

Are seasonal forecasts of any use in Tasmania?

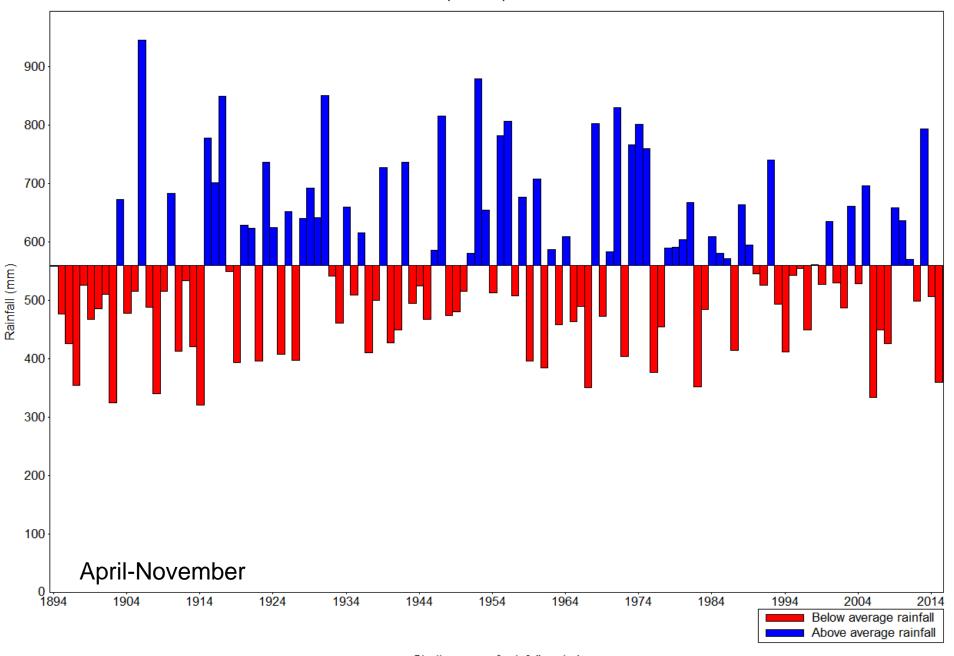
22 July 2016

Dale Grey
Agriculture Victoria
Bendigo

AGRICULTURE VICTORIA

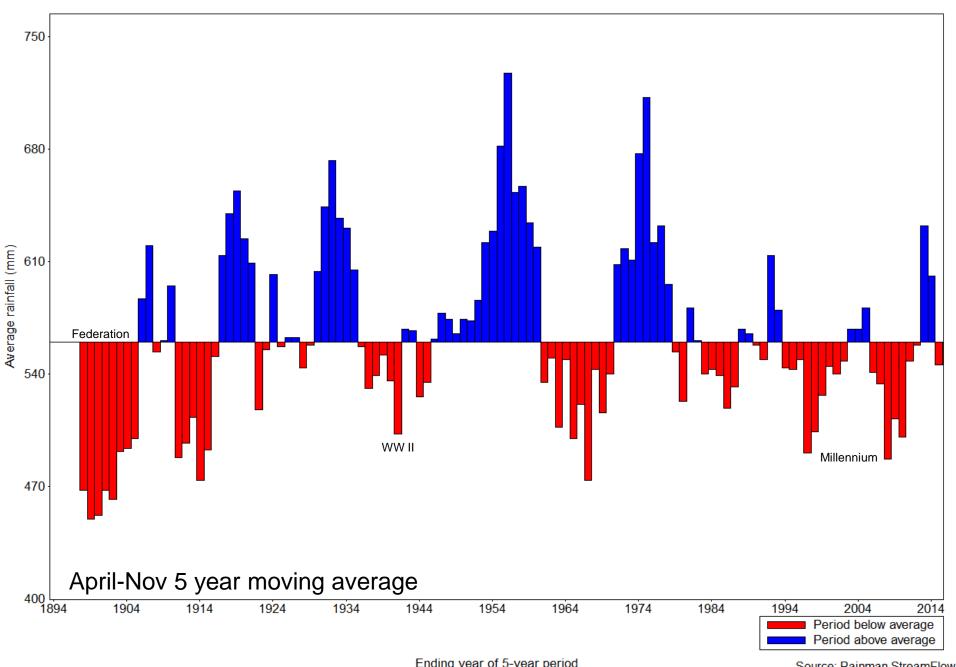
Historical record of seasonal rainfall (mm) at LAUNCESTON (TREVALLYN) COMPOSITE*

