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# Australian crop report

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**Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry  
Australian Bureau of Agricultural and Resource Economics and Sciences (ABARES)**

**Postal address** GPO Box 1563 Canberra ACT 2601  
**Switchboard** +61 2 6272 2010  
**Facsimile** +61 2 6272 2001  
**Email** [info.abares@daff.gov.au](mailto:info.abares@daff.gov.au)  
**Web** [www.daff.gov.au/abares](http://www.daff.gov.au/abares)

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For general media enquiries, call +61 2 6272 3232 or email [media@daff.gov.au](mailto:media@daff.gov.au).

The next issue of *Australian crop report* is scheduled to be released on 14 February 2012.

In the next issue:

- 2011–12 winter crop area and production estimates updated
- 2011–12 summer crop area and production estimates updated

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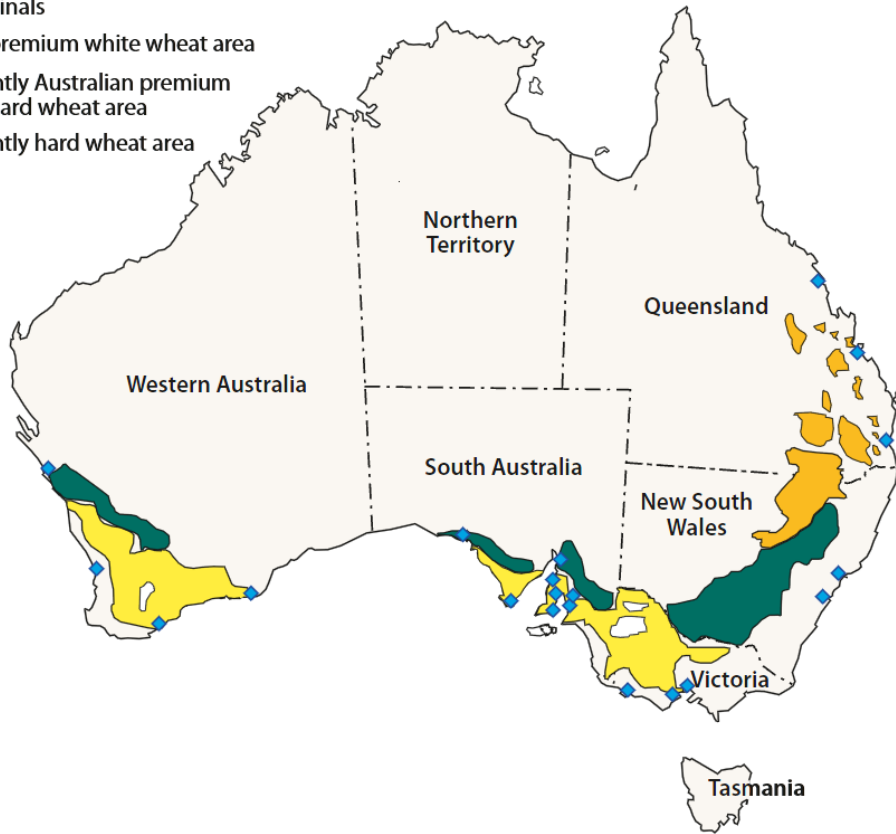
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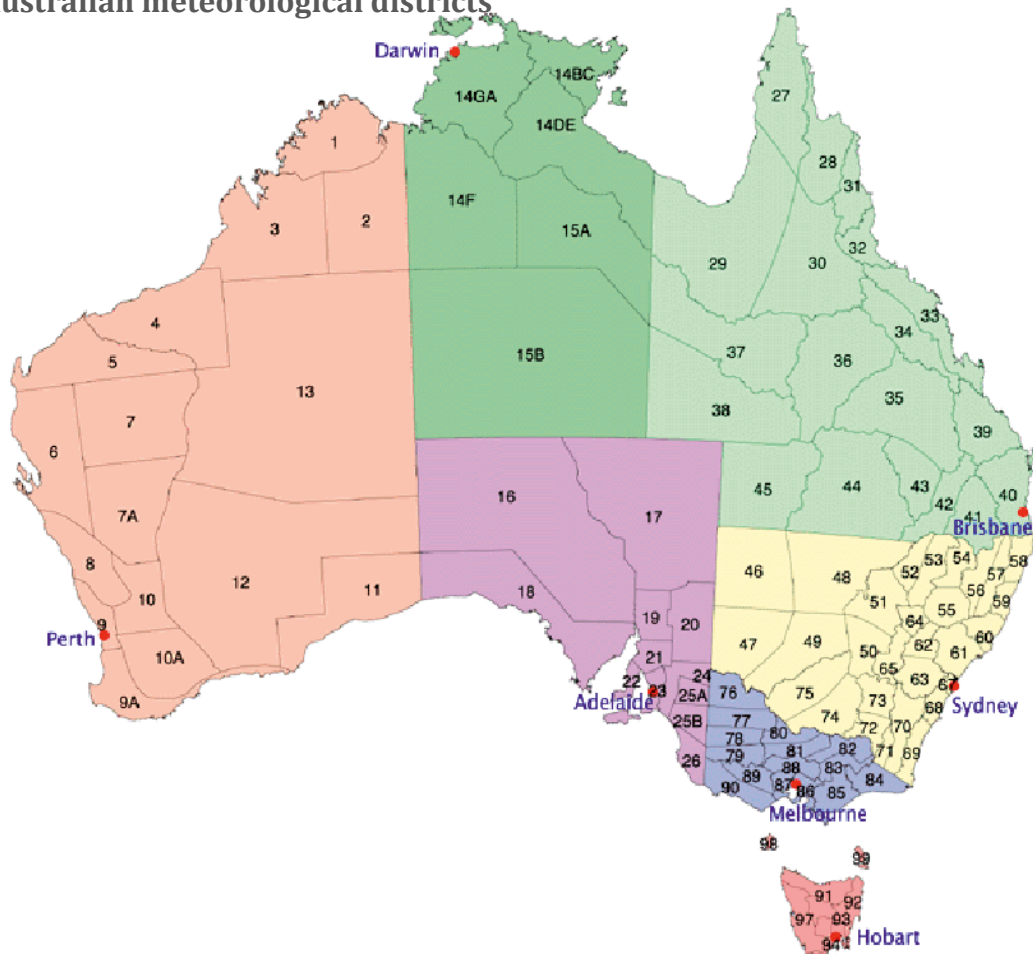
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**Map 1 Australian wheat growing regions**

- ◆ Wheat terminals
- Australian premium white wheat area
- Predominantly Australian premium white and hard wheat area
- Predominantly hard wheat area



**Map 2 Australian meteorological districts**



# Overview

Growing conditions over winter and spring were generally favourable in the major winter cropping regions. Most notably, crop production in Western Australia is forecast to increase significantly, leading to a forecast record winter crop harvest for the nation as a whole.

Favourable winter and spring rainfall over Western Australia's cropping regions has resulted in a marked turnaround from last season's dry conditions. Between 25 and 100 millimetres of rain was received in each of the spring months and this has boosted yield prospects. However, the rain has also slowed the harvest, and has reportedly lowered the quality of affected crops in some regions.

Major winter cropping regions in South Australia, Victoria and southern New South Wales recorded below average September rainfall. However, average to above average rainfall in October and November has placed most crops in a good position ahead of harvest. In northern New South Wales and southern Queensland, above average rainfall has been recorded in the past few weeks, which has delayed harvest and affected crop quality in some regions.

Looking ahead, the Australian Bureau of Meteorology's latest seasonal rainfall outlook (22 November 2011) favours a wetter than normal summer across the cropping regions in Western Australia, Queensland and northern New South Wales. This, if realised, may result in further delays to harvest. For southern New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia, there is an even to less than even chance of exceeding median rainfall over summer, which would be favourable for harvesting of winter crops in those regions.

Populations of mice have fallen over winter and spring, with no reports of significant damage.

Total winter crop production is forecast to be around 43.4 million tonnes in 2011–12. This would be the largest winter crop on record and represents an upward revision from the September 2011 ABARES forecast of 41 million tonnes.

Of the major winter crops, wheat production is forecast to increase by 1 per cent in 2011–12 to 28.3 million tonnes. Barley production is forecast to rise by 4 per cent to 8.5 million tonnes, while canola production is forecast to increase by 5 per cent to 2.5 million tonnes.

The total summer crop area is forecast to be largely unchanged in 2011–12 at 1.5 million hectares. Increased availability of irrigation water is forecast to result in higher cotton and rice plantings, but grain sorghum plantings are forecast to be largely unchanged as a result of increased cotton plantings in response to high cotton prices and lower feed grain prices.

