



SEASONAL CLIMATE INFORMATION SERVICE SOI FAX HOTLINES

(Southern Oscillation Index)

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SOI MESSAGE - 1 NOVEMBER 1995

SOI AVERAGES / PHASE	
August 95	+ 1.2
September 95	+ 3.4
October	+ 0.2

Last 30 days	- 0.9
Last 90 days ▲	+ 1.0

SOI Phase 5 (near zero) on 1 Nov 95	
All values subject to revision by Bureau of Meteorology	

▲ See AUSTRALIAN RAINMAN for effects of SOI on rainfall at your location.

REVIEW OF CLIMATIC FORECASTS AND INFORMATION

Established climate forecast systems show the probability of receiving MEDIAN rainfall for the next three months is about 50% over most of Queensland and New South Wales. That is, when we have experienced a similar SOI pattern to the current one, over the last 130 years, we have received median rainfall in about 1-in-2 years, with some variation from one location to another.

The current situation is an improvement over this time last year, when the probability of receiving median rainfall was about 25% to 40%.

The next passage of the 30- to 50-day Oscillation is expected about the second week of November.

Sea-surface temperatures are slightly cooler-than-normal along the equator in the central and eastern Pacific Ocean. They are considerably warmer than normal in the western Pacific Ocean between New

Guinea and Japan. Sea-surface temperatures are near normal in the Coral Sea, but slightly cooler than normal in the Tasman Sea.

Some experimental General Circulation Models (but not the majority) are predicting the redevelopment of an El Niño in late summer - autumn of 1996. We advise caution in interpreting the output from these models.

At this stage we no longer emphasise caution in managing for the next three to four months, but we advise care in making decisions that may be adversely affected by climatic conditions in autumn and winter of 1996.

The average SOI over the last 30 days was -0.9 . The probability of receiving median rainfall over the next three months is about 50% for most of Queensland and New South Wales. This compares with about 25% to 40% at this time last year.

THE BOTTOM LINE

To obtain more information for your location, we recommend combined use of the AUSTRALIAN RAINMAN package and the Bureau of Meteorology's Seasonal Climate Outlook.

The next SOI HOTLINE update will be on the 8th of November (usually between 3pm and 5pm).

Climate Impacts and Spatial Systems - Department of Primary Industries

Compiled by Dr Roger Stone, QDPI, Toowoomba and Col Paull

If you would like any further information, please contact Col Paull on (07) 389 69587, or one of the Risk Management Co-Ordinators located at Cloncurry (077) 421 311, Charters Towers (077) 872 155, Emerald (079) 828 801, Kingaroy (071) 621 355 and Roma(076) 229 999

If you prefer to receive this message verbally, you can access a recorded message service on (07) 389 69602