Long-term average rainfall (Apr to Nov) is 560 mm Rainfall period: Apr to Nov



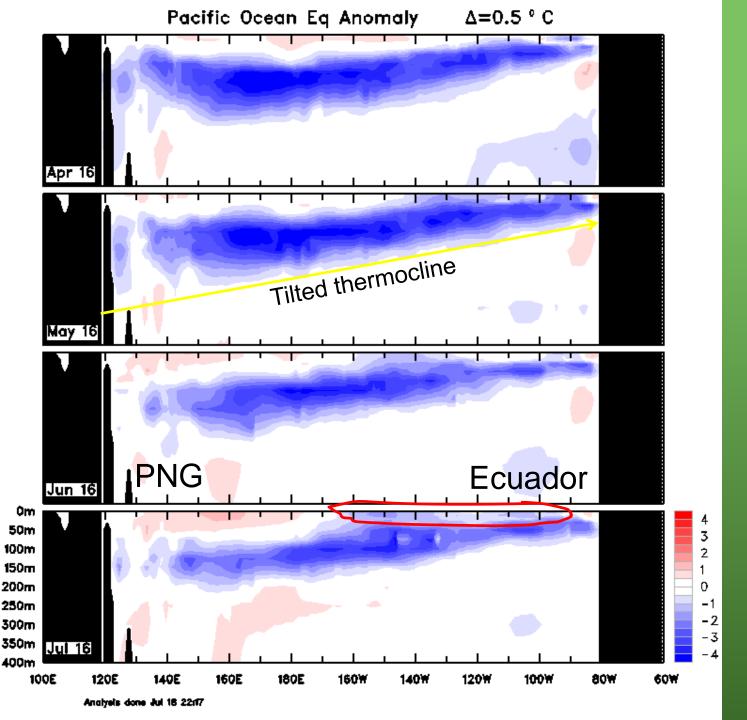
5-year moving average rainfall (8 months, Apr to Nov in year 1) at LAUNCESTON (TREVALLYN) COMPOSITE*

Long-term average rainfall (8 months, Apr to Nov in year 1) is 560 mm

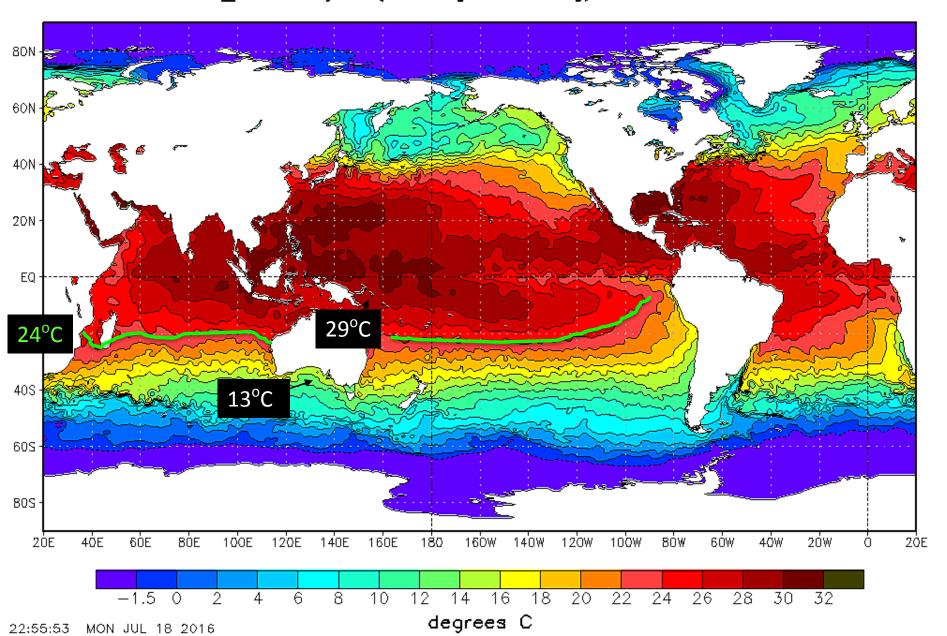


Ending year of 5-year period

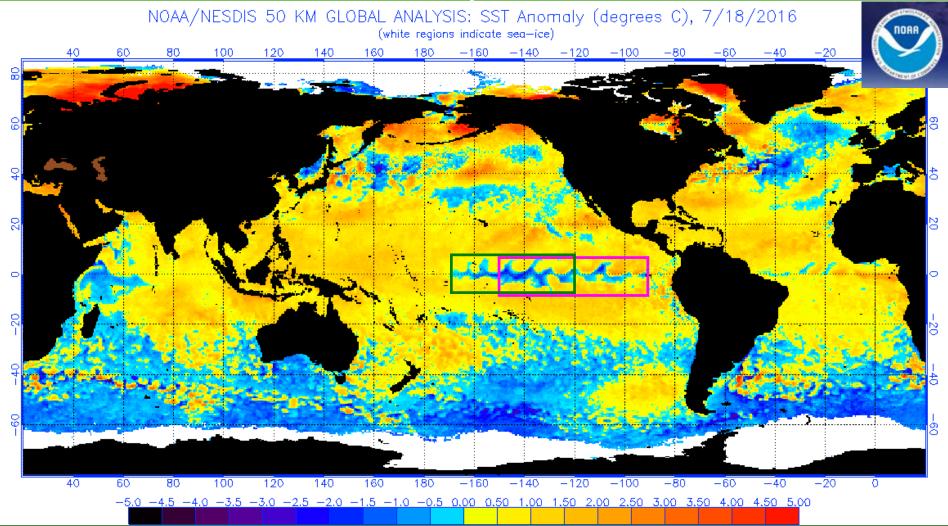
Source: Rainman StreamFlow



NOAA/NWS/NCEP/EMC Marine Modeling and Analysis Branch RTG_SST Analysis (0.5 deg X 0.5 deg) for 18 Jul 2016