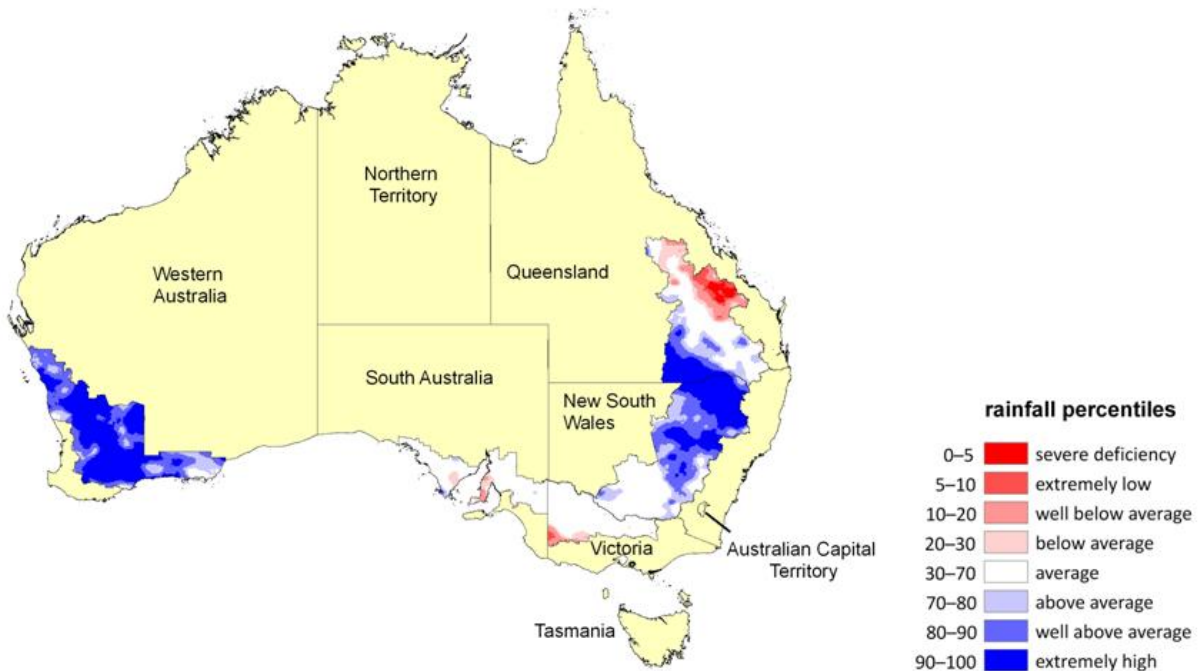
Australian cotton production is forecast to increase by 27 per cent in 2011–12 to a record 1.1 million tonnes. This forecast increase is in response to the prospect of better returns relative to alternative crops, improved supplies of irrigation water and favourable soil moisture profiles in most of the cotton growing regions in New South Wales and Queensland.

## Climatic and agronomic conditions

Since September 2011, most winter cropping regions in Queensland, New South Wales, Victoria and South Australia have received average to well above average spring rainfall (Map 3). Some regions in northern New South Wales received their highest spring rainfall on record.

In contrast to the 2010 winter cropping season, Western Australia experienced above average to extremely high rainfall across most of the grains belt over spring in 2011, following a below average to average winter.

**Map 3 Australian rainfall percentiles—1 September to 30 November 2011**



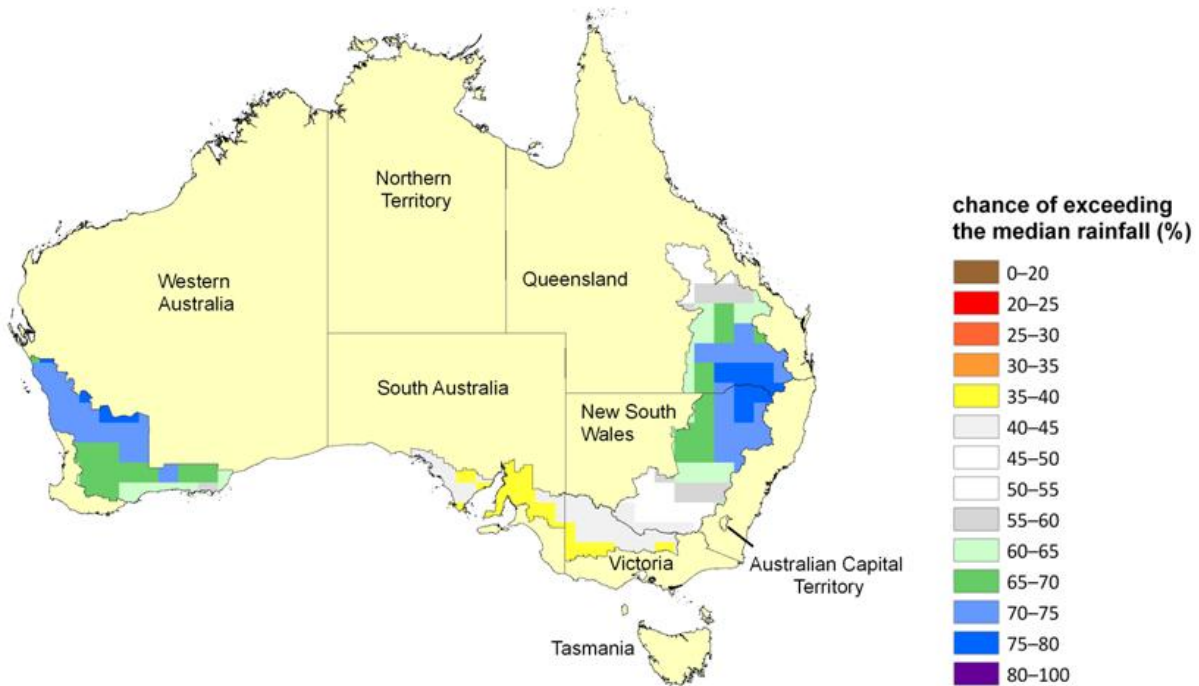
*Note:* Rainfall percentiles displayed for wheat-sheep zone only.

*Source:* Bureau of Meteorology

The Australian Bureau of Meteorology's latest (22 November 2010) seasonal rainfall outlook for summer indicates an increased chance of wetter than normal conditions across cropping areas in Queensland, New South Wales and Western Australia (Map 4). The chances of receiving above median rainfall over summer are more than 60 per cent in most cropping areas in Queensland, Western Australia and most of New South Wales. In comparison, the outlook indicates an increased chance of drier conditions in the northern areas of the Queensland cropping zone, south-east South Australian and Victorian cropping areas. In some cropping areas in South Australia and Victoria, the odds of exceeding median rainfall are less than 40 per cent.

The outlook for maximum and minimum temperatures over summer (December 2011 to February 2012) indicates an increased chance of warmer than average daytime and night-time temperatures over parts of northern and southern Australia, while cooler daytime temperatures are favoured for north-east New South Wales and southern Queensland.

Map 4 Summer (December 2011 to February 2012) rainfall outlook

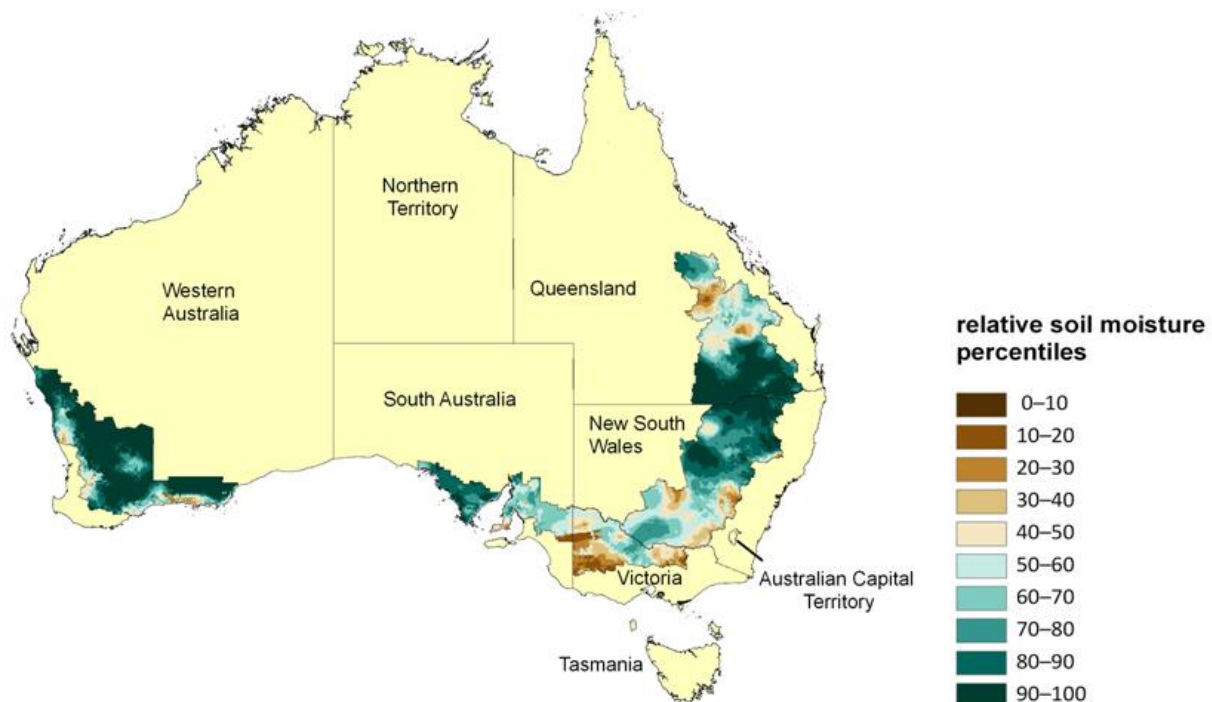


*Note:* Displayed for wheat-sheep zone only.

