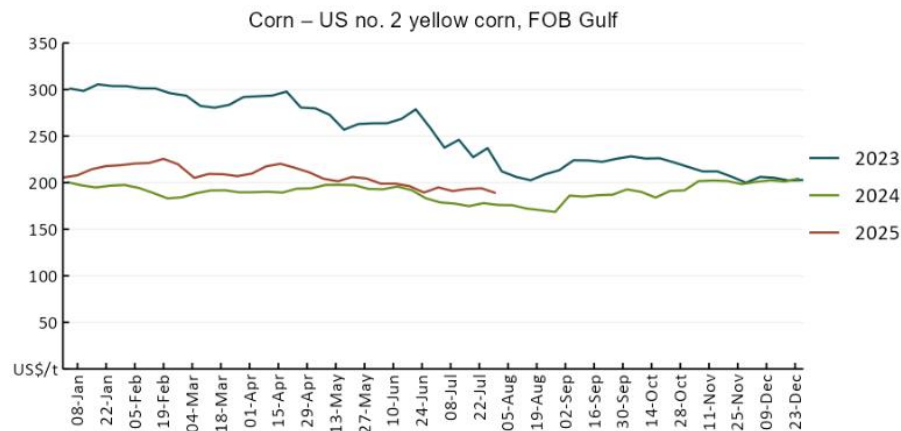
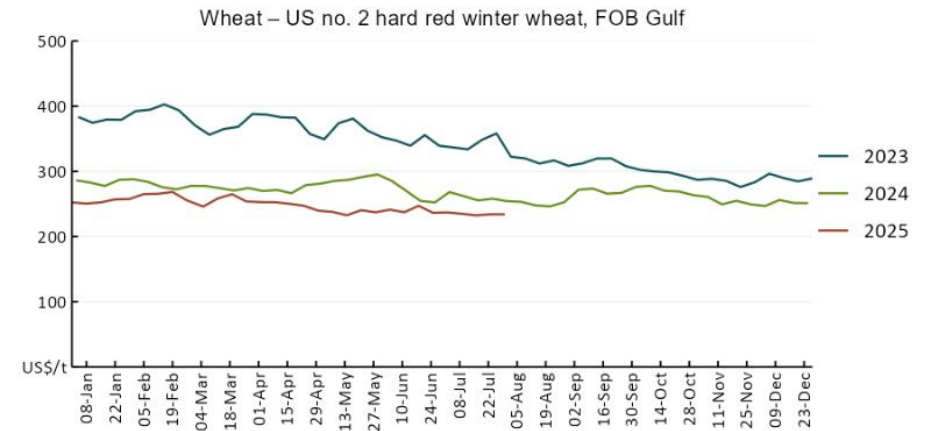
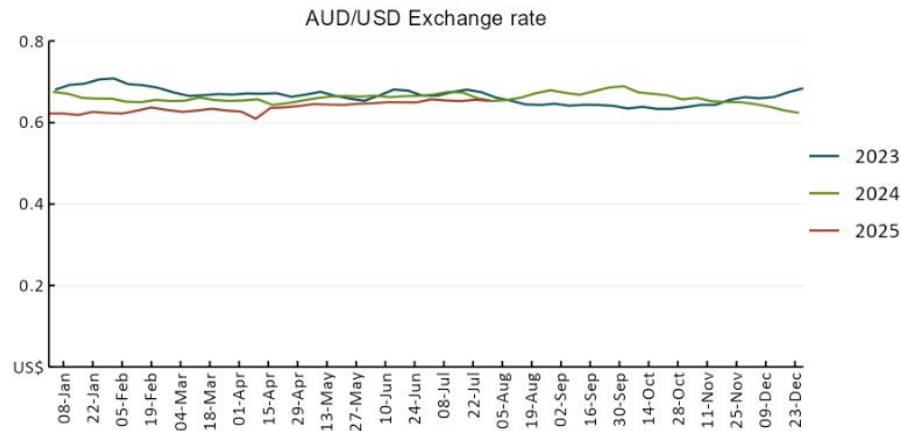
The trades shown reflect estimated market activity and do not encompass all register trades. The price is shown for the VIC Murray below the Barmah choke. Historical prices (before 1 July 2019) are ABARES estimates after removing outliers from BOM water register data. Prices after 1 July 2019 and prior 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. Only the price data shown is current on 17 October 2024.