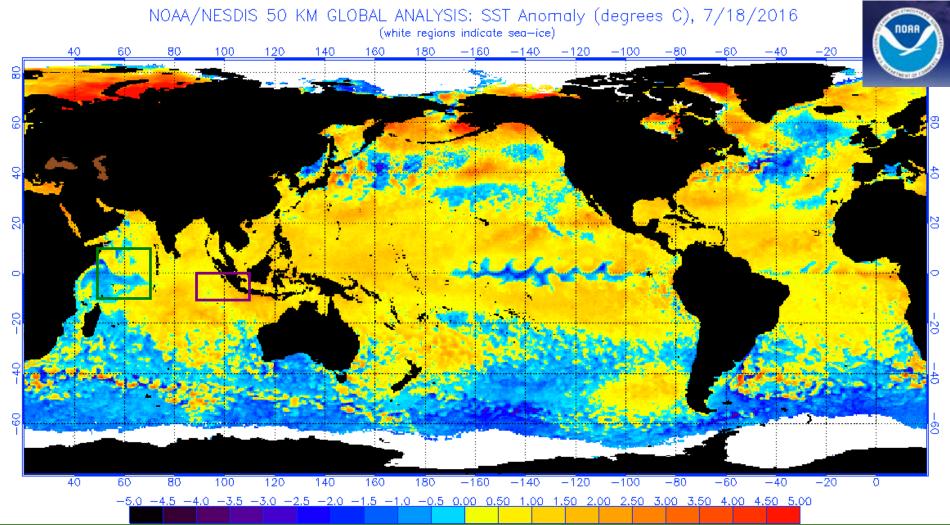


18 July 2016



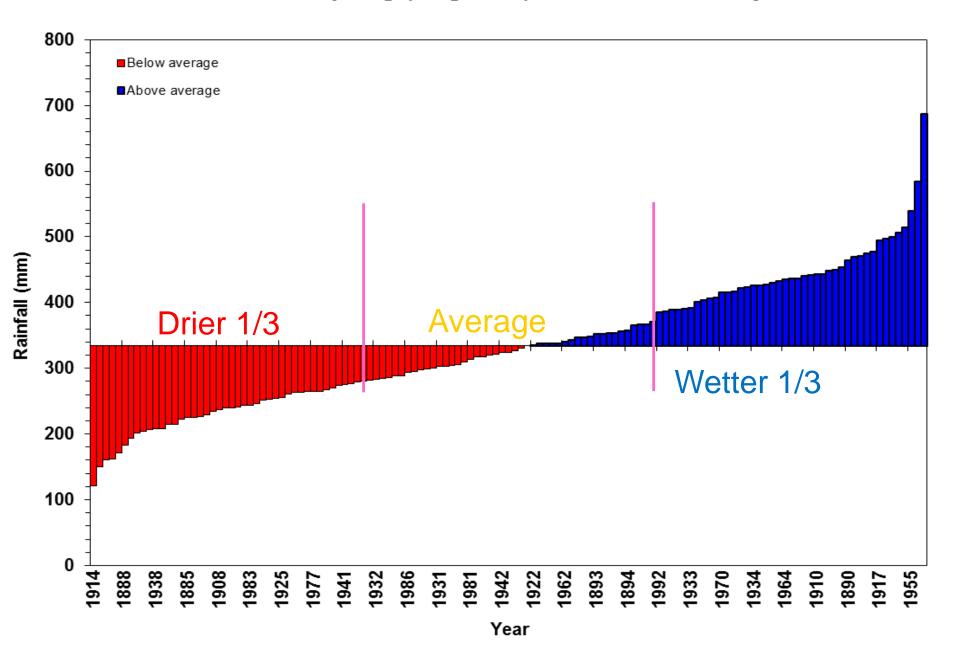
Currently the Nino 3 and 3.4 areas of the Pacific are normal at -0.23°C, -0.24°C, between the El Niño/La Niña thresholds of +/-0.8°C. Pacific Ocean is in a neutral condition.