*Source:* Bureau of Meteorology

Maps 5 and 6 show the relative levels of modelled upper layer (to 0.2 metres below the surface) soil moisture and lower layer (from 0.2 to 1.5 metres below the surface) soil moisture at the end of October 2011 for the wheat-sheep zone across Australia. The soil moisture estimates are relative to the long-term record. Moisture estimates from the long-term record are ranked in percentiles, and the darkest green areas (90th to 100th percentile) indicate that the estimated soil moisture level for October 2011 falls into the 10 wettest months, relative to estimated soil moisture levels for that month averaged over a 100-year period. The darkest brown (0 to 10th percentile) indicates that the estimated soil moisture levels for October 2011 fall into the 10 driest months, relative to estimated soil moisture levels for that month averaged over a 100-year period. These data are from a collaborative project between the Bureau of Meteorology, the CSIRO and ABARES to develop estimates of soil moisture and other components of the water balance at high resolution across Australia.

### Map 5 October 2011 upper layer soil moisture



Note: Relative upper layer soil moisture displayed for wheat–sheep zone only.

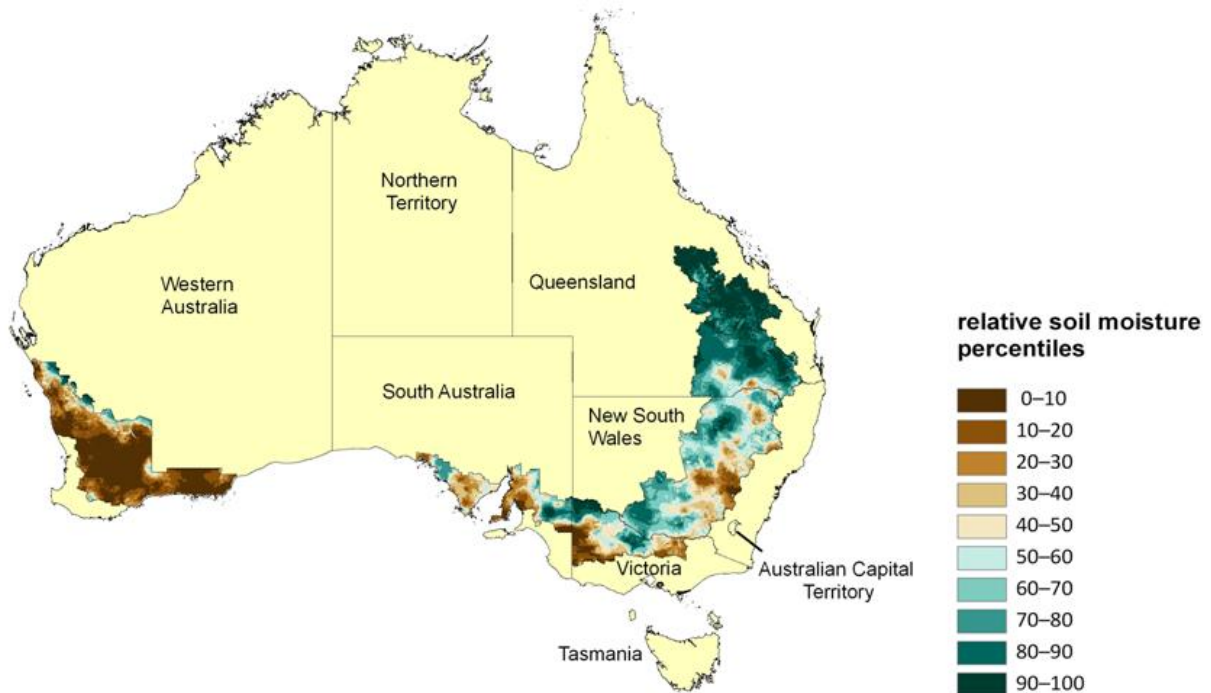
Source: ABARES; CSIRO; Bureau of Meteorology (Australian Water Availability Project)

The upper layer soil moisture responds quickly to seasonal conditions and will often show a pattern that reflects the rainfall and temperature events of the same month. Lower layer soil moisture is a larger, deeper store that is slower to respond and tends to reflect accumulated events over seasonal and longer time scales.

Relative upper layer soil moisture at the end of October 2011 (Map 5) for the wheat–sheep zone is predominantly within the average to above average range in the eastern states, which reflects the rainfall received during late September and October 2011. There are some areas of well above average relative soil moisture in northern New South Wales, southern Queensland, South Australia and much of Western Australia.

Relative soil moisture in the lower layer at the end of October 2011 (Map 6) is predominately average to above average in the eastern states, following above average rainfall received in these areas during early 2011. Above average lower layer soil moisture will provide a deep store for summer crops in these areas, meaning producers will be less reliant on in-crop rainfall. While deficiencies remain in lower layer soil moisture in Western Australia, sufficient in-crop rainfall and well above average relative upper layer soil moisture have provide close to ideal conditions for crop growth.

### Map 6 October 2011 lower layer soil moisture



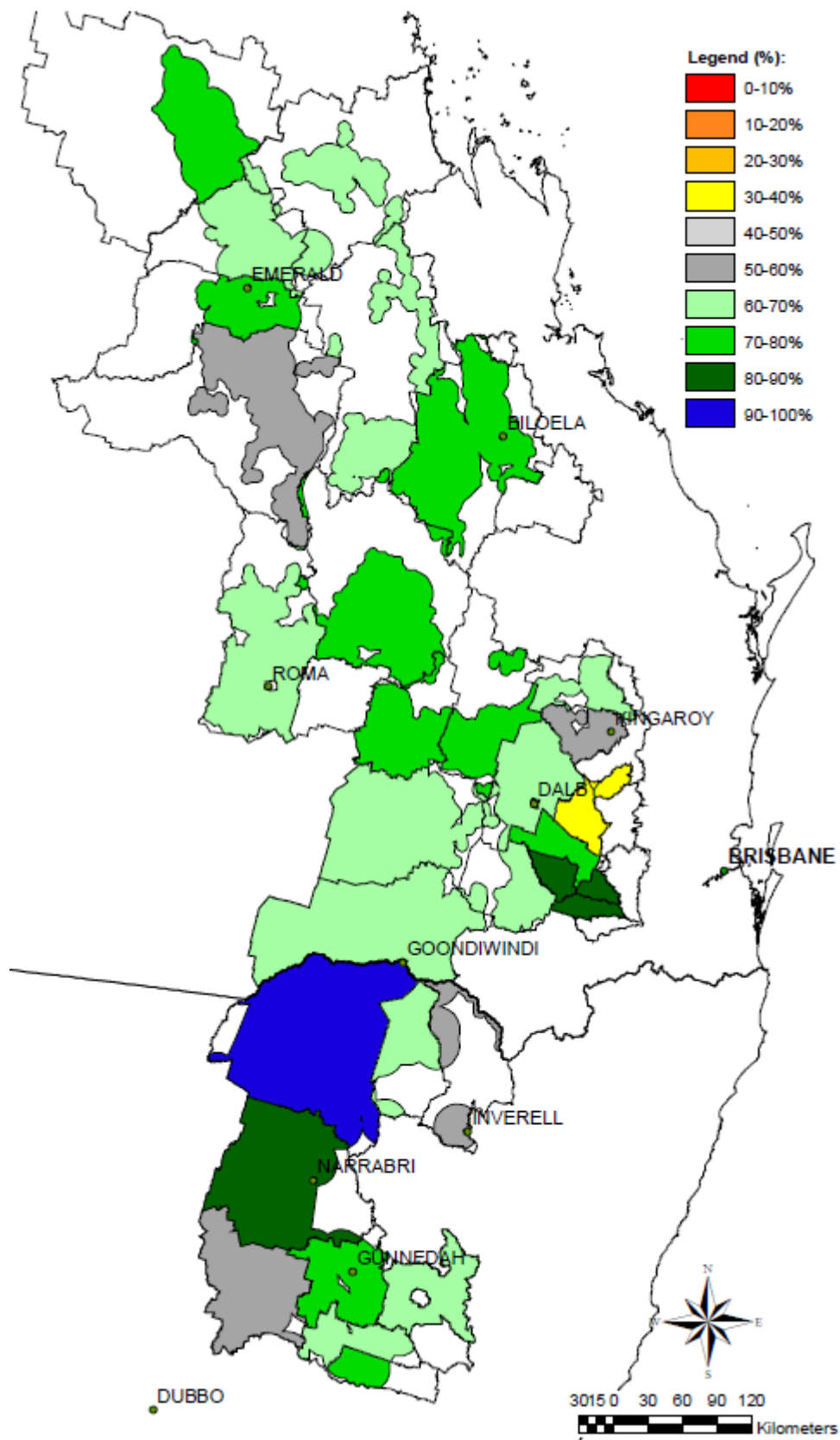
*Note:* Relative lower layer soil moisture displayed for wheat-sheep zone only.