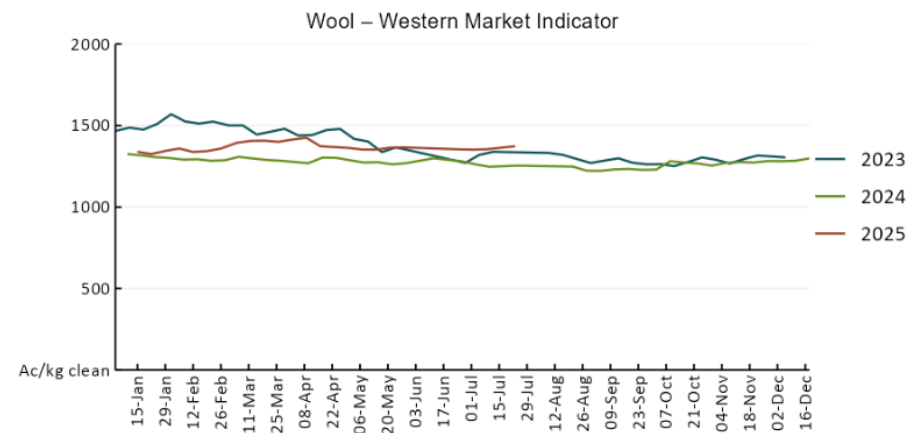
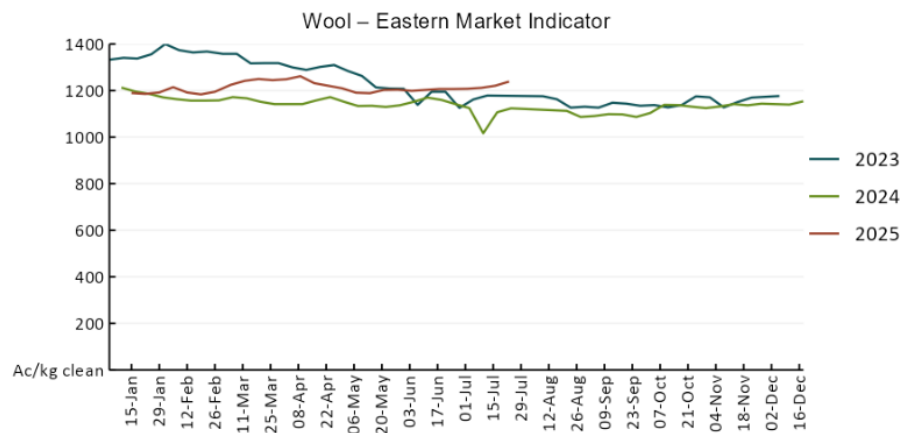
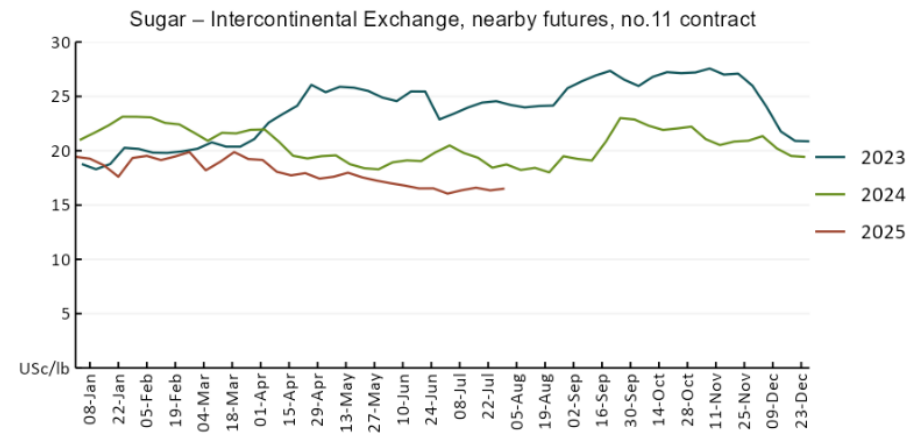
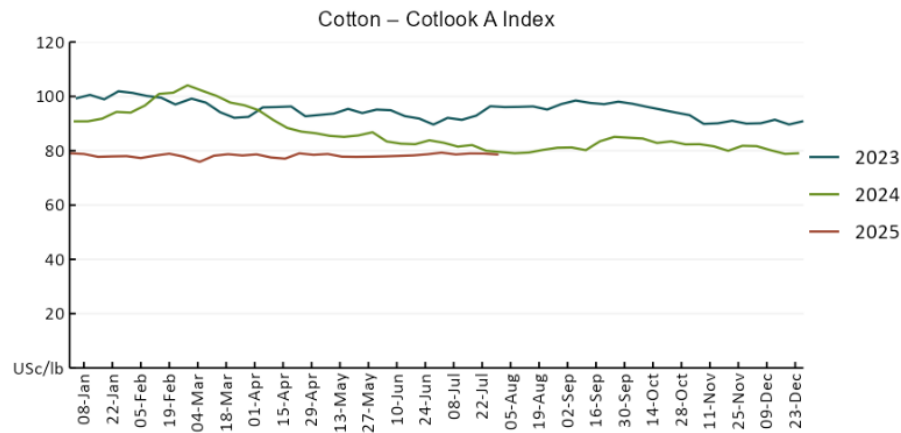
To access the full, interactive, weekly water dashboard, which contains the latest and historical water storage, water market and water allocation information, please visit https://www.agriculture.gov.au/abares/products/weekly_update/weekly-update-310725

2. Commodities

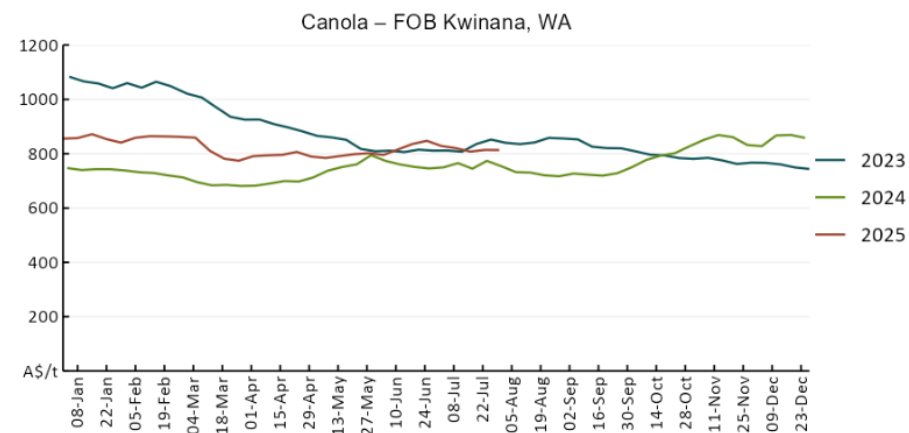
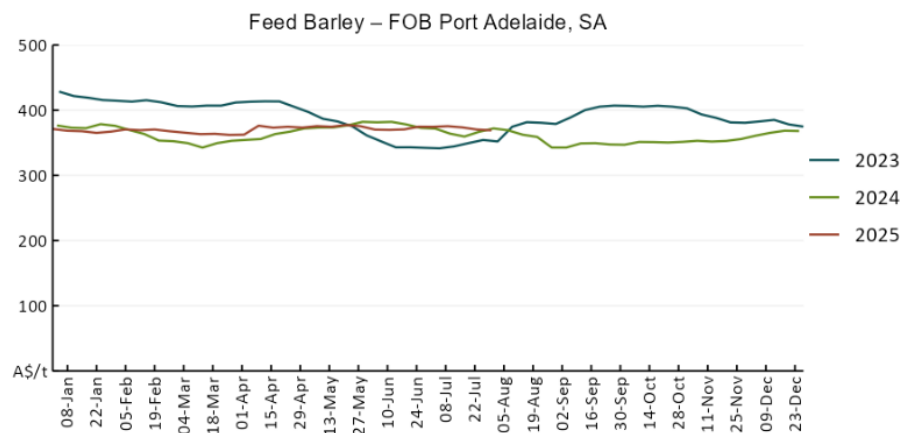
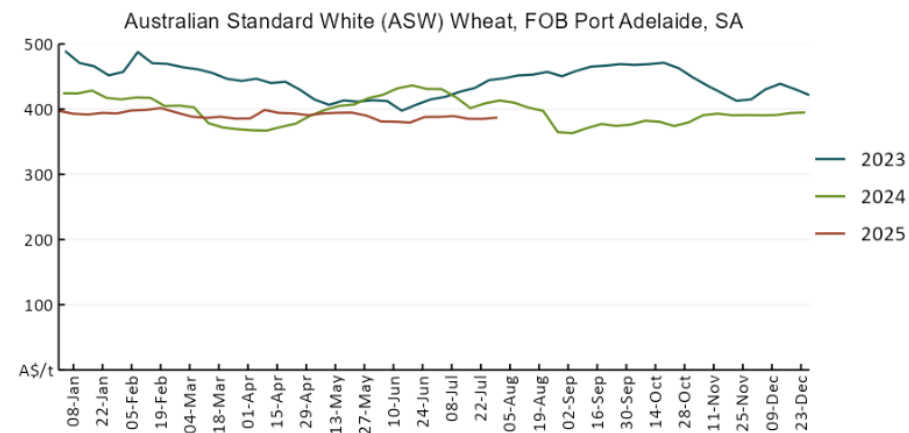
