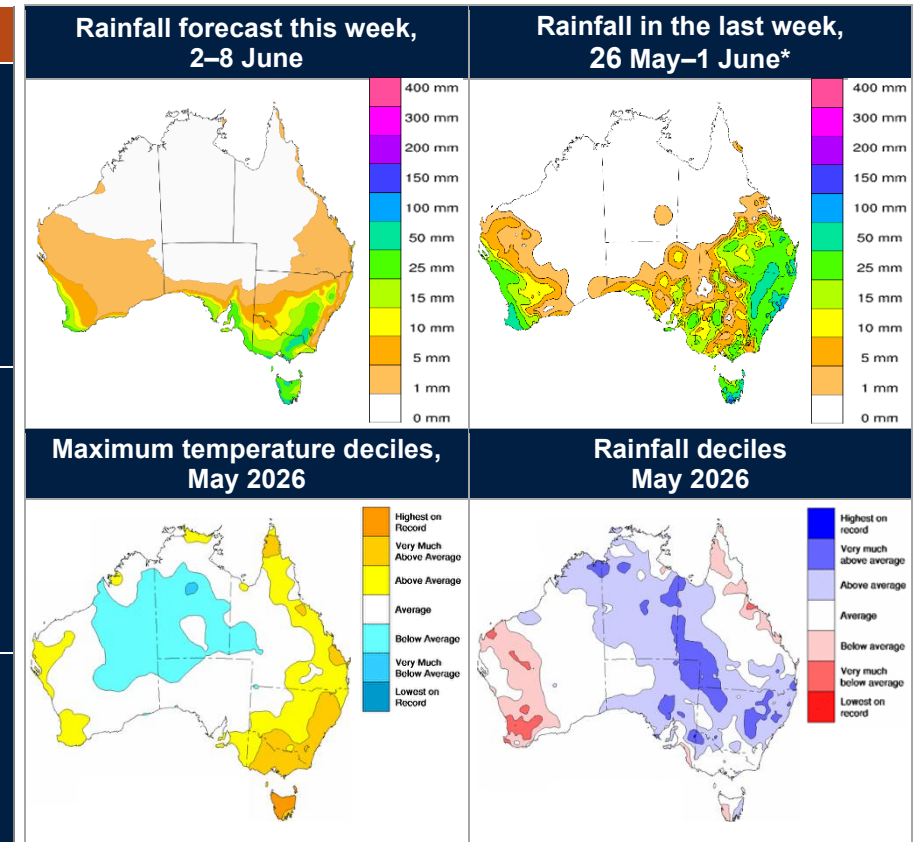
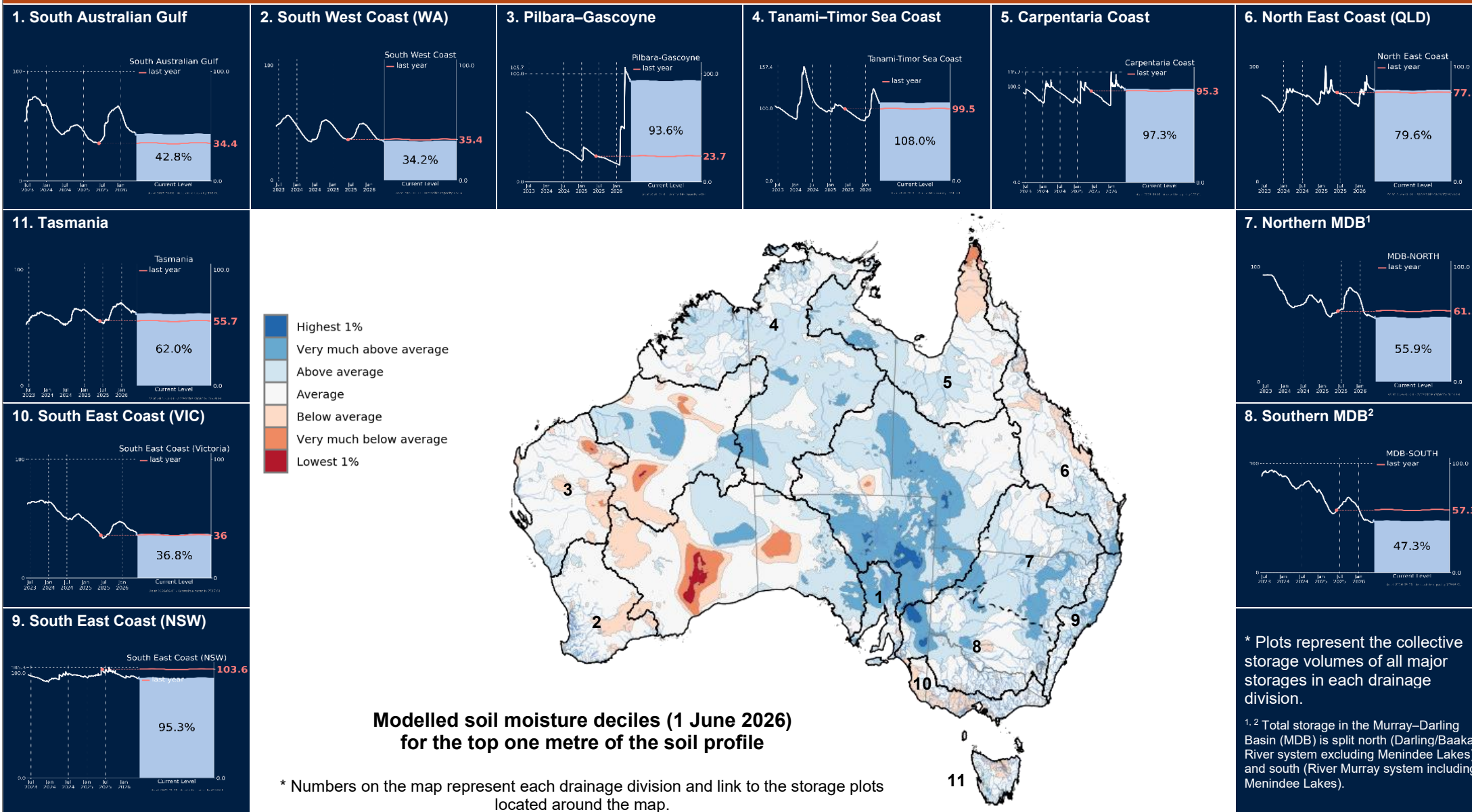