*Source:* ABARES; CSIRO; Bureau of Meteorology (Australian Water Availability Project)

Map 7 presents the shire-scale forecasts of grain sorghum yields obtained from the University of Queensland's Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation. These forecasts combine information on starting soil moisture conditions and the seasonal outlook, including the most recent trend in the Southern Oscillation Index (SOI).

At the beginning of December 2011, the probability of exceeding average grain sorghum yields is generally between 60 and 80 per cent in most summer cropping regions of Queensland and northern New South Wales. This reflects the widespread above average rainfall and average temperatures recorded over these regions throughout spring.

Map 7 Probability of exceeding long term median grain sorghum yield



Source: Queensland Alliance for Agriculture and Food Innovation

**Table 1 Winter and spring rainfall in major grain growing regions**

	Winter median mm	Winter 2011 mm	Winter 2011 percentile a	Spring median mm	Spring 2011 mm	Spring 2011 percentile a
<b>Queensland</b>						
Central Highlands (35)	63	52	39	122	96	35
Maranoa (43)	82	51	21	127	167	75
W Darling Downs (42)	86	64	34	132	188	81
E Darling Downs (41)	112	86	26	178	190	54
Moreton S Coast (40)	132	119	36	228	142	13
<b>New South Wales</b>						
NW Plains (W) (52)	92	80	40	116	238	95
NW Plains (E) (53)	111	96	34	128	290	100
NW Slopes (N) (54)	119	104	33	160	309	100
NW Slopes (S) (55)	140	86	20	176	288	100
N Tablelands (N) (56)	150	148	48	196	282	81
CW Plains (S) (50)	110	70	14	116	174	72
CW Plains (N) (51)	105	50	13	109	173	90
CW Slopes (N) (64)	127	72	16	150	244	94
CW Slopes (S) (65)	138	99	25	150	215	80
C Tablelands (N) (62)	131	100	28	149	264	88
C Tablelands (S) (63)	193	140	32	233	233	50
Riverina (W) (75)	98	85	38	95	101	59
Riverina (E) (74)	128	112	31	126	134	57
SW Slopes (N) (73)	158	126	29	153	210	76
SW Slopes (S) (72)	254	205	25	219	317	94
S Tablelands (GM)(70)	131	151	63	171	199	62
<b>Victoria</b>						
N Mallee (76)	92	78	45	79	95	60
S Mallee (77)	101	89	38	93	101	57
N Wimmera (78)	125	112	38	110	105	46
S Wimmera (79)	178	157	37	136	110	35
Lower North (80)	120	112	38	106	108	51
Upper North (81)	151	139	35	124	134	55
Lower North East (82)	266	251	42	198	278	77
Upper North East (83)	362	281	23	290	318	58
North Central (88)	245	168	3	185	207	58
Central Western (89)	191	155	17	175	134	30
<b>Western Australia</b>						
North Coast (8)	180	182	52	56	90	97
Central Coast (9)	437	341	25	129	158	75
Northern Central (10)	161	142	51	53	106	99
South Central (10A)	168	159	39	75	142	94
South East (12)	83	80	43	48	88	96
<b>South Australia</b>						
Upper South East (25B)	97	89	42	79	85	60
Murray Mallee (25A)	97	89	42	79	85	60
Murray River (24)	109	91	35	78	87	53
East Central (23)	220	173	16	137	111	33
West Central (22)	163	138	20	93	77	35
Lower North (21)	157	124	23	114	98	42
Upper North (19)	117	64	18	86	76	44
Western (18)	135	78	3	76	63	39

**a** Percentiles are interpreted as the ranking between 0 and 100 of current rainfall compared with historical rainfall. 0 is the lowest rainfall, 100 is the highest rainfall. For comparison with Bureau of Meteorology maps, the period 1961 to 1990 is used as the reference period.

*Note:* Australian meteorological districts (in parentheses) are shown in Map 2.

## Winter crop production

Total winter crop production is forecast to be a record 43.4 million tonnes in 2011–12. This is being driven by a significant recovery in production in Western Australia, the largest wheat producing state. Total winter crop production in Western Australia is forecast to increase by 82 per cent from the drought-affected 2010–11 crop, to around 14.7 million tonnes in 2011–12.

Production in the eastern states (including South Australia) is forecast to fall by 16 per cent in 2011–12 to 28.7 million tonnes. If realised, this would be the second largest winter crop production in the eastern states on record. However, heavy late November rainfall in northern New South Wales caused flooding in some areas and lowered the quality of unharvested crops.

Wheat protein levels are expected to be relatively low across a number of winter cropping regions in 2011–12. A wet finish, combined with depleted nitrogen levels in soils, has contributed to this.

Populations of mice have fallen over winter and spring, with no reports of significant damage.

Of the major winter crops, wheat production in 2011–12 is forecast at a record 28.3 million tonnes. Barley production is forecast to reach 8.5 million tonnes, and canola production is forecast to increase by 5 per cent to 2.5 million tonnes in 2011–12.

**Table 2 Winter crop production—Australia**

	New South Wales	Victoria	Queensland	Western Australia	South Australia	Australia
	kt	kt	kt	kt	kt	kt
1998–99	9 718	3 495	2 322	12 232	6 305	34 147
1999–00	11 495	5 139	2 222	13 311	4 751	36 980
2000–01	10 834	6 232	1 340	8 726	7 486	34 696
2001–02	11 171	5 873	1 142	12 050	8 927	39 240
2002–03	3 505	1 955	836	6 812	4 227	17 402
2003–04	10 768	6 945	1 473	16 683	7 451	43 394
2004–05	10 724	4 204	1 383	12 983	5 338	34 710
2005–06	11 983	6 270	1 435	13 947	7 520	41 236
2006–07	3 796	1 751	926	8 279	2 793	17 588
2007–08	4 007	4 700	1 196	10 761	4 706	25 422
2008–09	9 441	3 890	2 326	13 784	4 864	34 386
2009–10	7 789	5 896	1 618	12 950	7 038	35 365
2010–11 <b>s</b>	15 181	7 772	1 894	8 076	9 496	42 508
2011–12 previous	11 274	6 438	1 876	13 192	8 171	41 021
2011–12 <b>f</b>	11 889	6 759	2 116	14 674	7 916	43 426
% change 2010–11 to 2011–12	-21.7	-13.0	11.7	81.7	-16.6	2.2

**f** ABARES forecast. **s** ABARES estimate.

*Note:* State production includes wheat, barley, oats, triticale, canola, lupins, field peas, chickpeas, faba beans and lentils. Australian totals also include linseed and safflower.

**Table 3 Winter crop area—Australia**

	<b>New South Wales</b>	<b>Victoria</b>	<b>Queensland</b>	<b>Western Australia</b>	<b>South Australia</b>	<b>Australia</b>
	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha
1998–99	4 927	2 454	1 420	7 419	3 376	19 582
1999–00	4 955	2 670	1 337	7 464	3 342	19 763
2000–01	5 398	2 706	1 126	7 390	3 667	20 280
2001–02	5 309	2 684	788	7 173	3 866	19 817
2002–03	4 782	2 928	774	7 174	3 965	19 623
2003–04	6 070	3 126	1 039	7 688	4 034	21 982
2004–05	6 456	3 130	878	7 936	4 018	22 445
2005–06	5 593	2 972	969	7 409	3 868	20 838
2006–07	5 673	3 085	811	6 479	4 141	20 217
2007–08	6 314	3 378	876	7 265	4 131	21 984
2008–09	6 295	3 495	1 212	7 901	3 979	22 910
2009–10	6 113	3 491	1 177	8 278	3 786	22 870
2010–11 <b>s</b>	6 200	3 451	1 232	7 793	3 880	22 582
2011–12 previous	6 283	3 391	1 178	7 644	4 109	22 624
2011–12 <b>f</b>	6 200	3 391	1 178	7 644	4 109	22 541
% change 2010–11 to 2011–12	0.0	-1.7	-4.4	-1.9	5.9	-0.2

**f** ABARES forecast. **s** ABARES estimate.

*Note:* State production includes wheat, barley, oats, triticale, canola, lupins, field peas, chickpeas, faba beans and lentils. Australian totals also include linseed and safflower.