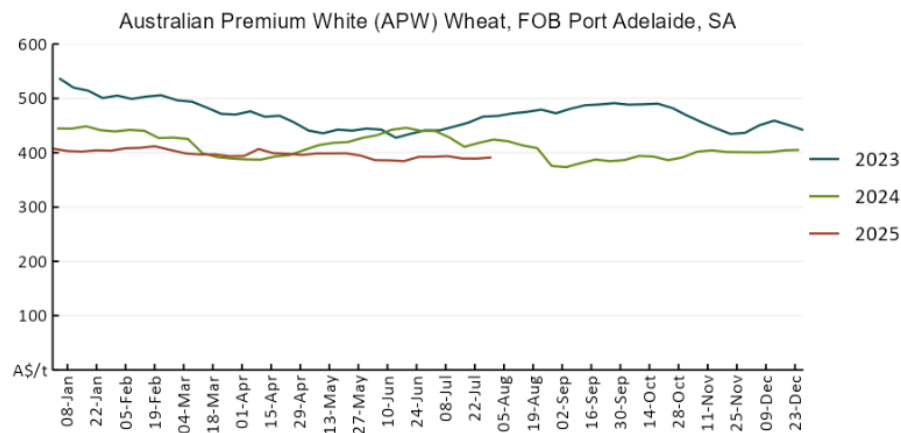
Indicator	Week average	Unit	Latest Price	Previous Week	Weekly change	Price 12 months ago	Annual change
Selected world indicator prices							
AUD/USD Exchange rate	30-Jul	A\$/US\$	0.65	0.66	0%	0.67	-2%
Wheat – US no. 2 hard red winter wheat, FOB Gulf	30-Jul	US\$/t	234	234	0%	260	-10%
Corn – US no. 2 yellow corn, FOB Gulf	30-Jul	US\$/t	189	194	-3%	177	7%
Canola – Rapeseed, Canada, FOB Vancouver	30-Jul	US\$/t	535	540	-1%	494	8%
Cotton – Cotlook A Index	30-Jul	USc/lb	79	79	0%	81	-3%
