



Agromony News June 2021

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Season wrap:

The short version for 2021 is that rainfall is generally down, and severely down in a few locations. Canola and pulses are up in a big way, and cereals are trending up as well.

Rainfall to 10/6:

Swan Hill 41.2, Pira 36.9, Cocamba 34.4, Balranald 86, Annuello 61.2, Ultima 58.8, Berrwillock 72.1, Kerang 106.8, Sea Lake 47.7, Wycheproof 98.2, Donald 120.3, Woomelang 73.2, Quambatook 102.4, Hopetoun 53.8, Charlton 136.6, Ouyen 62.6, Murrayville 64.8, Warracknabeal 118.8, Mildura 72.2, Werrimul 77.7,

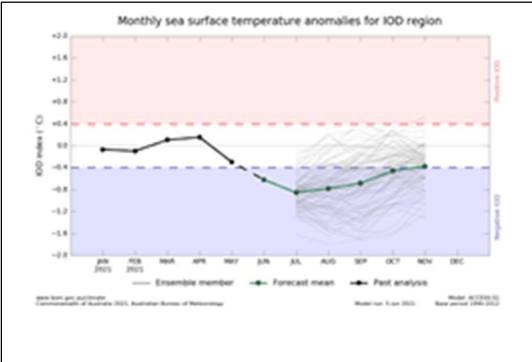
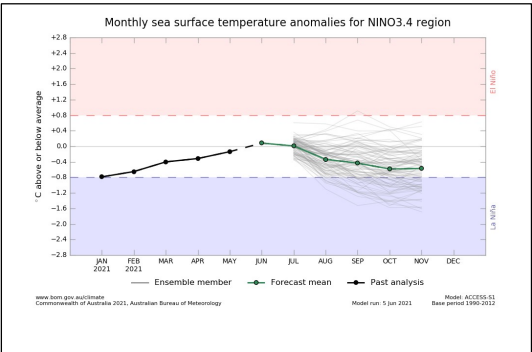
Weather Watch

Excuse me...have you seen rain?

Parts of the Mallee are breaking records for low rainfall totals for the calendar year, whereas other areas in Northern Victoria received significant top-ups in January and April.

What's the BOM message for the near future; Pacific sea temperatures are considered normal, with no particular bias towards El Nino or La Nina. This is backed up by all the international models as well. Of interest is the slight tendency towards a negative Indian Ocean Dipole, which lends itself to higher than average August, September and October rainfall.

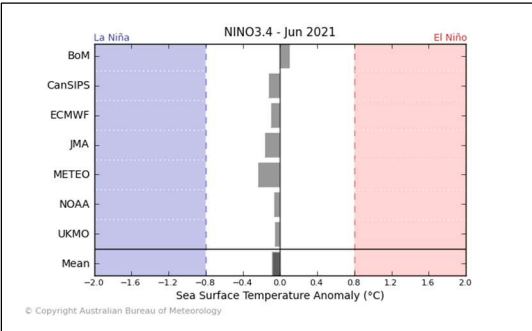
We will be eagerly awaiting 40 to 50mm falls in those months. Given the SOI looks to remain very neutral, we are relying more on a sustained negative IOD. Currently the IOD is -0.65; it will need to remain at least -0.4 for 8 consecutive weeks for that above average rain.



What is our yield potential?

The French-Schulz model had wheat at 20kg grain per mm rainfall, less evaporative losses. They originally nominated a figure of 110mm evaporation, however we know under direct drill farming this is probably halved.

If we received 40mm for the next four months, we would expect yields of 1600kg/ha for cereals and 800kg/ha for lentils.



PEARSONS

Pearson's Grain and Transport
Swan Hill Stockfeeds

The pulse market

Lentils have seen a steady rise in value due to Canadian old stocks being sold out, and their current lentil crop in dry conditions. Turkey had a rough year, reducing supply into India.

There will be an announcement on the condition of the Indian kharif ("summer monsoon season") crop on the 12th June. Recent feedback had this monsoon crop had been struggling, also causing a buyup.

Whilst I can relay some indicator pricing, the Indian buyers have gone quiet until their Ag Department announce that crop condition.