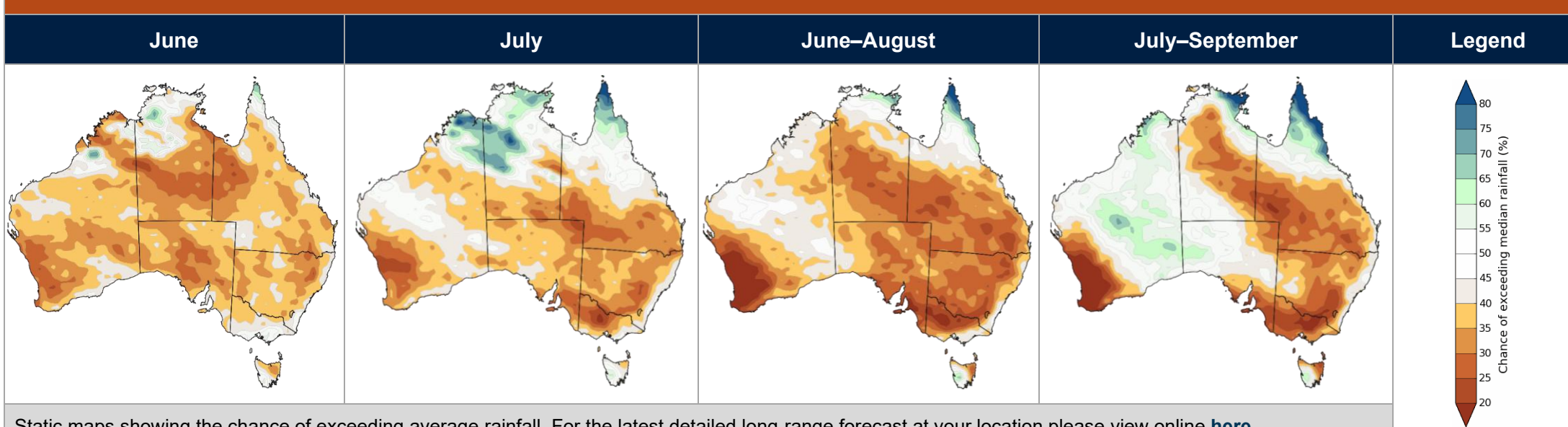
# Weekly Agriculture, Climate and Water Update – Tuesday 2 June 2026