Sugar – Intercontinental Exchange, nearby futures, no.11 contract	30-Jul	USc/lb	17	16	1%	19	-15%
Wool – Eastern Market Indicator	23-Jul	Ac/kg clean	1,239	1,221	1%	1,093	13%
Wool – Western Market Indicator	23-Jul	Ac/kg clean	1,373	1,355	1%	1,254	9%
Selected Australian grain export prices							
Australian Premium White (APW) Wheat, FOB Port Adelaide, SA	30-Jul	A\$/t	391	389	1%	424	-8%
Australian Standard White (ASW) Wheat, FOB Port Adelaide, SA	30-Jul	A\$/t	387	385	1%	415	-7%
Feed Barley – FOB Port Adelaide, SA	30-Jul	A\$/t	369	370	0%	367	1%
Canola – FOB Kwinana, WA	30-Jul	A\$/t	813	814	0%	757	7%
Grain Sorghum – FOB Brisbane, QLD	30-Jul	A\$/t	427	426	0%	411	4%
Selected domestic livestock indicator prices							
Beef – Eastern Young Cattle Indicator	30-Jul	Ac/kg cwt	786	761	3%	631	25%
Mutton – Mutton indicator (18–24 kg fat score 2–3), VIC	30-Jul	Ac/kg cwt	710	693	2%	415	71%
Lamb – National Trade Lamb Indicator	30-Jul	Ac/kg cwt	1,185	1,189	0%	813	46%
Pig – Eastern Seaboard (60.1–75 kg), NSW buyer price	16-Jul	Ac/kg cwt	452	451	0%	409	11%
Live cattle – Light steers to Indonesia	16-Jul	Ac/kg lwt	345	340	1%	300	15%
Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices							
