



Information  
*when you need it*

# Information Sources for decision making

Presentation By Jon Welsh

Cotton Info Narrabri



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from the Australian Government

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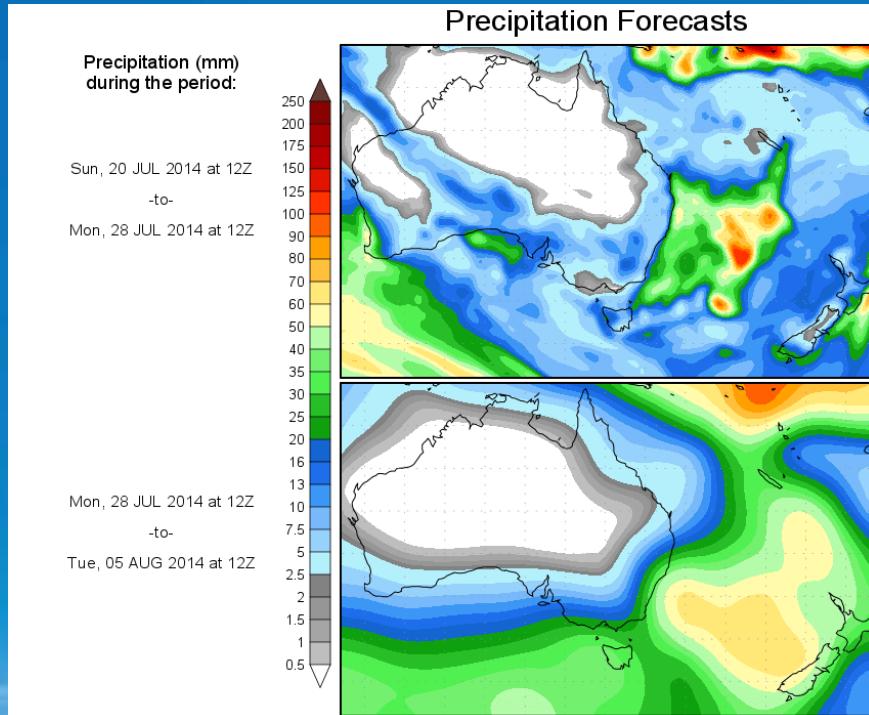
# End user vs Science/Research



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# What's your climate risk strategy?



# Perspective with decision making



Risk management event



Potential information source



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# Agenda

- A risk management plan
- Overview & the moisture balance sheet
- Cotton Info; what we're doing



# 1. Know your location?

What indicators drive your rainfall & water harvesting and when?

What's changing with your rainfall?

Do you know your monthly rainfall reliability?



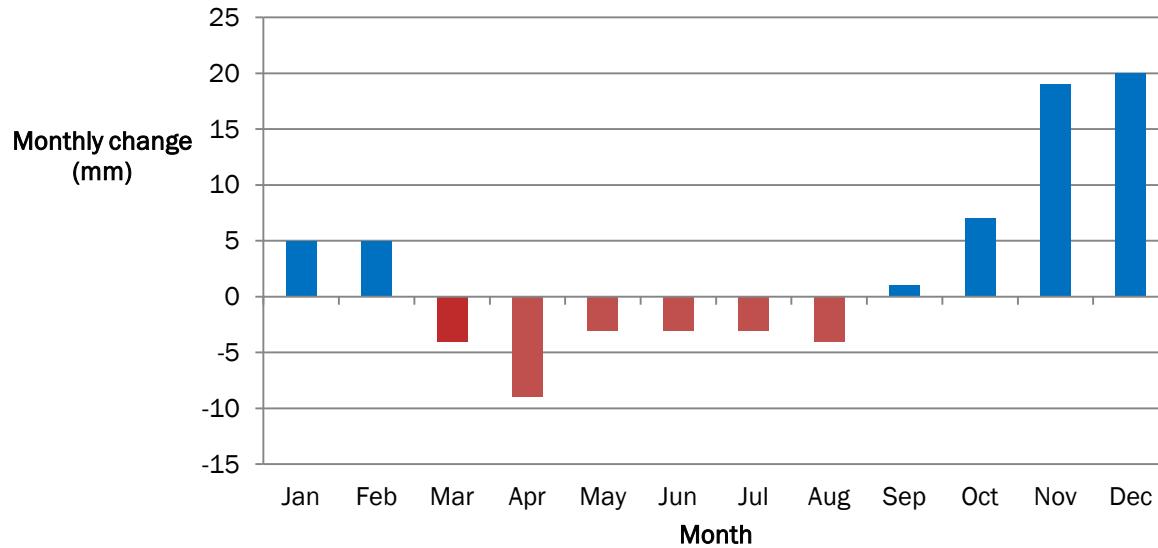
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# What's changing in your district?