## Summer crop production

Total summer crop production is forecast to increase by 18 per cent in 2011–12 to around 5.4 million tonnes. An increase in the availability of irrigation water is forecast to result in an increase in the area planted to cotton and rice. However, the combined effects of high cotton prices and lower prices for feed grains are forecast to limit the area planted to grain sorghum. Consequently, the total summer crop area is forecast to remain largely unchanged in 2011–12 at just over 1.5 million hectares

Although late November rainfall in southern Queensland and northern New South Wales delayed plantings in some regions, it will replenish soil moisture profiles, benefiting the development of summer crops.

Australian cotton production is forecast to reach a record 1.1 million tonnes in 2011–12, up from around 900 000 tonnes in 2010–11. This forecast increase is driven by an estimated 2 per cent increase in cotton plantings and a return to more normal yields following the extensive flood damage to cotton crops in Queensland in 2010–11. Irrigated cotton plantings are estimated to have increased by 7 per cent in 2010–11. However, dryland cotton plantings are estimated to have fallen by 11 per cent. In mid-November, the planting window closed for the genetically modified cotton varieties that now make up almost all of total Australian cotton plantings.

The area planted to rice is estimated to have increased by 35 per cent in 2011–12 to around 101 000 hectares, the largest area planted to rice since 2005–06. The increase in the forecast area planted reflects the increased availability of irrigation water.

The area planted to grain sorghum is forecast to be largely unchanged in 2011–12 at around 667 000 hectares. Assuming above average yields, grain sorghum production is forecast to increase by around 17 per cent to 2.4 million tonnes.

**Table 4 Summer crop area and production—Australia**

	New South Wales		Queensland		Australia	
	'000 ha	kt	'000 ha	kt	'000 ha	kt
1997-98	617	2 588	640	1 139	1 335	3 820
1998-99	885	3 228	721	1 712	1 741	5 097
1999-00	742	2 882	771	2 031	1 591	5 026
2000-01	825	3 366	816	1 786	1 761	5 286
2001-02	777	3 146	794	1 772	1 633	4 933
2002-03	509	1 582	521	1 199	1 097	2 868
2003-04	436	1 766	708	1 806	1 212	3 679
2004-05	436	1 766	708	1 806	1 340	3 889
2005-06	765	2 770	602	1 447	1 434	4 327
2006-07	332	1 033	520	1 087	921	2 186
2007-08	378	1 650	756	2 826	1 205	4 583
2008-09	394	1 421	700	2 300	1 156	3 794
2009-10	362	1 383	476	1 283	903	2 757
2010-11 <b>s</b>	693	2 624	749	1 862	1 512	4 584
2011-12 previous	694	2 752	715	1 991	1 475	4 837
2011-12 <b>f</b>	711	2 833	750	2 464	1 527	5 389
% change 2010-11 to 2011-12	2.7	7.9	0.1	32.4	1.0	17.6

**f** ABARES forecast. **s** ABARES estimate.

*Note:* State production includes grain sorghum, rice, cottonseed, maize and sunflower. Australian production also includes soybeans, peanuts, mung beans and navy beans.

# Crop conditions and production forecasts, by state

## New South Wales

After below average rainfall during winter, rainfall in late September and early October across the majority of the winter cropping regions of New South Wales has significantly improved yield prospects, particularly in the northern and central cropping areas. In the southern cropping areas, yields are expected to be well above average following the timely spring rainfall.

Rainfall in recent weeks has interrupted the harvest and lowered crop quality in affected areas. Flooding occurred around Moree, Gunnedah and Wee Waa, where harvesting of winter crops was only 70 per cent complete. However, crops in southern New South Wales were still green in late November and the recent rain is less likely to reduce grain quality there.

Total **winter crop** production in New South Wales is forecast to fall by 22 per cent in 2011–12 to 11.9 million tonnes. Despite improved yield prospects as a result of spring rainfall, seasonal conditions across the central and northern cropping zones have been below average. The total area planted to winter crops in 2011–12 is estimated to have been around 6.2 million hectares, largely unchanged from 2010–11.

**Wheat** production is forecast to be 8.3 million tonnes in 2011–12, 22 per cent less than the record production in 2010–11. The area planted to wheat in New South Wales in 2011–12 is estimated to have increased to just over 4 million hectares.

**Barley** production is forecast to be around 1.7 million tonnes in 2011–12, nearly 24 per cent less than the record production in 2010–11, reflecting a decrease in the area planted and an expected reduction in yields. The area planted to barley is estimated to have been around 880 000 hectares.

**Canola** production is forecast to fall by 24 per cent in 2011–12 to around 625 000 tonnes, reflecting a decline from the record yields achieved last year. The area planted to canola is estimated to have been 395 000 hectares in 2011–12.

The area planted to **grain sorghum** is forecast to decrease by around 6 per cent in 2011–12 to 200 000 hectares. Despite above average spring rainfall in key growing regions, the combined effects of high cotton prices and lower prices for feed grains are expected to limit the area planted to grain sorghum. Assuming a return to average yields, production is forecast to fall by around 13 per cent to 712 000 tonnes.

The area planted to **rice** is estimated to have increased by 35 per cent in 2011–12 to around 100 000 hectares as a result of increased supplies of irrigation water. In the Murray Valley, equivalent allocations (average carryover of last season's unused water plus announced allocations) are around 100 per cent. Similarly, in the Murrumbidgee Valley, equivalent allocations are around 99 per cent. Rice production is forecast to increase by 27 per cent to 912 000 tonnes in 2011–12.

**Cotton** lint production is forecast to rise by 25 per cent in 2011–12, to a record of around 709 000 tonnes. This reflects an assumed 20 per cent rise in the average yield to 2 tonnes of cotton lint a hectare, which reflects a higher proportion of irrigated plantings than in 2010–11.

Irrigated cotton area in 2011–12 is forecast to rise by 15 per cent to 284 700 hectares, while dryland cotton area is forecast to fall by 27 per cent to 73 400 hectares.

**Table 5 Winter crop forecasts, 2011–12, New South Wales**

	area	yield a	production	production change from 2010–11
	'000 ha	t/ha	kt	%
Wheat	4 050	2.05	8 300	-22
Barley	880	1.93	1 700	-24
Canola	395	1.58	625	-24

a Yields are based on area planted.

**Table 6 Summer crop forecasts, 2011–12, New South Wales**

	area	yield a	production	area change from 2010–11
	'000 ha	t/ha	kt	%
Grain sorghum	200	3.56	712	-6
Sunflower	17	1.32	22	-6
Cottonseed	360	2.79	1 003	4
Cotton lint	360	1.97	709	4
Rice	100	9.12	912	35

a Yields are based on area planted.

## Queensland

Much of Queensland's major cropping regions recorded timely spring rainfall, which significantly improved yield prospects across the state. Harvest in central Queensland is complete, with overall yields estimated to be above average, although wheat protein levels have generally been low.

Above average October rainfall in southern Queensland significantly improved crop prospects, particularly in the south-east where harvest results suggest that yields have exceeded expectations after the below average seasonal conditions experienced throughout winter. November rainfall was untimely and it interrupted the harvest in the south-east, which was about 80 per cent complete, and adversely affected the quality of the unharvested crops. Although yields in the south-west are estimated to be below average, crop quality to date has generally been good.

Total **winter crop** production in Queensland is forecast to increase by 12 per cent in 2011–12 to 2.1 million tonnes. The area planted to winter crops is estimated to have decreased by 4 per cent to 1.2 million hectares. Yields in central and south-east Queensland are estimated to be above average, mainly because of timely spring rainfall.

**Wheat** production is forecast to increase by 12 per cent in 2011–12 to 1.8 million tonnes. After below average winter rainfall, timely spring rainfall and mild temperatures have significantly boosted yields, particularly in south-east Queensland.

**Barley** production is forecast to increase by 4 per cent in 2011–12 to 165 000 tonnes. Despite an estimated decline in the area planted to 90 000 hectares, yields are estimated to be above average following favourable spring conditions.

**Chickpea** production is forecast to increase by 24 per cent in 2011–12 to 138 000 tonnes, despite the planted area estimated to have fallen by more than 50 per cent. Following timely spring rainfall and good crop establishment, yields are estimated to recover from the disease and flood affected crop in 2010–11.

**Cotton** lint production is forecast to rise by 32 per cent in 2011–12, to a record of around 433 100 tonnes. This reflects an assumed recovery in the average yield to 1.80 tonnes per hectare, following the large-scale crop losses to floods in 2010–11. Irrigated cotton area in 2011–12 is forecast to rise by 4 per cent to 163 480 hectares, while dryland cotton area is forecast to fall by 8 per cent to 77 700 hectares.

The area planted to **grain sorghum** is forecast to increase marginally in 2011–12 to 465 000 hectares. Despite above average spring rainfall, the combined effects of favourable cotton prices and lower prices for feed grains are likely to limit the area planted to grain sorghum. Grain sorghum production in 2011–12 is forecast to reach 1.7 million tonnes.

**Table 7 Winter crop forecasts, 2011–12, Queensland**

	area	yield a	production	production change from 2010–11
	'000 ha	t/ha	kt	%
Wheat	1 000	1.80	1 800	12
Barley	90	1.83	165	4
Chickpeas	73	1.91	138	24

a Yields are based on area planted.