Dairy – Whole milk powder	16-Jul	US\$/t	3,928	3,859	2%	3,180	24%
Dairy – Skim milk powder	16-Jul	US\$/t	2,785	2,718	2%	2,576	8%
Dairy – Cheddar cheese	16-Jul	US\$/t	4,589	4,860	-6%	4,099	12%
Dairy – Anhydrous milk fat	16-Jul	US\$/t	6,973	6,928	1%	6,641	5%

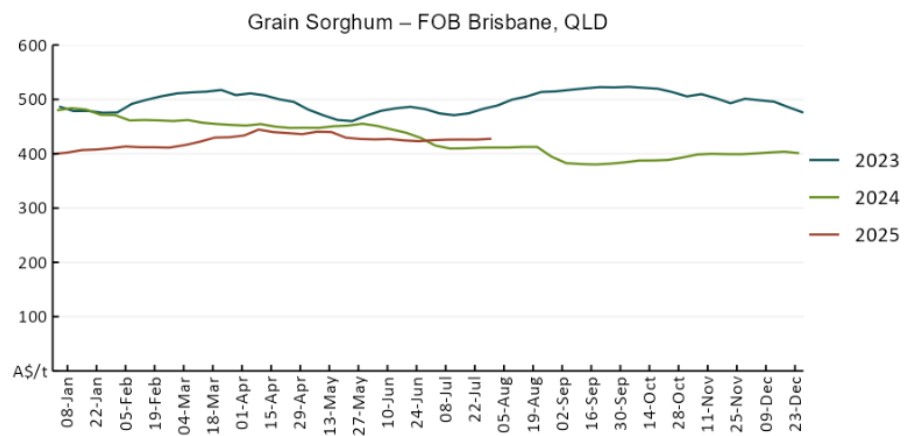
2.1. Selected world indicator prices



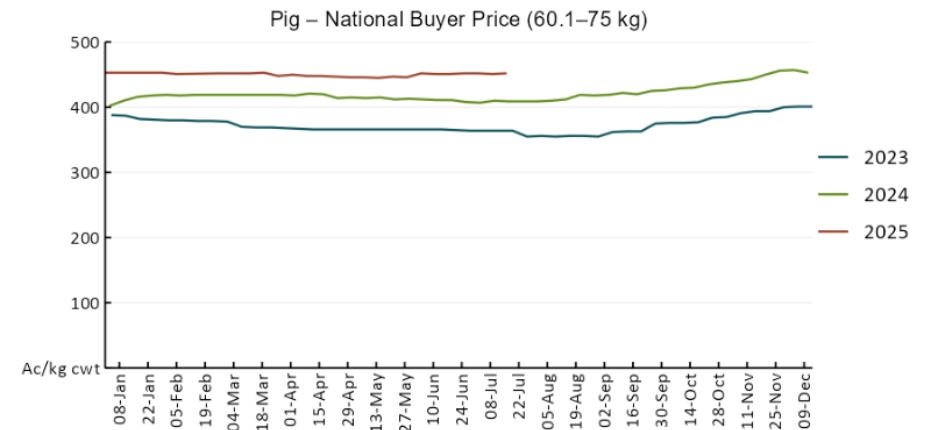
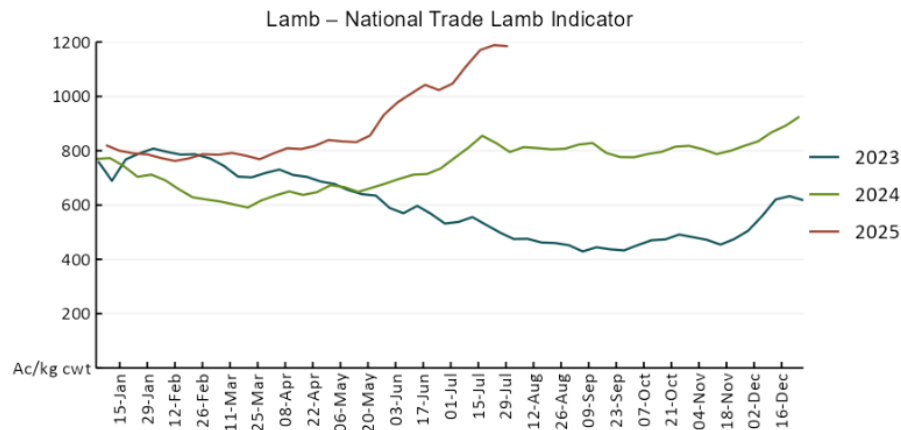
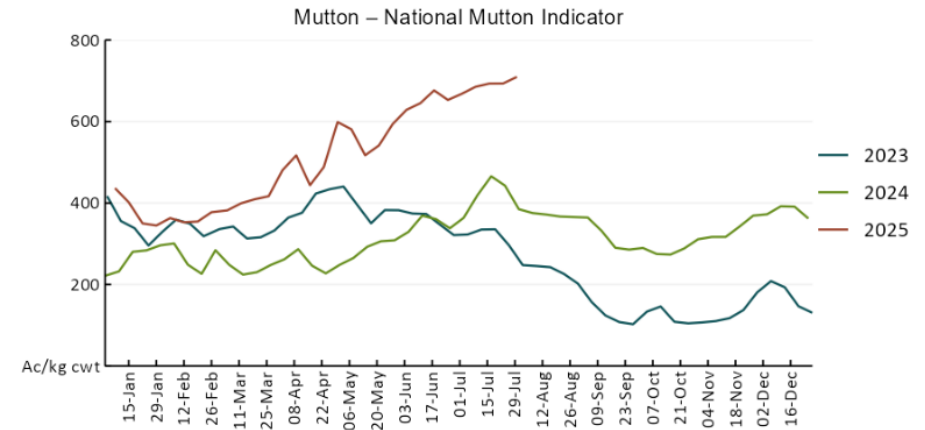
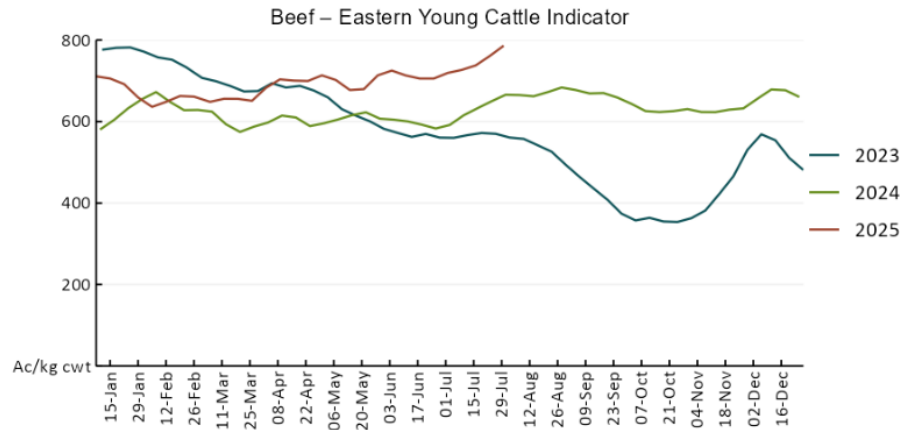


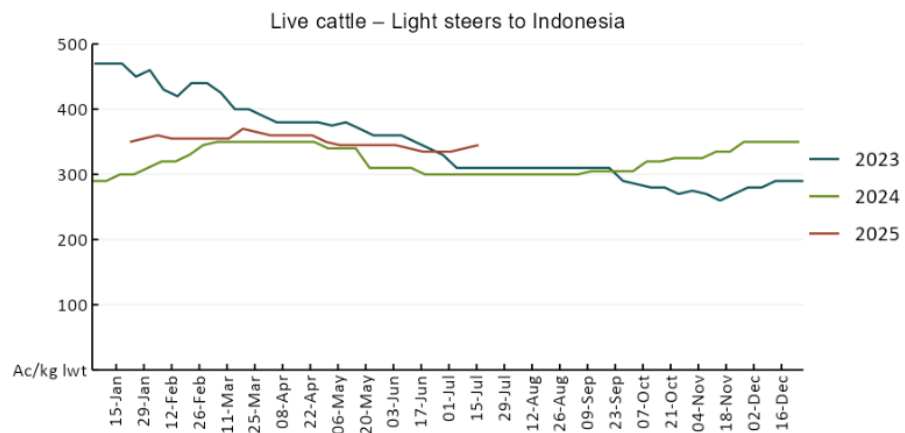