North Star  
Changes in Rainfall ;1990-2013

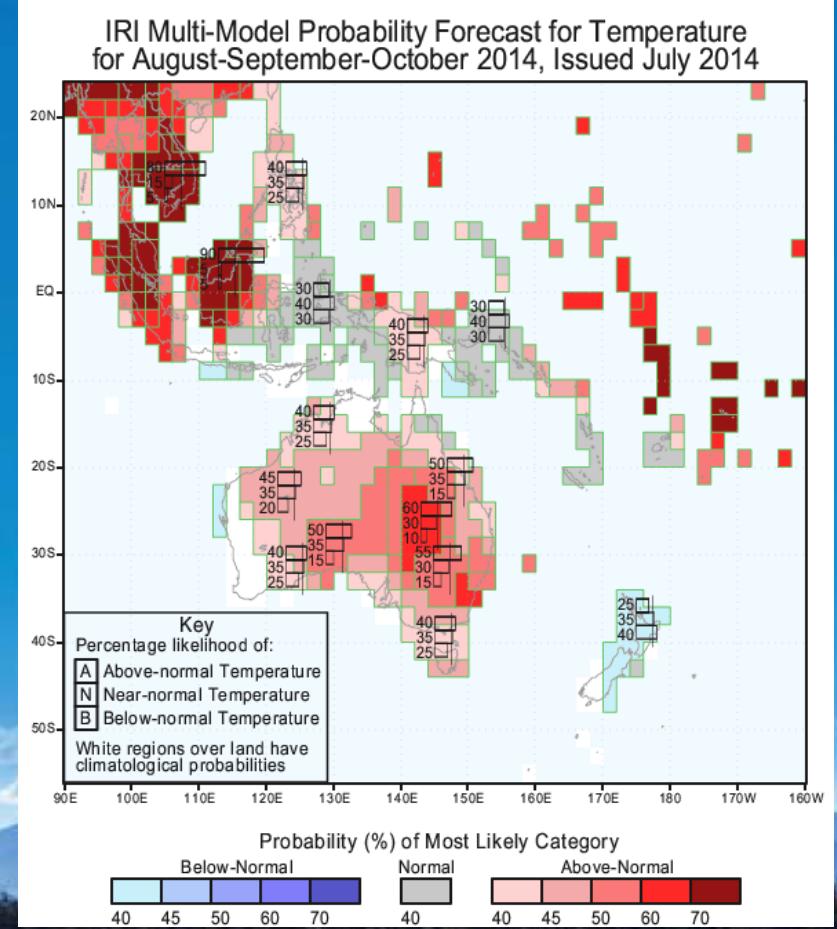


Northern cropping region rainfall  
becoming more summer dominant

## 2. Using GCM's: Seasonal (3 month) Outlooks

Vital to survey temperature outlooks together with rainfall

Due to temperature increases post 1970, droughts are occurring faster  
(Ummenhofer 2009)