## Root zone soil moisture (map) and water storage levels (charts) as of 1 June 2026



- ### Key Points
- At the national scale, the mean maximum temperature in May was 0.26 °C above the 1961–1990 average.
  - May maximum temperatures were above average in the south-east, along the east coast and for parts of the west coast.
  - Tasmania recorded particularly warm daytime conditions in May, setting a record for highest mean maximum temperature at 2.24 °C above average, exceeding the previous record of 1.87 °C set in 2007. Hobart reached 26.9 °C on 1 May, its highest ever May temperature, with records extending back to 1882.
  - Mean maximum temperatures were below average for much of the interior.
  - Australia's area-averaged rainfall total in May was 4% below the 1961–1990 average.
  - May rainfall was above average in a large band extending from the north-west across central Australia to New South Wales and southern Queensland, and below average for much of the west coast of Western Australia, northern coastal Queensland and some western-facing coastal areas in the south-east.
  - A series of low pressure troughs in late May generated widespread heavy rain for much of central and eastern Australia.
  - May rainfall has increased root zone soil moisture in eastern New South Wales and southern Queensland, but soils have dried in the part of the west. Soil moisture remains above average across the north and the interior, including much of South Australia.
  - Looking ahead, winter rainfall is likely to be below average across south-west Western Australia, and central and eastern regions south of the tropics including eastern Tasmania.
- Email [water@bom.gov.au](mailto:water@bom.gov.au) if you would like more information about this Weekly Update or have any other climate and water related questions.  
 Email [agriculture@bom.gov.au](mailto:agriculture@bom.gov.au) to request more information on agriculture impacts or provide feedback.

## Rainfall long-range forecasts – Issued 28 May 2026





Agriculture climate and conditions assessment as of 2 June 2026

Summary

- From June to August, rainfall is likely to be below average across much of the Australian wheatbelt and other important agricultural regions (see maps above).
- For most other areas, there is no clear rainfall signal, meaning roughly equal chances of above or below average rainfall.
- From June to August, maximum and minimum temperatures are highly likely to be above average over most of Australia, although periods of frost are still possible.
- The Bureau's **long-range forecast** responds to all ongoing changes in our climate systems, and is updated regularly.