**Table 8 Summer crop forecasts, 2011–12, Queensland**

	area	yield a	production	area change from 2010–11
	'000 ha	t/ha	kt	%
Grain sorghum	465	3.66	1 700	1
Sunflower	9	1.14	10	-18
Cottonseed	241	2.54	612	-1
Cotton lint	241	1.80	433	-1

a Yields are based on area planted.

## Victoria

Harvesting of winter crops has started and the outlook for crop yields appears favourable in most regions. Rainfall in Victoria's major cropping regions was generally below average in September, but increased to average to above average in October and November. Late September through to November are important months for yield determination, as most grain development and grain filling occurs in this period.

Soils in the Western District (a high rainfall zone in south-west Victoria) remained wet from April to September, but dried through October and November. This allowed growers to spray and apply fertiliser, which improved yield prospects in that region.

Populations of mice have fallen over winter and spring, with no reports of significant crop damage.

**Winter crop** production in Victoria is forecast to fall by 13 per cent in 2011–12 to 6.8 million tonnes, following a bumper season in 2010–11.

**Wheat** production is forecast to fall by 19 per cent in 2011–12 to 3.6 million tonnes. Harvest has started in the north of the state down through the Wimmera. Early harvesting indicates that protein levels are lower than normal.

Following favourable conditions during spring, **barley** production is forecast to reach 1.9 million tonnes in 2011–12 to 1.9 million tonnes, 5 per cent lower than in 2010–11. Yields are expected to be above average in all cropping regions but below the exceptional yields of the previous season.

**Canola** production is forecast to increase by 9 per cent in 2011–12 to around 520 000 tonnes as a result of an estimated 8 per cent increase in area planted to 350 000 hectares. Additionally, a reprieve from last season's excessively wet conditions in the Western District, which grows around 25 per cent of the state's canola, is expected to result in improved yields. Harvest results in the Mallee show yields around 1 tonne a hectare, significantly above the drought-exclusive average yield. Early harvest results suggest percentage oil content in the high forties.

**Table 9 Winter crop forecasts, 2011–12, Victoria**

	area	yield a	production	production change from 2010–11
	'000 ha	t/ha	kt	%
Wheat	1 700	2.14	3 630	-19
Barley	860	2.15	1 850	-5
Canola	350	1.49	520	9

a Yields are based on area planted.

## South Australia

Most of South Australia's major cropping regions recorded below average rainfall in September. However, October rainfall was favourable, providing good growing conditions with high yield potential across the state for most crops. Although heavy rainfall in late November delayed harvest, crop quality is not expected to be adversely affected.

Harvesting of the winter crop started early in South Australia, during late September, although most of the winter crop harvest started in October. In contrast to earlier this year, mice activity has been relatively low over the past few months. However, farmers are still baiting regularly. Powdery mildew has been a concern for growers of canola. While snails on the Eyre Peninsula and in the Mallee have also been a concern for growers.

**Winter crop** production in South Australia is forecast to fall by 17 per cent in 2011–12 to 7.9 million tonnes. Despite this forecast fall from last year's record crop, yields are expected to remain above the average for the previous five years as a result of the generally favourable seasonal conditions.

**Wheat** production is forecast to fall by 27 per cent in 2011–12 to around 4.4 million tonnes. Although production is forecast to be down on last year, this forecast crop, if realised, would be the second highest on record. No major disease outbreaks have been reported but protein levels are reportedly down on normal.

**Barley** production is forecast to rise by 11 per cent in 2011–12 to 2.4 million tonnes. This forecast rise is driven by above average yields at 2.09 tonnes a hectare assisted by favourable rainfall in October. Some regions are expected to produce high-grade barley.

**Canola** production is forecast to rise by 2 per cent in 2011–12 to a record 375 000 tonnes. Although the area planted is estimated to have fallen by 5 per cent to 210 000 hectares, above average yields are expected. Percentage oil content across the state is expected to be higher than last year, averaging in the mid-forties.

**Table 10 Winter crop forecasts, 2011-12, South Australia**

	area	yield a	production	production change from 2010-11
	'000 ha	t/ha	kt	%
Wheat	2 250	1.97	4 425	-27
Barley	1 150	2.09	2 400	11
Canola	210	1.79	375	2

a Yields are based on area planted.

## Western Australia

Following average rainfall over winter, most major cropping regions in Western Australia received above average spring rainfall. The heaviest spring falls were recorded in the Geraldton and Kwinana regions. Harvesting commenced around Geraldton in mid-October but the widespread spring rainfall delayed progress. In the first week of December, harvest was just over 50 per cent complete.

The heavy spring rainfall has lowered the quality of some mature crops, mainly in the Geraldton region. However, the rainfall was beneficial for the less mature crops in the Kwinana and Albany growing regions and particularly timely in the Esperance region, where conditions had been drier than average during winter and early spring.

**Winter crop** production in Western Australia is forecast to rise by 82 per cent in 2011–12 to around 14.7 million tonnes.

**Wheat** production is forecast to more than double in 2011–12 to around 10.1 million tonnes, with a state-wide average yield of 1.98 tonnes per hectare. This reflects favourable growing conditions and an estimated 9 per cent increase in area planted to wheat. Reduced grain quality is a concern in some areas where the spring rains are reported to have resulted in lower starch content and sprouting.

**Barley** production is forecast to rise by 48 per cent in 2011–12 to 2.4 million tonnes following the generally favourable seasonal conditions. The percentage rise in barley production does not match the rise in wheat production because much of the state's barley is grown in southern growing regions, which were not as dry last year as the northern areas where much of the wheat is grown. The spring rains have caused staining of some of the barley crops, resulting in some of the crop being downgraded to feed grade.

**Canola** production is forecast to rise by 37 per cent in 2011–12 to around 975 000 tonnes. Although the area planted to canola fell by around 29 per cent as a result of dry conditions during the earlier sowing window, favourable growing conditions have resulted in higher yields.

Additionally, canola crops have not experienced significant quality problems. Of the canola harvested, quality has reportedly been good, with oil content averaging around 43 per cent.

**Table 11 Winter crop forecasts, 2011-12, Western Australia**

	<b>area</b>	<b>yield</b>	<b>production</b>	<b>production change from 2010-11</b>
	'000 ha	t/ha	kt	%
Wheat	5 100	1.98	10 100	102
Barley	1 050	2.24	2 350	48
Canola	750	1.30	975	37
Lupins	334	1.52	506	24

**a** Yields are based on area planted

Table 12 Australian crop production

	area planted				yield				production			
	Five-year average a	2009-10	2010-11 s	2011-12 f	Five-year average a	2009-10	2010-11 s	2011-12 f	Five-year average a	2009-10	2010-11 s	2011-12 f
	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	'000 ha	t/ha	t/ha	t/ha	t/ha	kt	kt	kt	kt
Wheat	13 086	13 881	13 645	14 108	1.44	1.57	2.04	2.00	19 107	21 834	27 891	28 286
Barley	4 452	4 422	3 740	4 038	1.61	1.78	2.18	2.10	7 085	7 865	8 145	8 491
Oats <b>b</b>	959	850	833	1 003	1.21	1.37	1.37	1.65	1 143	1 162	1 142	1 654
Triticale	346	350	330	330	1.31	1.56	2.07	1.75	448	545	685	580
Grain sorghum <b>b</b>	699	498	674	667	3.14	3.03	3.07	3.62	2 268	1 508	2 068	2 415
Maize	60	59	61	54	5.55	5.56	5.75	5.52	336	328	351	298
Canola	1 565	1 712	2 093	1 705	0.97	1.12	1.14	1.46	1 587	1 920	2 382	2 495
Sunflower	36	27	29	26	1.32	1.54	1.51	1.25	47	41	44	33
Cottonseed <b>c</b>	234	208	590	602	2.66	2.63	2.15	2.69	571	547	1 269	1 617
- lint	234	208	590	602	1.92	1.86	1.52	1.90	410	387	898	1 144
Rice	25	19	75	101	8.97	10.39	9.68	9.08	233	197	726	915
Lupins <b>d</b>	708	692	783	490	1.00	1.19	1.07	1.45	701	823	841	712
Field peas <b>d</b>	311	285	292	244	0.96	1.25	1.49	1.24	287	356	434	301
Chickpeas <b>d</b>	381	429	546	283	0.99	1.14	0.69	1.39	370	487	379	394
Faba beans <b>d</b>	144	129	145	151	1.27	1.68	1.98	1.64	177	217	287	248
Lentils <b>d</b>	143	104	159	173	1.00	1.38	1.93	1.45	135	143	306	251

**a** Based on data from ABS, *Principal Agricultural Commodities*, cat. no. 7111.0, five years to 2010-11; ABS, *Agricultural Commodities, Australia*, cat. no. 7121.0; Pulse Australia. **b** Area harvested for grain. **c** Cottonseed area is estimated harvested area. **d** Source: Pulse Australia. **s** ABARES estimate. **f** ABARES forecast.