# USER Beware: ENSO signals affect model accuracy



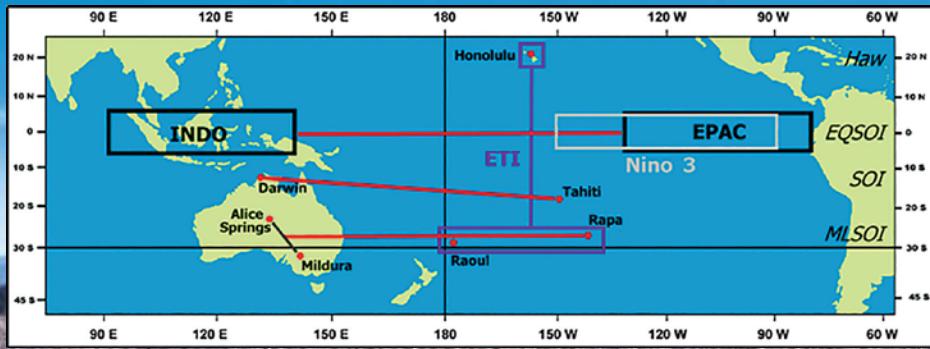
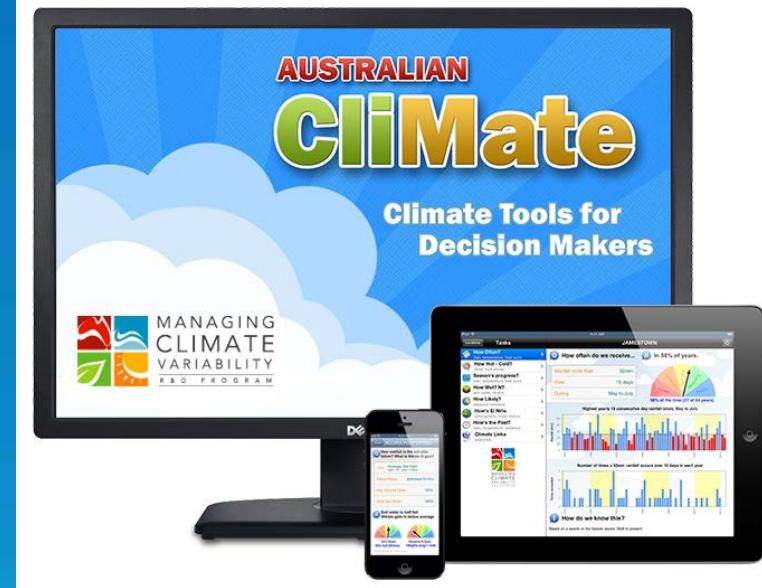
Recent research suggests GCM's rainfall accuracy is heavily influenced by the strength of the ENSO signal. I.e. El Niño/neutral/La Niña  
Stone (2014)

# 3. Statistical Models

Probability based on historical distribution/Stats.

1. CliMate App.

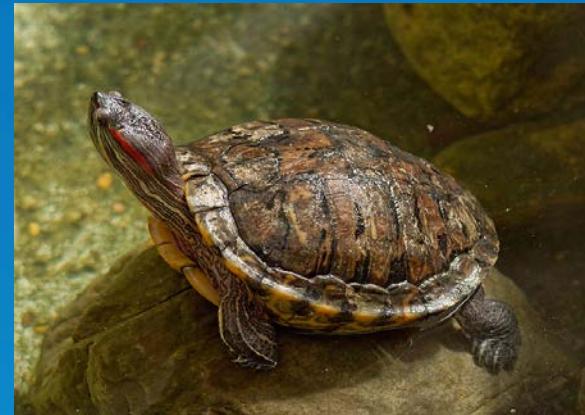
2. AEGIC “Analogue year”



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# 4. Phenology – What's changing around you?



Bustamante, (2008)

Evans, (2010)

# Building A Climate Risk Plan

1. Know your location; What drives your rainfall & run-off, What's your reliability, how does ENSO affect you?



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# GCM's: Rain & temps

1. Know your location; What drives your rainfall, What's your reliability, how does ENSO affect you?
2. Consider seasonal GCM's; Rainfall and Temperature Outlooks, identify trends of a number of reputable models



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# Historical Models

1. Know your location; What drives your rainfall, What's your reliability, how does ENSO affect you?
2. Consider seasonal GCM's; Rainfall and Temperature Outlooks, identify trends of a number of reputable models
3. Statistical models; What does history say?  
Analogue year, CliMate