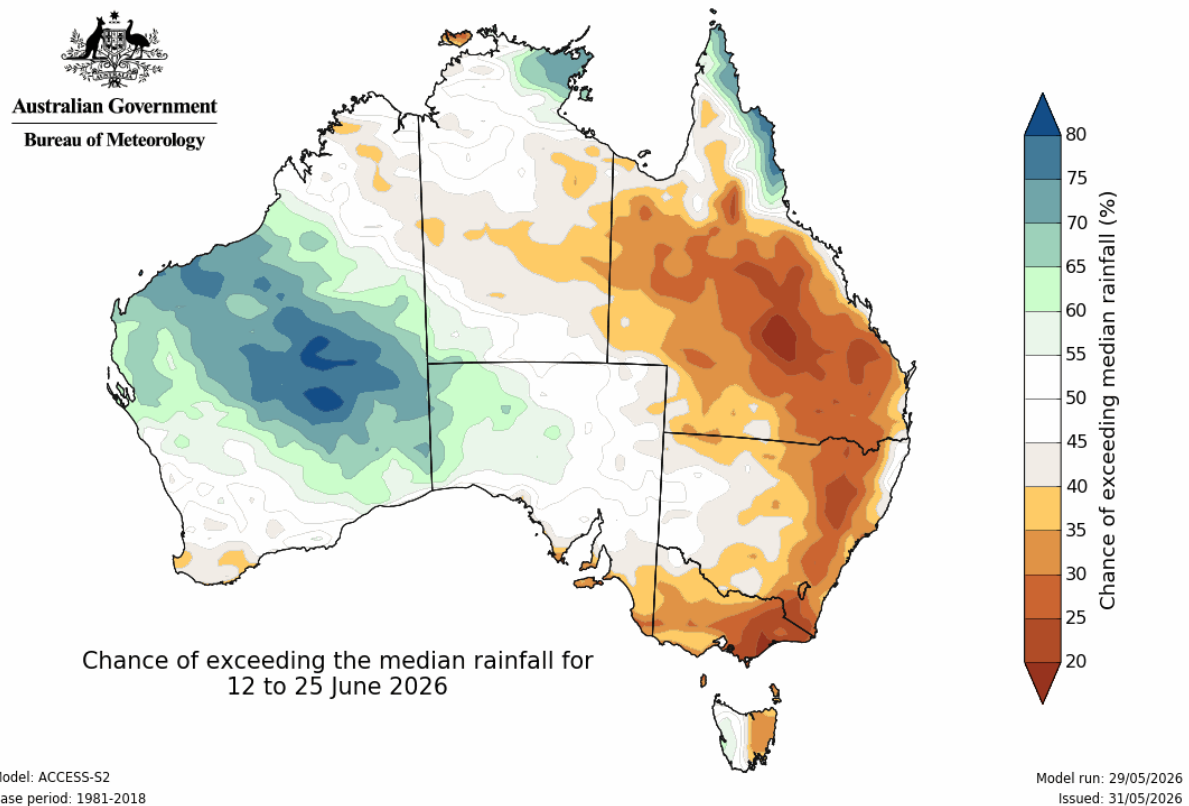
Recent Conditions

March to May rainfall was below average in **northern New South Wales** and inland **south-east Queensland**. Severe deficiencies that had developed in this region were eased by heavy rain in late May. Parts of the **Western Australia wheatbelt** and **Tasmania** also experienced below average rainfall in this period. Well above average rainfall was recorded in the Northern Territory and a band extending through **South Australia** into **western Victoria**.

Maximum temperatures were below average for the **Northern Territory** and **central Australia** but very much above average in most of **New South Wales** and **Tasmania**.

At the end of May, root zone soil moisture was below average in **western Victoria**, coastal districts of **south-east South Australia** and parts of the **Western Australian wheatbelt**. Cane growing regions of **coastal Queensland** also have below average soil moisture. Elsewhere soil moisture is average or above average.

Fortnight Outlook 12 June to 25 June 2026



Agriculture Watch Points

- While early season rainfall established crops well, and with some locations receiving up to 50 mm over the past week, growers remain cautious as a drying trend emerges in **Western Australia's wheatbelt region**.
- The **eastern wheat-sheep zone** is seeing winter crop and pasture progress well supported by favourable conditions.
- In **southern Queensland** and **inland New South Wales**, soil moisture has improved after total rainfalls of 20 to 80mm across the region. Despite the recent rainfall, soil moisture, on farm water storage levels and a dry signal in the long-range forecast are constraining winter and forward season cropping decisions.
- Persistent rain along the coastal areas of the **Northern Rivers and mid North Coast** regions of **New South Wales** disrupted the Macadamia harvest season which peaked during May.
- Rain during late May in **northern New South Wales** and **southern Queensland** has prompted producers to restock, driving a rapid increase in cattle prices. However, the long-range forecast indicates that rainfall is likely to be less than average during June to August.
- Pasture growth across most of the **northern rangelands in the Northern Territory** is expected to be above average in the early dry season following a wet summer, supporting feed availability.
- Parts of the **Gascoyne and Pilbara regions of Western Australia** are experiencing a prolonged rainfall deficit which limited pasture growth going into the dry season.

While the **El Niño-Southern Oscillation (ENSO)** remains neutral, there are some early signals in the tropical Pacific consistent with a shift to **El Niño**. El Niño is only one of several factors influencing Australia's climate.

**The Bureau's long-range outlook is the best guide to seasonal conditions.** It reflects probabilities of rainfall patterns across regions rather than certainty about what will occur at a local level, so **local forecasts should continue to be monitored.**

- ↑ Conditions improving
- Conditions unchanged
- ↓ Conditions degrading

