



SEASONAL CLIMATE INFORMATION SERVICE SOI FAX HOTLINE S

(Southern Oscillation Index)

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SOI MESSAGE - 6 DECEMBER 1995

SOI AVERAGES / PHASE	
September 95	+ 3.4
October 95	- 0.6
November 95	+ 2.4

Last 30 days	+1.3
Last 90 days ▲	+0.9

SOI Phase 5 (near zero) on 1 Dec 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

We continue to suggest that rainfall prospects are better in the current situation than at this time last year.

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. This compares with probabilities ranging from about 25% to 45%, depending on location, at this time last year.

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

Sea-surface temperatures are cooler-than-normal in the central and eastern equatorial Pacific Ocean. They are warmer-than-normal to the north of

Australia, and also in the Coral Sea which is a significant recent development. Sea-surface temperatures are slightly cooler-than-normal in the southern Tasman Sea.

Some experimental General Circulation Models are predicting the redevelopment of an El Niño in autumn of 1996. At this stage we advise caution in interpreting the outputs from these models.

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 +1.3 . Rainfall prospects continue to be better than 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 13th of December (usually between 3pm and 5pm).

Climate Impacts and Spatial Systems - Department of Primary Industries
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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

Some information courtesy Bureau of Meteorology,
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