3.2 Selected domestic crop indicator prices



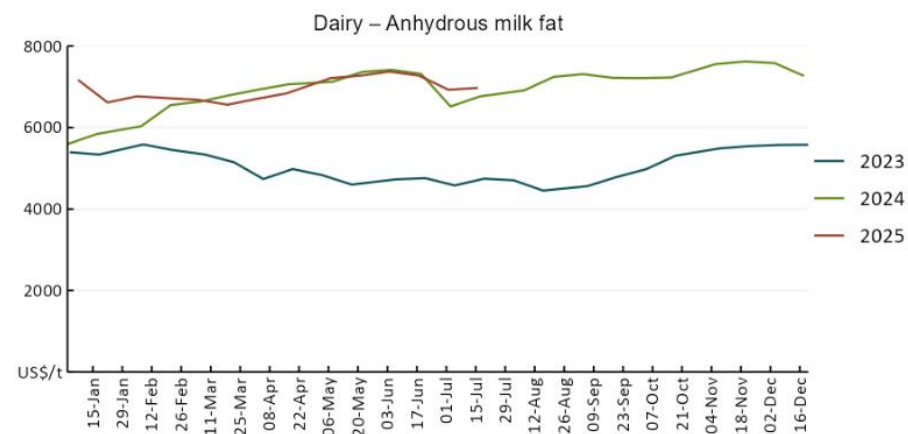
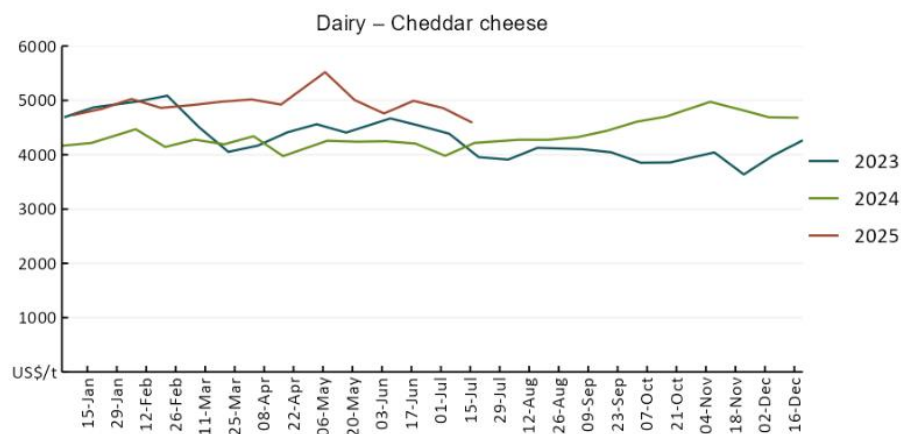
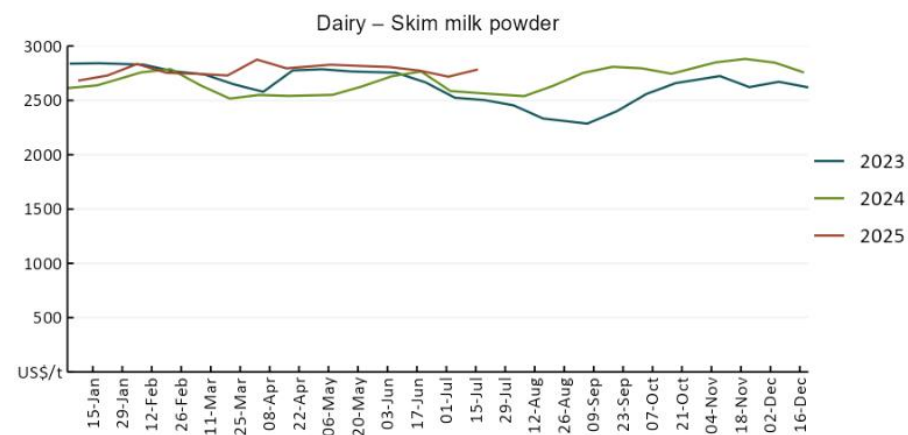
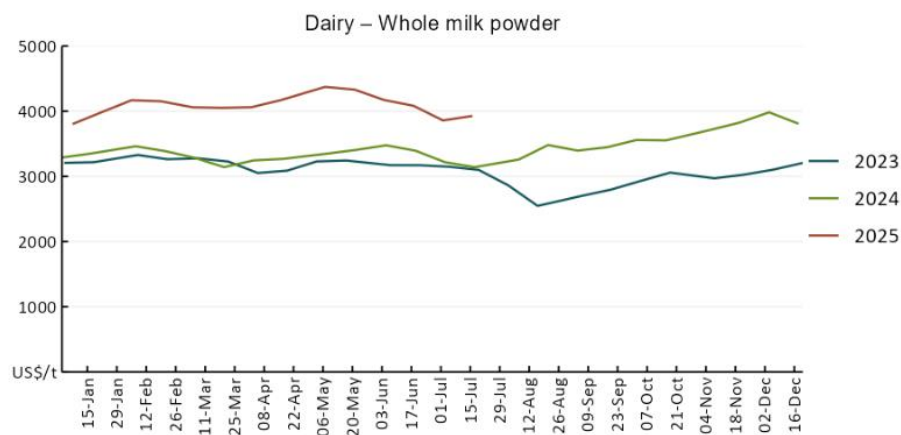


3.3 Selected domestic livestock indicator prices

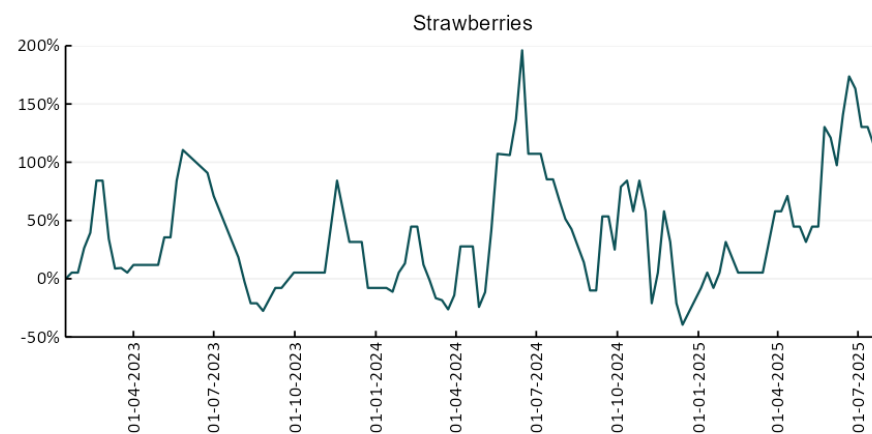
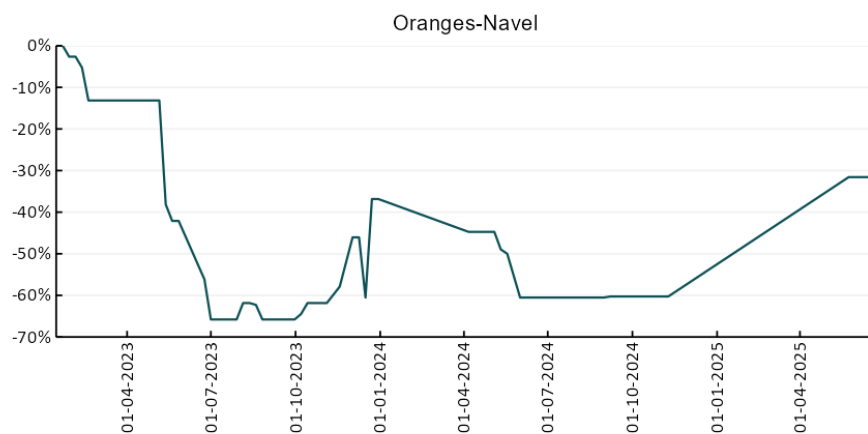
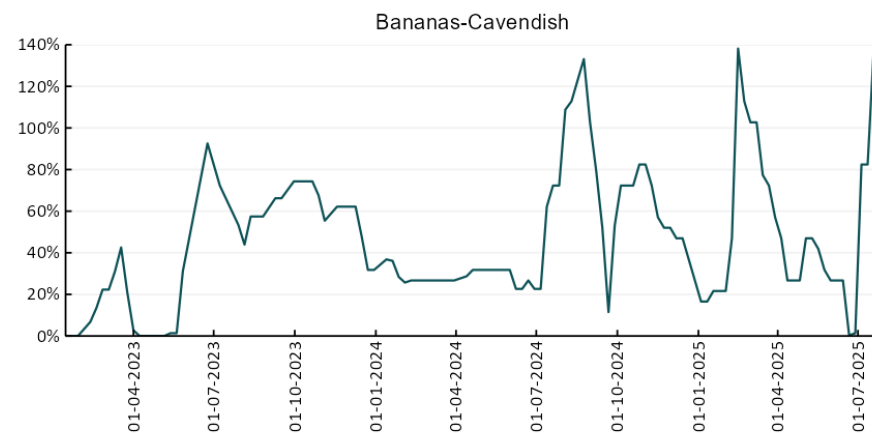
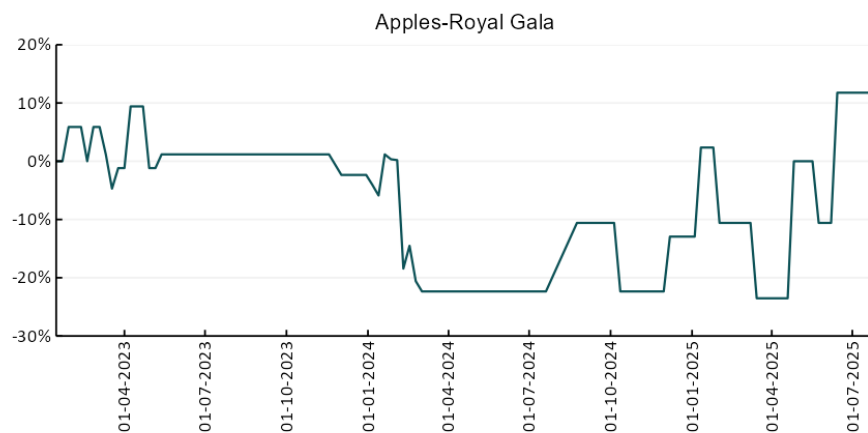


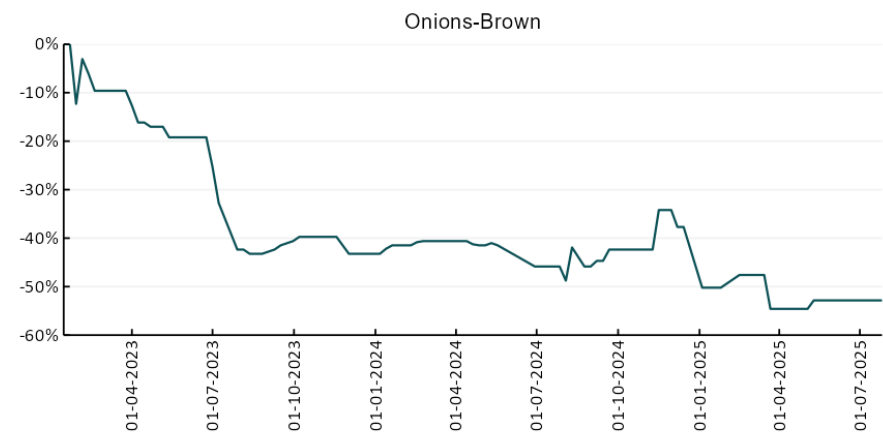
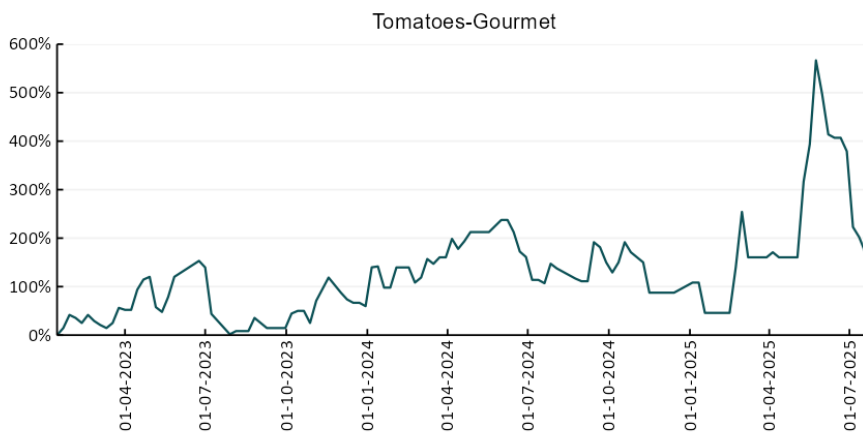
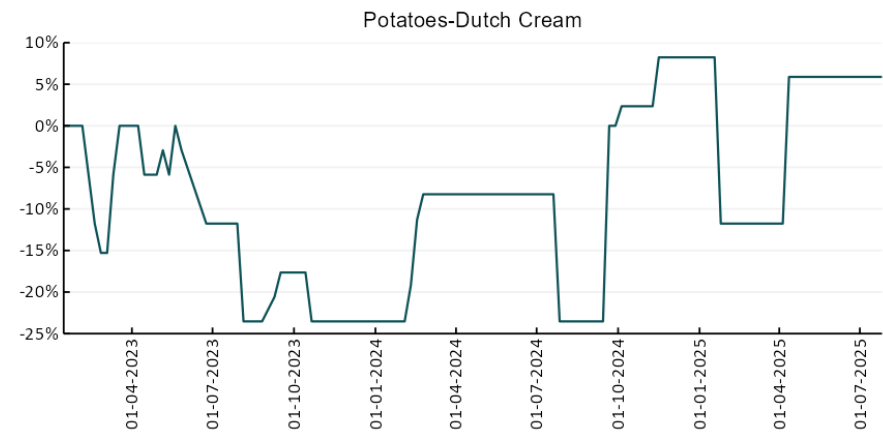
