

GIWA

Grain Industry Association
of Western Australia

Crop Report

Addendum issued 11th May, 2015

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Weather ahead addendum for the MAY 2015 GIWA Crop Report

The current weather pattern of dry conditions with warm maximum temperatures is reducing the production potential of the 2015 season as each day passes without significant rainfall.

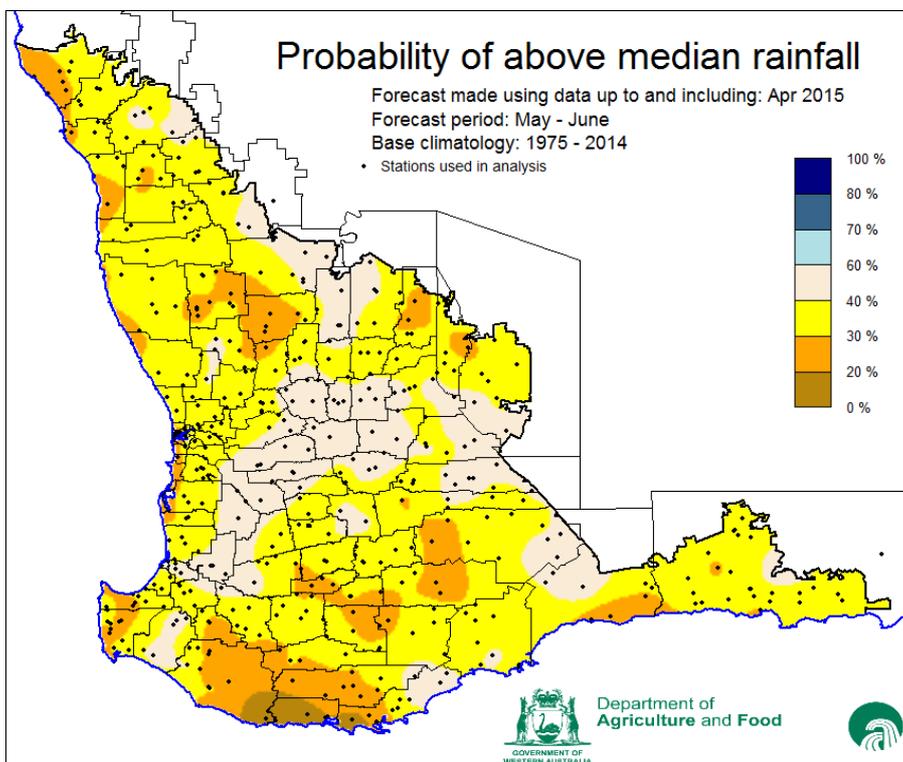
The May Crop report, published on May 8 alluded to this declining potential. The Bureau of Meteorology summary for May to July is optimistic for wetter than average rainfall. However, the forecasts from the Department of Agriculture and Food, WA (DAFWA) and the Australian Export Grains Innovation Centre (AEGIC) are far less optimistic and stand in contrast.

GIWA wishes to advise caution in regard to the early optimism for grain production in 2015 that followed the extensive rainfall events in late March and early April through the Geraldton and Kwinana east zones.

For clarity, this addendum to that report aims to provide a summary of the climate predictions of various weather models.

Weather predictions for May to June 2015

The DAFWA seasonal forecast is for mostly below average median rainfall across WA for May and June 2015.



For the full range of DAFWA Seasonal Forecast visit

<https://www.agric.wa.gov.au/agseasons/seasonal-climate-information>

AEGIC Dr David Stephens

In addition to the soil moisture  maps published in the May 2015 GIWA Crop Report, AEGIC advises that a pattern of strong high pressure to the south of Australia is linked to a developing el Nino pattern in the Pacific, and combined with a large body of warm water to the south west of WA, is likely to prevent the formation of cold fronts with sufficient strength to deliver widespread rainfall to the south west land division in the week to May 18. This pattern is similar to the conditions that developed in late May and June in 2014.

Additional information can be sourced from:

- [**AEGIC: Yield and Seasonal Forecasting**](#)
- [**AEGIC: ENSO Summary webpage**](#)
- [**DAFWA: Statistical Seasonal forecast**](#)
- [**BoM: WA Seasonal Rainfall Outlook, next 3 months**](#)
- [**BoM: Month to date rainfall for WA**](#)