Herbert Cane Productivity Services Ltd.

## Climate Outlook April - May 2020

## SOI TRACKER:

The monthly average SOI for March was negative 6.02 (-6.02) compared to negative $2.60(-2.60)$ in February. Therefore the SOI phase for March came out as "Consistently Near Zero".

|  | SOI VALUE | SOI PHASE |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| End of April 2019 | -2.43 | "Consistently Near Zero" |
| End of May 2019 | -7.41 | "Consistently Near Zero" |
| End of June 2019 | -9.99 | "Consistently Negative" |
| End of July 2019 | -5.86 | "Consistently Negative" |
| End of August 2019 | -3.14 | "Consistently Near Zero" |
| End of September 2019 | -12.72 | "Rapidly Falling" |
| End of October 2019 | -5.19 | "Consistently Negative" |
| End of November 2019 | -9.45 | "Consistently Near Zero" |
| End of December 2019 | -6.72 | "Consistently Negative" |
| End of January 2020 | 0.65 | "Rapidly Rising" |
| End of February 2020 | -2.6 | "Consistently Near Zero" |
| End of March 2020 | -6.02 | "Consistently Near Zero" |



## RAINFALL OUTLOOK

- Median rainfall for April-May at Macknade is equal to 259.4 mm.
- Based on the new SOI phase, we have calculated the chance of exceeding median rainfall for April-May for the Herbert region to be $39 \%$. (A $50 \%$ chance is what would be considered the 'normal chance' of experiencing above median rainfall).
- The Upper Quartile (top quartile of rainfall) for April-May at Macknade is equal to 382.2 mm .
- Based on past rainfall events over a period of more than 110 years, the chance of experiencing excessively high rainfall (i.e. rainfall greater than the upper quartile) is equal to $24 \%$. ( $25 \%$ chance is what would be considered the 'normal chance' of experiencing excessively high rainfall.)


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## APRIL-MAY RAIN OUTLOOK FOR INGHAM IN DETAIL:

Since 1892 when rainfall records commenced at Macknade, there have been 33 occasions when the SOI phase at the end of March was "Consistently Near Zero". These years were:

| 1893 | 1894 | 1895 | 1909 | 1911 | 1916 | 1920 | 1924 | 1930 | 1932 | 1933 |
| :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- | :--- |
| 1934 | 1936 | 1938 | 1940 | 1942 | 1944 | 1946 | 1948 | 1949 | 1953 | 1954 |
| 1957 | 1958 | 1962 | 1963 | 1965 | 1972 | 1982 | 1995 | 1996 | 2007 | 2012 |

During those 33 years, total rainfall for April-May exceeded the median 13 times. Therefore the chance of exceeding median rainfall for April-May is 13/33 = 39\%.

A high amount of rainfall (i.e. rain greater than 382.2 mm ) resulted 8 times. So the chance of high rainfall is equal to $8 / 33=24 \%$.

There have been 33 years when the SOI phase at the end of March was in a Consistently Near Zero phase (coloured Bars)
In 13 of those years the rainfall during April-May exceeded the median.
The chance that the Rainfall during Apr-May will exceed the median $=13 / 33=39 \%$ In 8 of those years the Rainfall during Apr-May exceeded the Upper Quartile.
The chance that the Rainfall during Apr-May will exceed the Upper Quartile $=8 / 33=24 \%$


Comparison to Last Year

| Apr-May 2020 |  | Apr-May 2019 |
| :--- | :---: | :---: |
| SOI Phase | Consistently Near Zero | Consistently Negative |
| Chance of above median rainfall | $39 \%$ | $72 \%$ |
| Chance of excessively high rainfall | $24 \%$ | $33 \%$ |

For information on sea surface temperatures and general climate information, please see http://www.longpaddock.qld.gov.au and http://www.bom.gov.au/climate/ahead.

## Disclaimer:

The seasonal climate forecasting information provided in this document is presented for the purposes of raising awareness of the potential value of seasonal climate forecasting information and should be considered as a guideline only. The user assumes all risk for any liabilities, expenses, losses, damages and costs resulting directly or indirectly from the use of the climatic forecast information.