18th July 2016

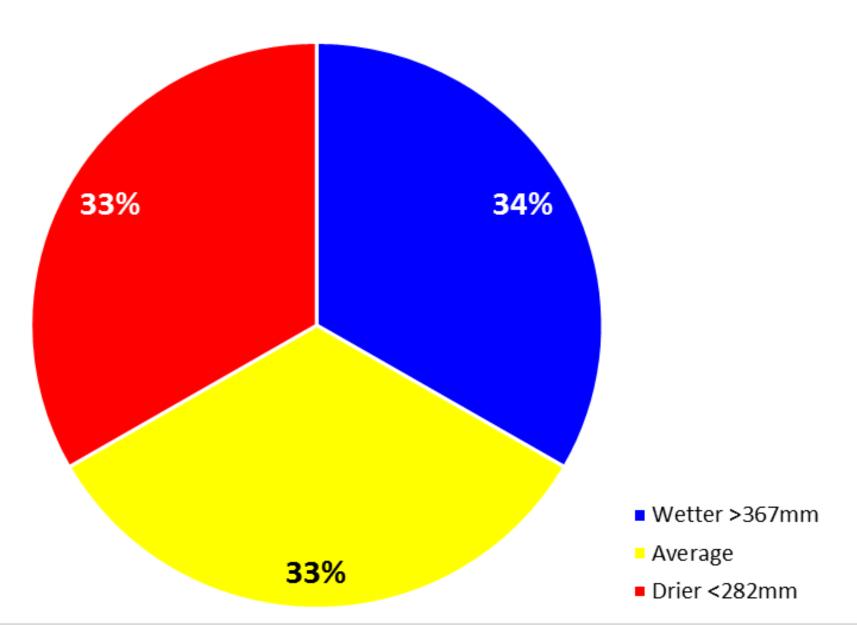


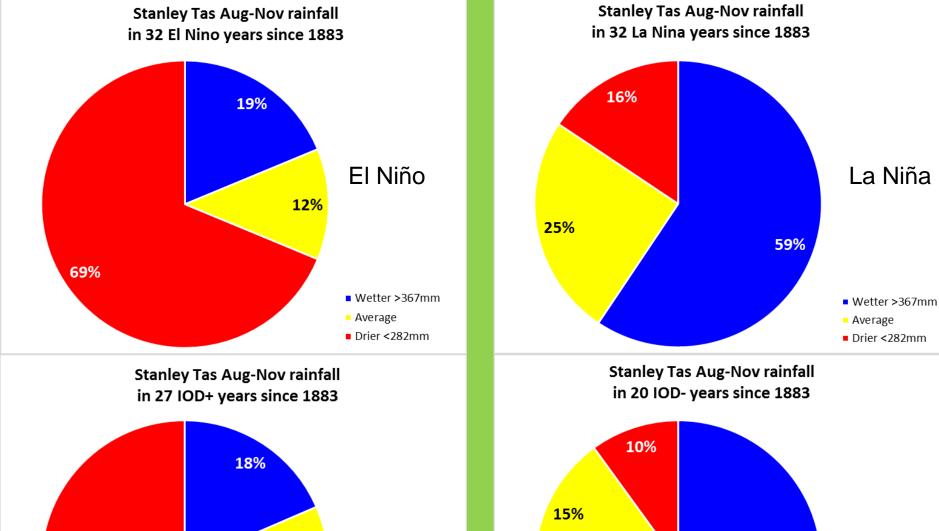
The DMI measurement of the IOD is -1.37°C, strongly IOD-. Threshold is +/- 0.4°C, strongest one for many years and set up early too.

