



Following a dry spell, South Australia has had widespread and substantial rainfall with Eyre Peninsula receiving 30 – 50mm and the south east receiving 15 – 40mm. There were some huge falls in between, Clare in the mid north receiving up to 100mm in the last week. This rain has boosted emergence, and vindicated the decisions of those who decided to sow early and dry.

The start to this season has been far from trouble free with mice being a large problem on Yorke and Eyre Peninsula combined with the dry start to May, Many growers who had dry sown were concerned the crop wouldn't even come emerge. While soil conditions were much better in the south east and Mallee, the locusts had prevented many from an ideal start. On average the delays in seeding have been 10 – 15 days past the optimal sowing date, which according to agronomists may result in up to 150 – 200kg/ha of potential yield reduction, however, rain will still be the main determinate moving forward.

The Australian dollar and commodity markets have finally settled this last week, on the back of volatility based largely on the global financial markets, centered on Greece. The drop of the Australian dollar and rapid increase in barley prices have seen growers keen seller of feed barley from \$140 right through to the markets current peak at \$160 Adelaide track, this being the first real sign of barley activity since harvest. Wheat was also sold in large volumes, resulting in a vast fluctuation in bids and growers jumped at the chance to clear grain out of on farm storage and warehousing. This week however the markets have been quiet as growers are out busily seeding crops, with what small portion on unsold crop remains, grain marketing is currently taking a back seat.

Within regions that are still housing locusts ready to hatch in spring, many are opting to play it safe especially while PIRSA are actively working towards a unified action plan to combat their reemergence. While most canola crops are currently in the ground, new crop pricing is a common discussion point amongst growers as the market has come back a little in the last week. While recent rainfalls appears to be enough to secure the crop through until late winter, a majority are still not willing to commit anything this early in the season.

For further details please contact your local Australian Grain Accumulation
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