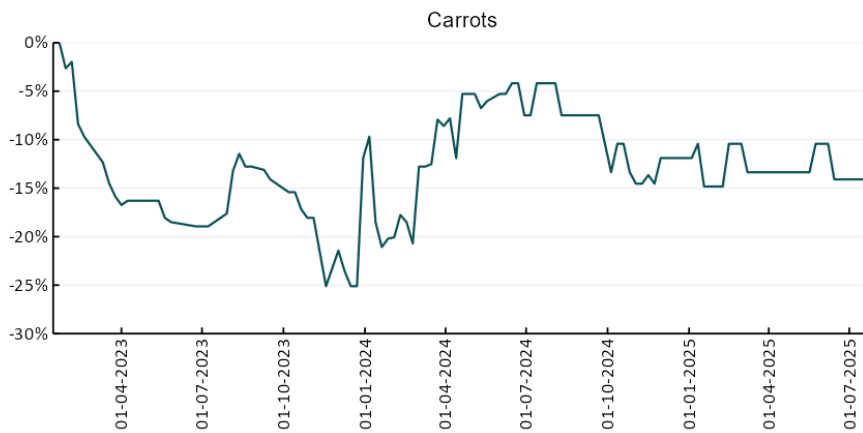


3.4 Global Dairy Trade (GDT) weighted average prices

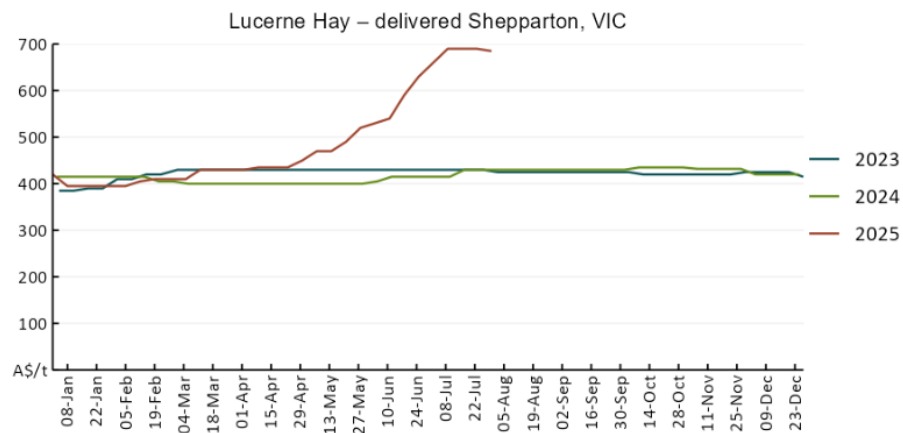
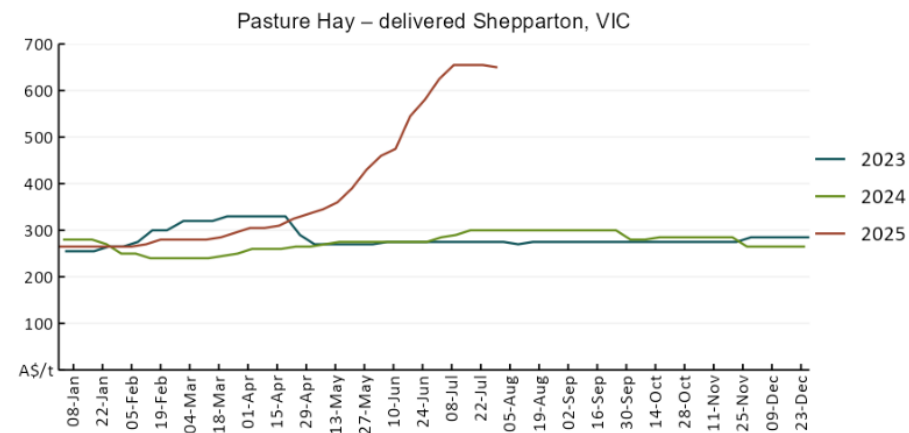
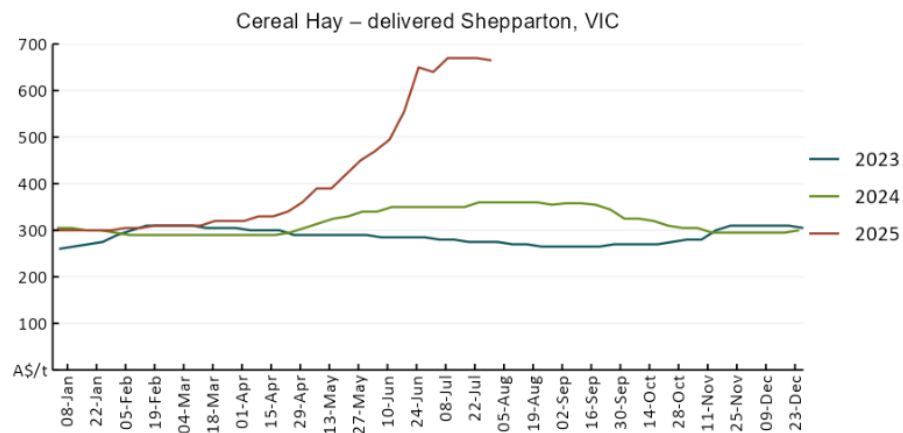


3.5 Selected fruit and vegetable prices





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 CPTC/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://rsmets-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.watnsw.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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