

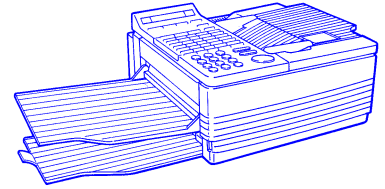


# SEASONAL CLIMATE INFORMATION SERVICE SOI FAX HOTLINES

(Southern Oscillation Index)

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## SOI MESSAGE - 20 DECEMBER 1995

### SOI AVERAGES / PHASE

September 95	+ 3.4
October 95	- 0.6
November 95	+1.7
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Last 30 days	-8.7
Last 90 days ▲	-2.4
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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

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.

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 in the Coral 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 are not emphasising caution in making property management decisions for the summer months. However, there is no certainty at this stage that the current improvement in climatic outlook will persist beyond autumn.

*The average SOI over the last 30 days was -8.7 , but there is little change in rainfall prospects for the remainder of summer. However, there is no guarantee that drier-than-normal conditions will not return in autumn or winter of 1996.*

### 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 3rd of January (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

Some information courtesy Bureau of Meteorology,

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