We should never view the silence as a problem with the pulse market- traders are simply waiting for information. What we do know is that worldwide stocks of pulses are generally on the low side- watch this space!

Pulse indicator pricing delivered Wimmera packer:

Small red 770-780

Hallmark 770

Medium red -780

Large Red 780

Desi 630

Kabuli 720

Field pea 360

Faba bean 360

Paradigm alternatives

Paradigm has created a new market for volunteer legume control in wheat and barley especially. The active, florasulam is very safe and can be used quite late in the crop if need be. Florasulam is pretty good on some tough weeds such as poppies, fumitory, bifora and bedstraw.

Florasulam is a Group B, which is a consideration- we are generally adding LVE at varying rates. However, there is a compelling argument to be adding low rates of Bromicide MA to introduce Group C.

Below is a very quick overview of the florasulam products currently on the market. The Priority label is very detailed and has more weeds and mix partners.

Product	Florasulam loading	Crops	Rate	Approx. Cost/ha.	Notes
Paradigm Granule Corteva	200g/kg + 200g Halauxifen (I)	W, B, O, T	25g/ha	\$12.65	Add 400mL/ha LVE for prickly lettuce, or 600mL/ha for lentil control, 300-600 mL/ha for vetch control
Saracen Liquid Nufarm	50g/L	W, B	100mL/ha	\$6.00	Add 440mL/ha LVE for improved vetch, fumitory control; also 500mL/ha Brom MA
Priority Liquid ADAMA	200g/L	W, B, O, T	25mL/ha*	\$5.80	Extensive mix partners; Starane, dicamba, Triathlon, LVE, picolinafen, Bromicide MA, 2,4-D

- Lower Priority rates may apply to certain weeds with certain companion herbicides

Russian wheat aphid spotted

A low level RWA outbreak has been found in Spartacus barley at Murray Downs.

The symptoms are very typical- white and purple streaked leaves with the leaves being rolled. RWA are more damaging than other aphids as they inject toxins into the host plant. RWA also multiply faster than other aphids as they can give birth to live young.

Best options are chlorpyrifos 500EC and Karate Zeon. Both have knockdown and a short residual.

Lentils- R&D

We are looking at a foliar product which will hopefully assist lentils with managing stresses; dry and frost conditions, and Brodal effects.

BioForge is a product mostly made up of diformylurea (a product of formic acid plus urea), and potassium

Diformylurea reputedly blocks the build up of ethylene, a plant response to abiotic stresses.

IF any lentil (or any crop for that matter) grower would like to trial BioForge, kindly give us a call.



Barley Fungicide recap

It seems odd to be talking about fungicides whilst it is dry, however we need to be ready if the season turns around.

Firstly, we always need to have a plan for barley; Spartacus is very sensitive to SNFB, and Planet is very sensitive to NFNB.

The next thing to think about is the prevalence of resistance to Systiva (SDHI mode of action Group 8) found in SA and parts of the Mallee. This is due to the "set and forget" philosophy; Systiva should only be used every second year, or at least supported by other fungicide groups.

Timing; there are two key crop stages to be thinking about; first node and pre-head emergence. With barley the flag leaf as well as the three preceding leaves contribute to grain fill. In a higher pressure year we might be spraying the second spray as early as Flag -3.

Mixing fungicides with early post-em sprays is a bit early for protecting the tillering leaves. If we do go early, we keep the rate and therefore cost low for later in the season.

Epoxiconazole; its future is grim. Epoxi has great curative capacity (especially stripe rust in wheat). However epoxy will soon be banned in the EU due to operator safety concerns.

Fungicide mixes

ADAMA have just released Maxentis (Azoxystrobin plus prothioconazole, Group 11 and 3). It will be a superior barley fungicide to last years' Topnotch (Azoxystrobin plus propiconazole).

	Group 11	Group 3
	Stroby	Triazole
Example	Azoxystrobin	Propi
Curative post infection	Low/short	Best
Length of protection	Best Up to 50 days	Short
Spread	Systemic- via xylem	Trans-laminar

Mixes are good for resistance management and efficacy against the disease.