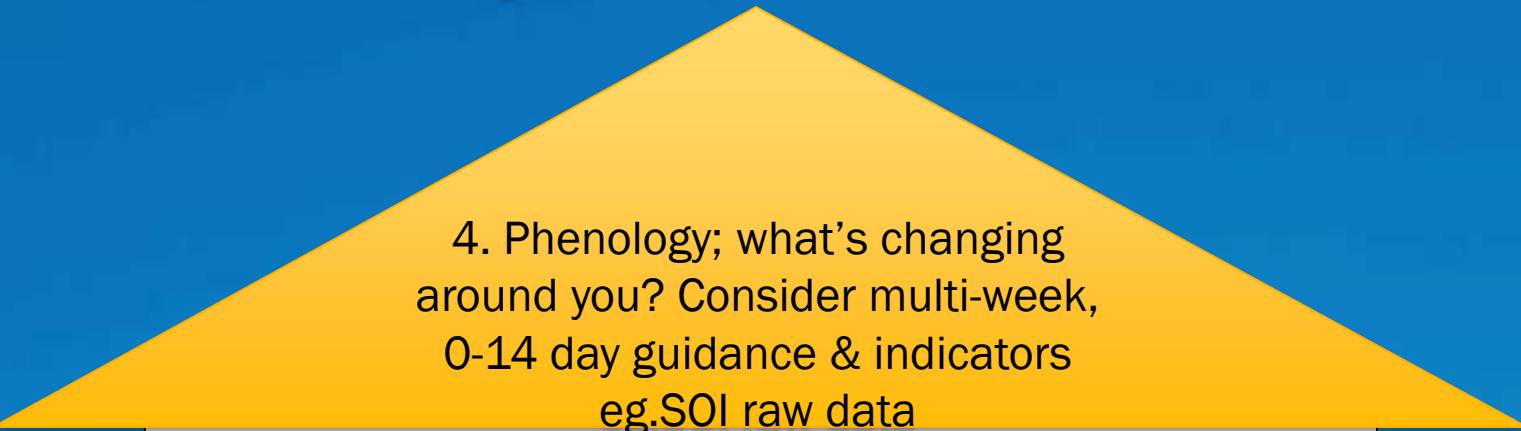


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# Watl, 10 day, indicators and nature



# DIY: Moisture Balance Sheet

- Consider current moisture reserves and projected S & D



Moisture Balance Sheet	
\$ Assets (+)	\$ Liabilities (-)
Stored Soil moisture (+mm)	Evapouration from fallows (-mm)
Water allocations (MI/Ha)	Losses from dams and channels (-MI)
Predicted seasonal rainfall (+mm)	Predicted seasonal temperature anomalies (-mm)

# DIY: Moisture Balance Sheet

- Look at information regularly

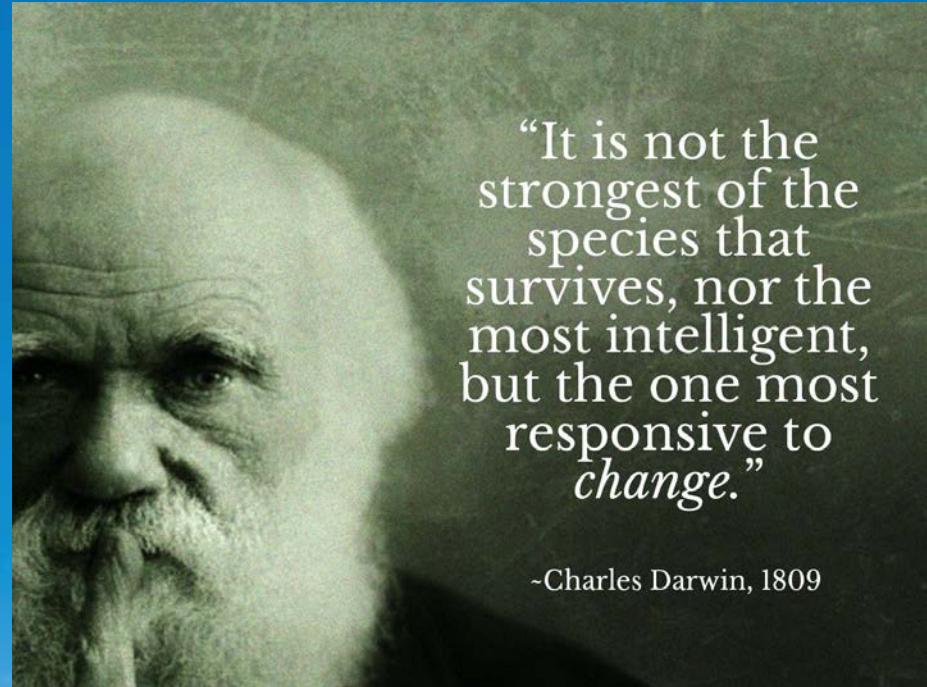


Moisture Balance Sheet	
\$ Assets (+)	\$ Liabilities (-)
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# Cotton Info – Our aim

Optimal  
resource use  
efficiencies on  
farm; through  
good decisions

Adaptation;  
improve  
resilience and  
sustainability



“It is not the strongest of the species that survives, nor the most intelligent, but the one most responsive to change.”

~Charles Darwin, 1809



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# Cotton Info – What we're doing

Local Analysis; 52  
Towns from  
Emerald to Swan  
Hill (TBA)

Statistics on  
climate drivers,  
rainfall reliability,  
runoff & climate  
change



# Cotton Info - Climate updates

- Webinars – Climate run-through
- E-news: ‘Moisture Manager’
  - Fortnightly model & indicator summaries



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# Climate Risk: A step closer to confident decision making



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