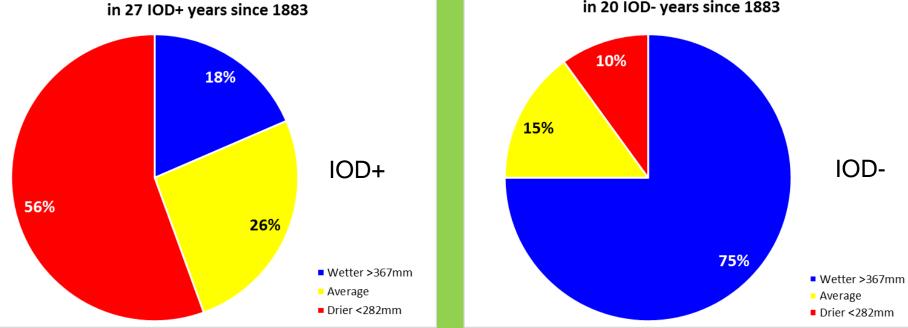
Spring (Aug-Nov) Rainfall at Stanley

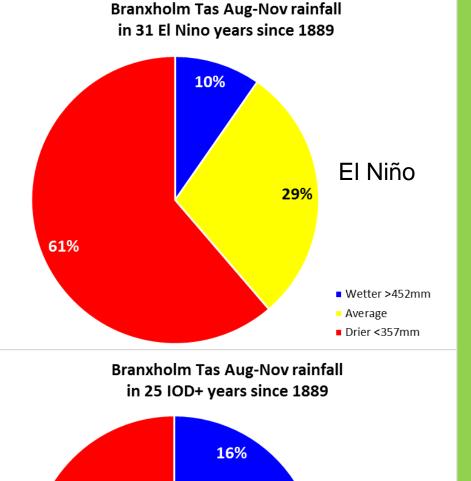


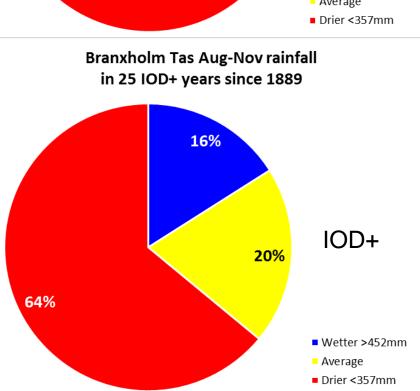


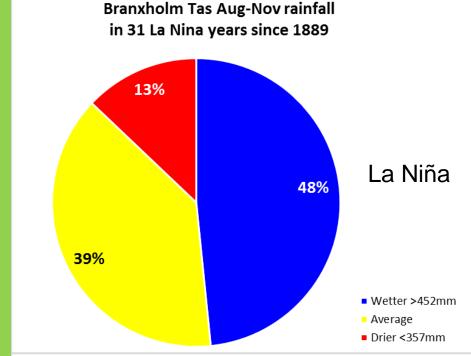


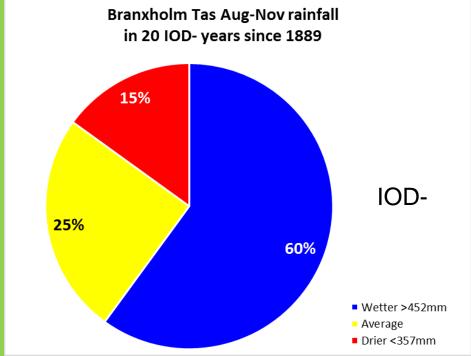


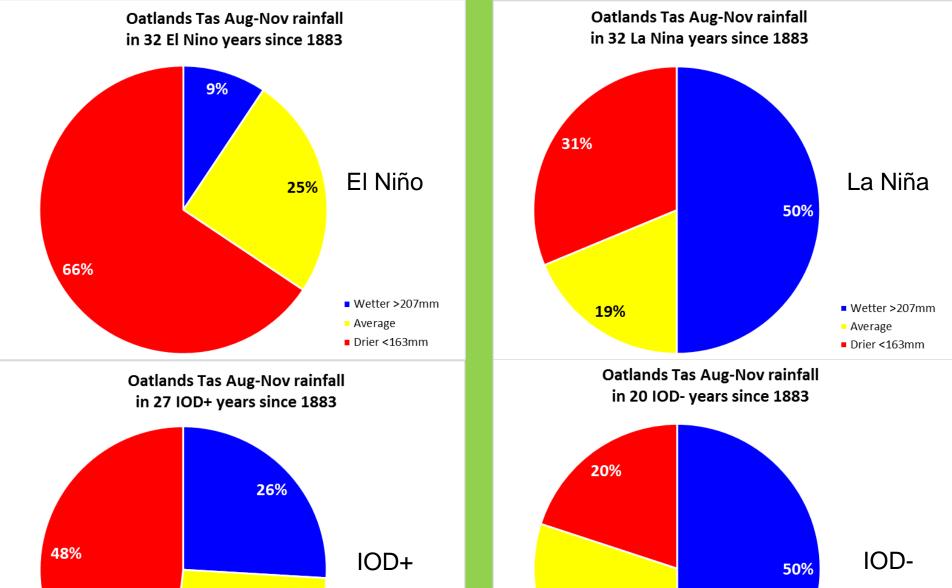


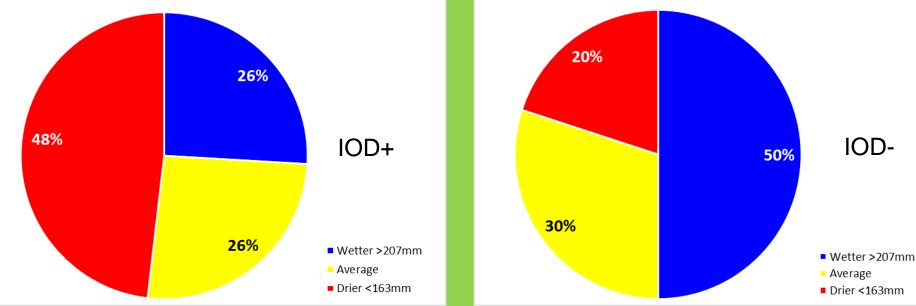