*Note:* The crop year refers to crops planted during the 12 months to 31 March. Winter crops are generally both sown and harvested within the nominated 12-month period. Slight discrepancies may appear between Table 12 and Tables 13 and 14 as a result of the inclusion of the Australian Capital Territory and Northern Territory in the Australian totals. Area and production estimates are from the sources detailed in footnotes to Tables 13 and 14. Coverage is for all farms with an estimated value of agricultural operations of more than \$5000.

Table 13 State production—principal crops

	New South Wales		Victoria		Queensland		Western Australia		South Australia		Tasmania	
	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt
<b>Wheat</b>												
2011–12 f	4 050	8 300	1 700	3 630	1 000	1 800	5 100	10 100	2 250	4 425	8	31
2010–11 s	3 823	10 700	1 821	4 493	937	1 605	4 698	4 999	2 357	6 060	9	34
2009–10 a	3 983	5 350	1 801	2 995	962	1 346	5 006	8 114	2 122	4 001	7	27
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	3 947	5 612	1 603	2 424	845	1 340	4 508	6 468	2 175	3 236	8	28
<b>Barley</b>												
2011–12 f	880	1 700	860	1 850	90	165	1 050	2 350	1 150	2 400	8	26
2010–11 s	886	2 249	806	1 954	105	158	1 124	1 589	808	2 158	10	36
2009–10 a	951	1 236	976	1 865	69	113	1 420	2 554	997	2 068	9	29
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	953	1 300	988	1 535	92	133	1 313	2 335	1 096	1 754	9	26
<b>Oats b</b>												
Five-year average to 2009–10 a	322	477	169	237	13	8	258	286	67	125	3	7
<b>Lupins c</b>												
2011–12 f	68	91	23	30	0	0	334	506	65	84	0	0
2010–11 s	134	269	43	69	0	0	541	407	64	96	0	0
2009–10 a	102	84	36	33	0	0	500	631	53	74	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	87	87	41	32	0	0	512	516	67	65	0	0
<b>Canola</b>												
2011–12 f	395	625	350	520	0	0	750	975	210	375	0	0
2010–11 s	487	822	323	477	2	3	1 058	711	222	369	1	1
2009–10 a	303	281	232	335	3	1	988	1 037	184	263	1	2
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	337	293	243	262	2	1	794	813	188	216	1	1
<b>Grain sorghum</b>												
2011–12 f	200	712	1	2	465	1 700	1	1	0	0	0	0
2010–11 s	213	823	1	1	459	1 243	1	0	0	0	0	0
2009–10 a	164	581	0	0	333	926	1	0	0	0	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	209	796	1	1	488	1 471	1	1	0	0	0	0
<b>Cottonseed d</b>												
2011–12 f	360	1 003	0	0	241	612	1	2	0	0	0	0
2010–11 s	348	805	0	0	242	464	0	0	0	0	0	0
2009–10	124	362	0	0	84	185	0	0	0	0	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11	142	372	0	0	92	199	0	0	0	0	0	0

a Based on data from ABS, *Principal Agricultural Commodities*, cat. no. 7111.0, five years to 2010–11; ABS, *Agricultural Commodities, Australia*, cat. no. 7121.0. b Area harvested for grain; current season estimates, by state, are no longer produced because of difficulties in obtaining consistent data at the state level. c Includes albus lupins. d Cottonseed area is estimated harvested area. Source: Pulse Australia. s ABARES estimate. f ABARES forecast. na not available.

Note: Zero area or production estimates may appear as a result of rounding to the nearest whole number, if production or area estimates are less than 500 tonnes or 500 hectares.

Table 14 State production—other major crops

	New South Wales		Victoria		Queensland		Western Australia		South Australia		Tasmania	
	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt	area '000 ha	prod. kt
<b>Field peas</b>												
2011–12 f	41	59	38	40	0	0	55	52	110	150	0	0
2010–11 s	57	76	45	76	0	0	72	50	118	232	0	0
2009–10 a	46	33	52	75	0	0	60	65	127	183	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	44	28	67	49	0	0	68	61	132	149	0	0
<b>Maize</b>												
2011–12 f	19	151	1	6	33	137	1	4	0	0	0	0
2010–11 s	24	202	1	6	35	139	1	4	0	0	0	0
2009–10	20	172	1	6	37	146	1	4	0	0	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11	20	162	1	5	39	166	1	3	0	0	0	0
<b>Chickpeas</b>												
2011–12 f	156	181	35	45	73	138	11	16	9	13	0	0
2010–11 s	335	201	25	48	168	112	9	4	10	16	0	0
2009–10 a	252	304	39	25	125	146	3	3	10	9	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	235	232	33	23	101	105	4	2	7	8	0	0
<b>Sunflower</b>												
2011–12 f	17	22	0	0	9	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
2010–11 s	18	31	0	0	11	13	0	0	0	0	0	0
2009–10	19	31	0	0	8	10	0	0	0	0	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11	22	30	0	0	12	16	0	0	0	0	0	0
<b>Faba beans</b>												
2011–12 f	43	73	49	73	2	3	3	4	55	95	0	0
2010–11 s	40	84	45	82	3	5	3	3	55	113	0	0
2009–10 a	45	65	22	35	2	3	4	5	57	110	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	32	49	40	36	1	2	3	3	67	86	0	0
<b>Lentils</b>												
2011–12 f	1	1	77	98	0	0	0	0	95	152	0	0
2010–11 s	1	1	75	132	0	0	0	0	83	174	0	0
2009–10 a	0	0	52	50	0	0	0	0	52	93	0	0
Five-year average to 2010–11 a	0	0	78	55	0	0	0	0	65	80	0	0

a Source: Pulse Australia. s ABARES estimates. f ABARES forecast.

Note: Zero area or production estimates may appear as a result of rounding to the nearest whole number, if production or area estimates are less than 500 tonnes or 500 hectares.

**Table 15 Australian rainfall comparisons for principal cropping districts**

	Aug	Aug	Aug	Sep	Sep	Sep	Oct	Oct	Oct	Nov p	Nov p	Nov p
	ave.	2010	2011	ave.	2010	2011	ave.	2010	2011	ave.	2010	2011
	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm	mm
<b>Queensland</b>												
Central Highlands (35)	21	68	22	23	178	6	41	54	36	61	145	54
Maranoa (43)	25	57	25	27	107	26	46	76	50	59	112	91
W Darling Downs (42)	25	65	42	28	93	37	48	90	64	59	96	87
E Darling Downs (41)	31	87	52	37	110	35	62	88	94	74	76	61
Moreton S Coast (40)	37	84	74	43	118	18	76	166	92	94	58	31
<b>New South Wales</b>												
NW Plains (W) (52)	27	49	40	29	58	69	42	75	43	51	133	136
NW Plains (E) (53)	33	56	44	35	82	66	48	80	56	62	116	168
NW Slopes (N) (54)	37	67	52	41	100	64	61	87	72	73	95	173
NW Slopes (S) (55)	46	71	38	51	54	86	75	81	51	86	131	153
N Tablelands (N) (56)	43	84	73	44	99	63	61	95	73	67	107	146
CW Plains (S) (50)	36	44	44	32	58	25	43	85	46	42	93	108
CW Plains (N) (51)	30	46	31	30	54	54	41	70	44	43	135	75
CW Slopes (N) (64)	42	71	45	42	60	79	53	73	48	58	148	117
CW Slopes (S) (65)	48	79	59	43	69	46	55	78	47	53	138	122
C Tablelands (N) (62)	48	83	59	47	72	87	58	83	43	63	145	134
C Tablelands (S) (63)	65	101	59	60	60	61	74	83	44	77	134	128
Riverina (W) (75)	32	52	50	29	50	22	37	111	23	28	76	56
Riverina (E) (74)	44	63	56	40	57	33	47	134	25	36	72	76
SW Slopes (N) (73)	55	91	62	49	79	39	58	111	38	50	138	133
SW Slopes (S) (72)	90	149	88	75	106	93	82	203	52	64	140	172
S Tablelands (GM)(70)	51	66	68	50	51	38	63	77	48	63	125	114
<b>Victoria</b>												
N Mallee (76)	31	56	39	30	43	17	32	69	30	26	73	48
S Mallee (77)	37	79	46	35	45	24	36	69	27	29	69	50
N Wimmera (78)	45	91	48	42	56	22	40	54	33	31	64	50
S Wimmera (79)	60	122	63	52	69	26	48	61	39	37	66	45
Lower North (80)	44	92	55	41	49	36	43	104	19	33	94	53
Upper North (81)	54	107	60	49	75	40	49	113	29	39	113	65
Lower North East (82)	91	162	91	77	113	85	78	183	51	61	134	143
Upper North East (83)	129	165	95	105	116	89	106	149	74	83	146	155
North Central (88)	82	133	56	72	101	60	69	126	54	56	143	93
Central Western (89)	70	154	46	64	72	31	61	91	55	53	79	48
<b>Western Australia</b>												
North Coast (8)	52	57	58	28	15	29	18	2	48	10	2	13
Central Coast (9)	123	64	105	75	26	77	49	11	53	23	9	28
Northern Central (10)	45	29	45	26	14	29	19	2	53	13	7	24
South Central (10A)	54	27	49	38	13	40	29	9	55	20	14	47
South East (12)	22	19	16	14	35	10	14	9	54	16	7	24
<b>South Australia</b>												
Upper South East (25B)	52	93	52	46	56	27	40	32	31	30	43	35
Murray Mallee (25A)	33	52	43	32	55	15	31	41	28	24	38	43
Murray River (24)	36	56	38	34	65	19	31	47	33	24	34	38
East Central (23)	75	109	66	63	96	45	51	44	40	34	29	26
West Central (22)	55	92	48	44	91	29	35	38	34	24	24	14
Lower North (21)	52	68	50	48	75	18	41	57	41	30	29	39
Upper North (19)	36	42	26	33	62	7	31	57	34	26	29	35
Western (18)	41	42	29	33	69	18	27	47	34	20	17	11

p Preliminary.

