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Weekly Australian Climate, Water and Agricultural Update

Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry
(ABARES)

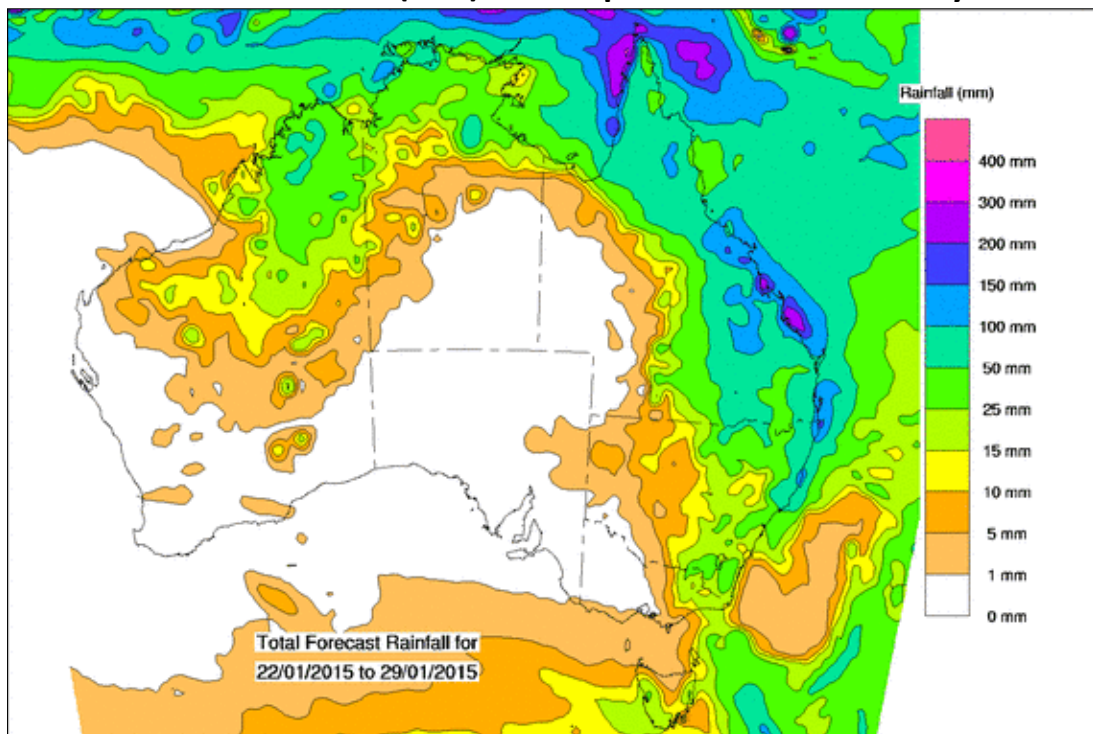
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Summary of key issues relevant for NSW:

- Rainfalls in excess of 25 millimetres were recorded across northern areas of Western Australia and the Northern Territory, across much of Queensland, north-east New South Wales and western Tasmania.
- Maximum temperatures were above average in parts of north eastern New South Wales, eastern Queensland and the south west of Western Australia during the week ending 20 January 2015.
- Water storage levels in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) decreased this week by 184 gigalitres (GL) and are at 50 per cent of total capacity. This is 13 percentage points or 3010 GL less than this time last year.

Total forecast rainfall (mm) for the period 22 to 29 January 2015



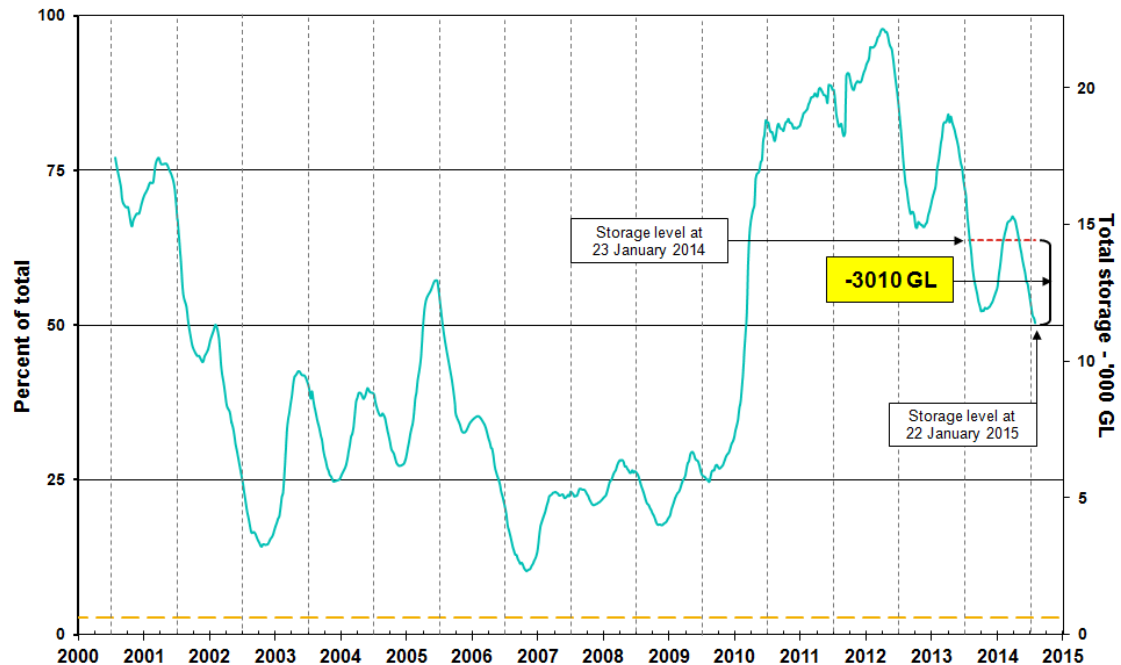
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Water availability

Water storage levels in the Murray–Darling Basin (MDB) decreased this week by 184 gigalitres (GL) and are at 50 per cent of total capacity. This is 13 percentage points or 3010 GL less than this time last year.

Water storages in the Murray–Darling Basin (NSW, Victoria and Queensland)



Information on irrigation water available in the Murray–Darling Basin from 1 January 2001 to 22 January 2015 is shown above. The top horizontal (short dash) line indicates the storage level at the similar time last year. The bottom horizontal (long dash) line indicates the amount of 'dead' or unusable storage.

Developments in indicator prices for agricultural commodities:

Commodity	Average Price	Percentage Change
Sugar	US 15.6 cents a pound	4.70 % higher
Wheat (red winter)	USD \$ 260 a tonne	2.62 % lower
Canola (Rapeseed)	USD \$ 425 a tonne	1.84 % lower
Cotton (Cotlook 'A')	US 66.8 cents a pound	1.91 % lower