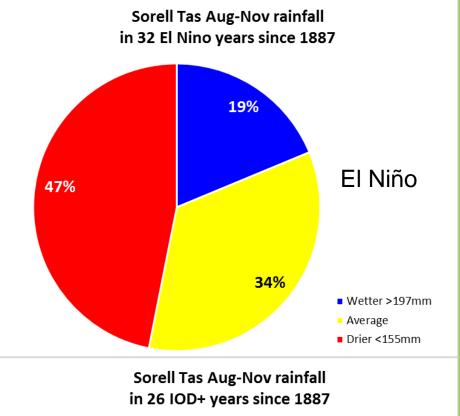


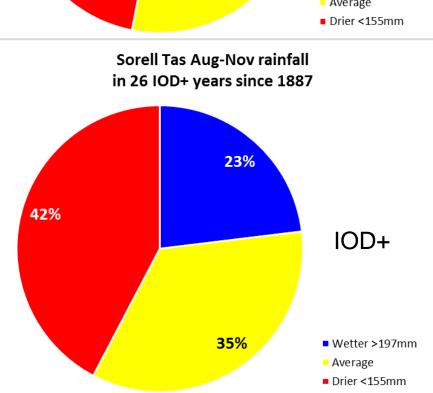


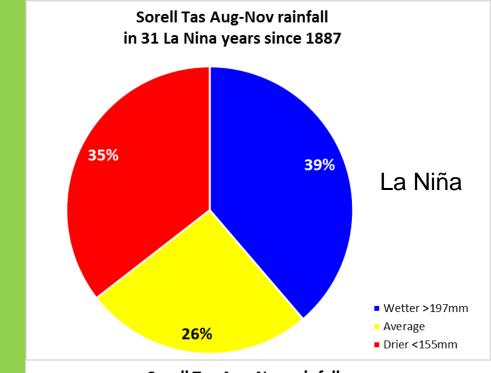


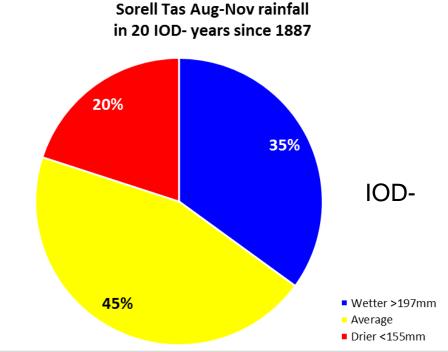


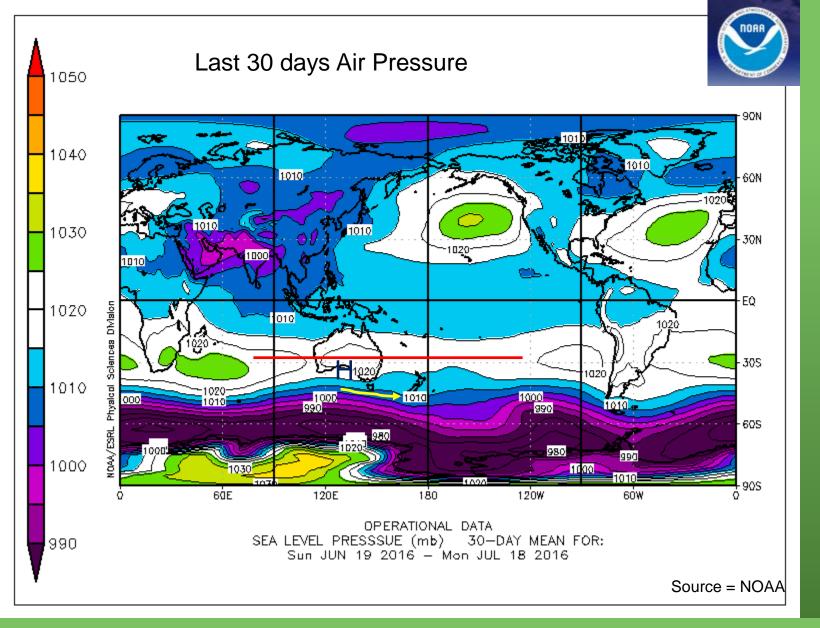




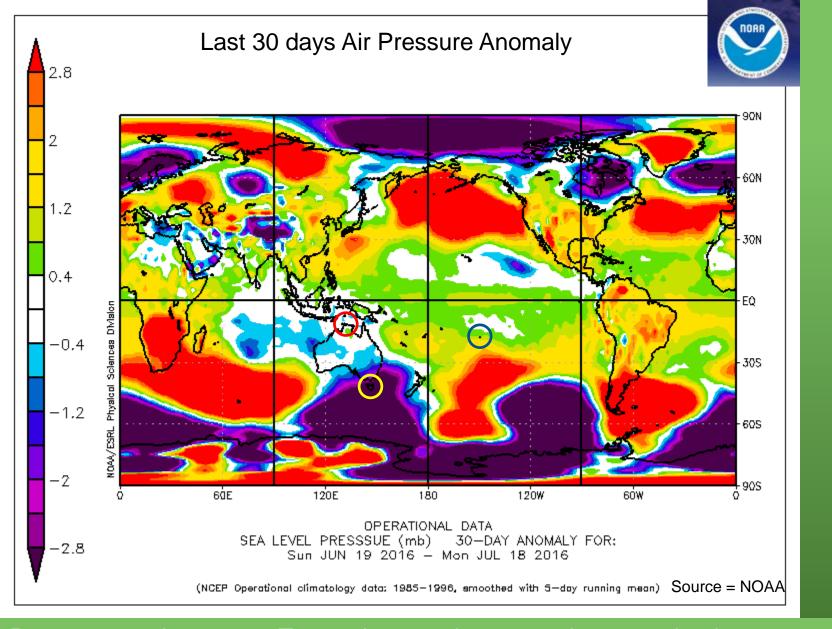




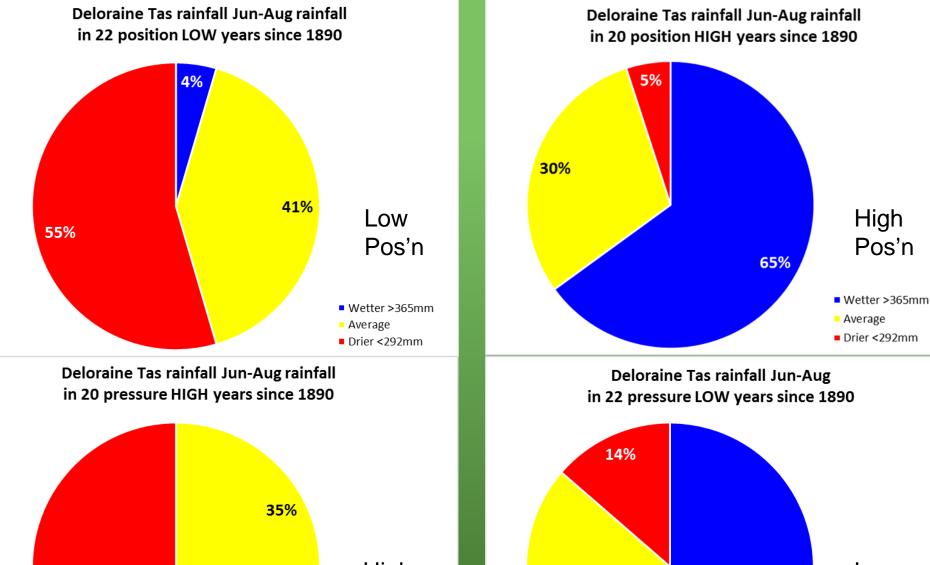


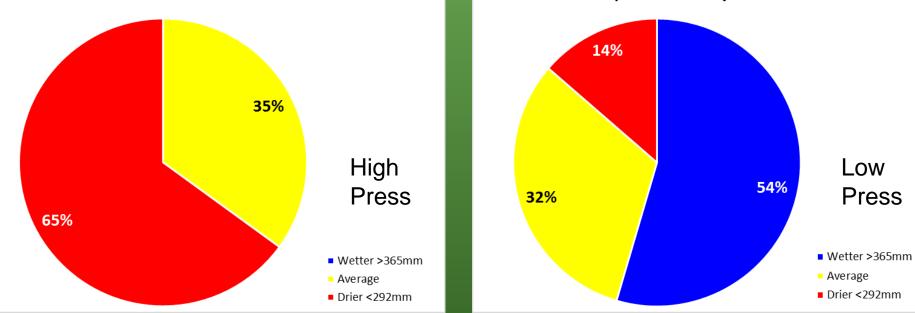