Note: Numbers in parentheses indicate meteorological districts (see Map 2). Average rainfall is the simple arithmetic average of rainfall over the period 1913 to 2011.

Source: Bureau of Meteorology monthly district rainfall reports (various issues)

Table 16 Australian supply and disposal of wheat, oilseeds and pulses

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11 s	2011-12 f
	kt	kt	kt	kt	kt	kt
<b>Wheat</b>						
Production	10 822	13 569	21 420	21 834	27 891	28 286
Domestic use <b>a</b>	7 420	6 517	7 306	4 999	6 089	5 717
– flour	2 286	2 337	2 470	2 490	2 510	2 530
– residual (incl. feed) <b>b</b>	4 505	3 503	4 142	1 826	2 873	2 500
– seed	629	677	694	682	705	687
Exports	8 685	7 444	14 707	14 791	18 639	21 600
Imports <b>c</b>	6	6	12	15	12	11
Change in stocks	-5 277	-386	-581	2 060	3 175	981
<b>Canola</b>						
Production	573	1 214	1 844	1 920	2 382	2 495
Apparent domestic use	562	622	660	708	744	779
– seed	6	8	7	8	9	9
– other	556	614	653	700	735	770
Exports	228	472	1 067	1 187	1 509	1 880
<b>Pulses – major crops</b>						
Production						
lupins	470	662	708	823	841	712
field peas	140	268	238	356	434	301
Chickpeas	229	313	443	487	379	394
Apparent domestic use <b>b</b>						
lupins	437	665	499	481	328	344
field peas	114	49	204	226	166	157
Chickpeas	20	22	28	34	20	23
Exports						
lupins	93	77	304	353	290	350
field peas	138	141	137	162	303	250
chickpeas	241	222	506	492	458	335

**a** Some ABARES estimates have been revised based on additional industry information. ABARES is continuing to investigate data. **b** Calculated as a residual: production plus imports less exports less change in stocks less seed and flour use. **c** Includes wheat flour and wheat grain.

**s** ABARES estimate. **f** ABARES forecast.

*Note:* Production, use and trade data are on a marketing year basis: October–September for wheat; November–October for canola, peas and lupins. Production may not equal the sum of apparent domestic use and exports in any one year because of reductions or increases in stocks.

The export data refer to marketing year export periods, so are not comparable with financial year export figures published elsewhere.

*Sources:* Australian Bureau of Statistics; ABARES

**Table 17 Australian supply and disposal of coarse grains**

	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10	2010-11	2011-12
	kt	kt	kt	kt	kt	kt
<b>Barley</b>						
Production	4 257	7 160	7 997	7 865	8 145	8 491
Apparent domestic use	1 694	3 106	4 105	3 247	3 240	3 233
– seed	221	226	199	183	182	183
– other	1 474	2 881	3 906	3 063	3 058	3 050
Export	2 563	4 054	3 891	4 634	4 772	4 507
– feed barley	1 192	2 303	2 254	2 668	3 201	3 553
– malting barley	659	1 083	980	1 248	1 055	1 118
– malt (grain equivalent)	712	668	658	720	706	748
<b>Oats</b>						
Production	748	1 502	1 160	1 162	1 142	1 654
Apparent domestic use	713	1 321	998	954	1 007	1 401
– seed	59	42	41	45	48	47
– other	654	1 279	957	909	959	1 354
Export	35	181	161	208	133	162
<b>Triticale a</b>						
Production	199	450	363	545	685	580
Apparent domestic use	199	450	363	545	685	580
– seed	18	16	18	17	17	16
– other	181	434	345	529	669	564
<b>Grain sorghum</b>						
Production	1 283	3 790	2 692	1 508	2 068	2 415
Apparent domestic use	1 173	2 833	1 694	1 167	1 399	1 693
– seed	5	4	2	3	3	3
– other	1 168	2 829	1 692	1 164	1 396	1 690
Export <b>b</b>	83	110	957	998	341	668
<b>Maize</b>						
Production	239	387	376	328	351	298
Apparent domestic use	229	340	340	301	319	274
– seed	1	1	1	1	1	1
– other	228	339	339	300	319	273
Export <b>b</b>	10	11	48	36	32	23
<b>Total coarse grains</b>						
Production	6 727	13 289	12 587	11 408	12 390	13 438
Apparent domestic use	4 008	8 050	7 500	6 214	6 651	7 182
– seed	304	288	261	249	251	250
– other	3 704	7 762	7 240	5 965	6 400	6 931
Export	2 719	5 284	5 087	5 220	5 739	6 165

**a** Excludes small quantities of triticale for export. **b** Presentation of export volumes for grain sorghum and maize in this table has changed as of December 2011. Export volumes are now shown in the year of actual export, which is typically one year after production. **s** ABARES estimate. **f** ABARES forecast.

*Note:* Production, use and export data are on a marketing year basis: market years are November–October for barley, oats and triticale; March–February for grain sorghum and maize. The sum of domestic use and exports may differ from production as a result of changes in grain stock levels.

*Sources:* Australian Bureau of Statistics; ABARES

Table 18 Grain prices

	2010 Jan-Mar	2010 Apr-Jun	2010 Jul-Sep	2010 Oct-Dec	2011 Jan-Mar	2011 Apr-Jun	2011 Jul-Sep
	A\$/t	A\$/t	A\$/t	A\$/t	A\$/t	A\$/t	A\$/t
<b>Wheat</b>							
Domestic							
feed – Sydney	233	215	275	272	250	256	243
International							
US no.2 hard red winter, fob Gulf <b>a</b>	230	217	293	309	346	332	309
<b>Barley</b>							
Domestic							
2 row feed – Sydney	214	201	248	233	234	238	228
Export <b>b</b>							
feed (bulk)	179	182	202	270	255	258	259
malting (bulk)	226	209	215	342	274	304	276
International							
feed – France Rouen <b>c</b>	158	155	249	270	286	266	267
<b>Grain sorghum</b>							
Domestic							
feed – Sydney	236	201	240	263	267	260	252
Export <b>b</b>	425	290	234	285	270	262	285
International							
US del. Gulf <b>a</b>	194	184	197	240	283	289	294
<b>Oats</b>							
Domestic							
feed – Sydney	205	200	210	170	187	200	202
Export <b>b</b>	241	229	271	256	339	250	254
International							
US CBOT oats nearby contract <b>d</b>	175	168	217	257	261	238	230
<b>Maize</b>							
Domestic							
feed – Sydney	300	311	335	335	357	317	320
International							
US no.2 fob Gulf <b>a</b>	180	179	202	246	279	295	290
<b>Oilseeds</b>							
Domestic							
canola – del. Melbourne	415	418	487	523	587	559	540
sunflower – del. Melbourne	550	550	550	550	550	550	550
International							
soybeans – US cif Rotterdam <b>a</b>	460	462	500	530	563	525	529
<b>Pulses</b>							
Domestic							
lupins – del. Perth	214	199	224	316	319	289	313
chickpeas – del. Melbourne	426	421	424	464	516	453	508
field peas – del. Melbourne	288	276	273	278	270	278	271
Export <b>b</b>							
chickpeas	570	573	590	476	536	535	645
field peas	345	347	331	321	342	356	300

**a** Average of daily offer prices made in US\$, converted to A\$ using monthly average of daily exchange rates. **b** Export unit values reflect the average price received for grain exported over the quarter, not current market prices. There can be a long lag time between when prices were negotiated by exporters and the physical export of product. **c** World feed barley indicator price as of this edition of the *Australian crop report*. **d** World oats indicator price as of this edition of the *Australian crop report*.

*Note:* Prices refer to bulk sales of grain delivered to Sydney region. Export prices for coarse grains are the average unit fob value of Australian exports recorded by the Australian Bureau of Statistics. Prices quoted only for months in which sizeable export volumes were recorded. International prices are obtained in US\$ and converted to A\$ using monthly average of daily exchange rates. Prices used in these calculations exclude the GST.