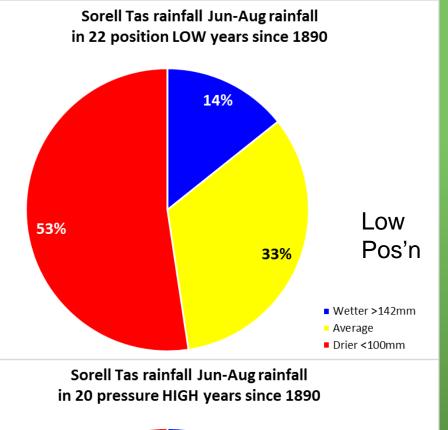
The Sub Tropical Ridge latitude is higher than normal, allowing fronts through.

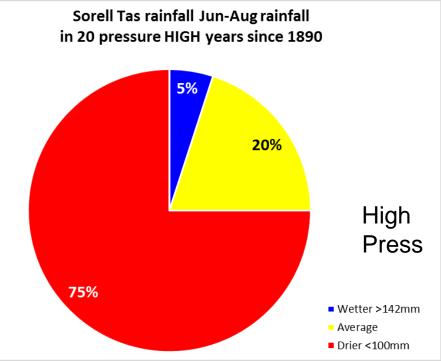


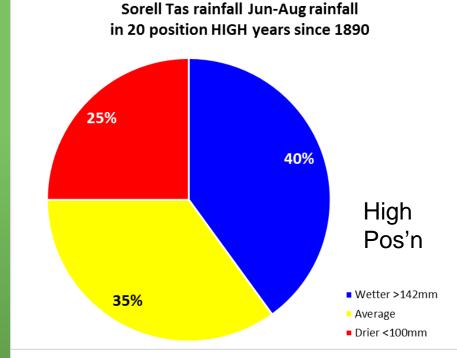
Pressure was lower over Tasmania, meaning more trigger mechanisms are passing by. Darwin pressure average, Tahiti slightly higher = SOI weakly positive

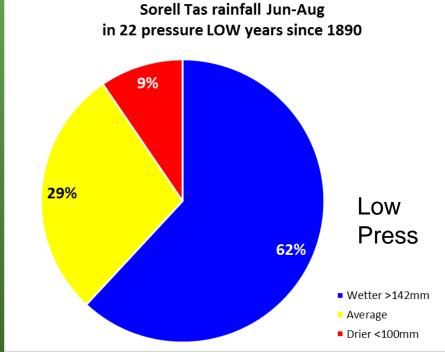












Tasmania	Jan	Feb	Mar	Apr	May	Jun	Jul	Aug	Sep	Oct	Nov	Dec
ENSO						✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	√
IOD					√	√	√	√	√	√		
SAM	√	✓				√	√	√	√	✓	√	√
STR Position			√									
STR Strength	√											

Months of the year where the main climate drivers have skill

Predictability

ENSO: 3 – 6 months out

IOD 1: – 3 months out

STR: 1 month out

SAM: 14 days out



Modelled Climate and Ocean Predictions for Tasmania from June/July 2016 run models

				Ense	Statistical						
	System 4 ECMWF Europe	ACCESS BoM Australia	SINTEX-F JAMSTEC Japan	CFSv2 NCEP USA	GEOS-5 NASA USA	ENS JMA Japan	CGCM BCC China	UKMO UK GlosSea5	IRI USA	APCC Korea	SOI phase USQ/QId Australia
Month of Run	July	July	July	July	July	July	June	July	June	June	July
Forecast months	ASO	ASO	SON	ASO	ASO	ASO	ASO	ASO	JAS	JAS	ASO
Spring Pacific Ocean NINO3.4	Slightly cool (weak La Niña)	Cool (La Niña)	Neutral	Slightly cool	Slightly cool	Cool (La Niña)		Cool (La Niña)	Slightly cool	Cool (La Niña)	
Spring Eastern Indian Ocean	Warm (weak IOD-)	Warm (IOD-)	Warm (IOD-)	Warm (IOD-)	Warm	Warm (IOD-)		Warm (IOD-)	Warm (weak IOD-)	Warm (IOD-)	
Spring Rainfall	Slightly wetter?	Slightly wetter	Slightly wetter	Average, slightly wetter NE, Slightly drier SW	Slightly wetter	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average	Average
Spring Temperature	Slightly cooler?	Slightly warmer, average NW,	Average	Slightly warmer W, average E	Slightly warmer	Average	Average	Average	Slightly warmer S, average N	Slightly warmer	

Spring

Pacific Ocean: Cool possible La Nina?
Indian Ocean; Warm (IOD-)
Rainfall: Average/slightly warmer
Temperature: Average/slightly warmer



Modelled Climate and Ocean Predictions for Tasmania from June/July 2016 run models

			Ens	Statistical							
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Month of Run	July	July	July	July	July	July	June	July	June	June	July
Forecast months	NDJ	NDJ	DJF	NDJ	NDJ		NDJ	OND	OND	OND	
Summer Pacific Ocean NINO3.4	Neutral	Slightly cool (weak La Niña)	Slightly cool	Slightly cool	Neutral			Cool (La Niña)	Slightly cool	Slightly cool	
Summer Eastern Indian Ocean	Warm	Slightly warm	Slightly warm	Warm	Warm			Warm (IOD-)	Warm (IOD-)	Warm (weak	
Summer Rainfall	Average	Slightly wetter N, average S	Average, slightly wetter NE	Slightly wetter, average SW	Slightly wetter		Average	Slightly wetter	Average	Average	
Summer Temperature	Slightly warmer?	Slightly warmer	Slightly cooler W, slightly warmer E	Slightly warmer	Slightly warmer		Average	Slightly warmer	Average	Slightly warmer	

Summer

Pacific Ocean: Slightly cool

Indian Ocean: Warm

Rainfall: Average/slightly wetter

Temperature: Slightly warmer



Top four take home messages

- 1. Main drivers of climate in SE Australia affect Tasmania too.
- 2. Ocean temperatures to the north of Australia matter.
- 3. Model skill is greatest at this time of the year.
- 4. The outlook is rosy for the next six months.





Tools, resources & training

- This information is too important to trust "the media" to tell you what's going on.
- Subscribe to the BoM "ENSO wrap" e-news
- Subscribe to "The Fast Break" model summary
- Subscribe to the "Very Fast Break" Youtube
- Download Rainman Streamflow for free





RED MEAT UPDATES

TASMANIA

