

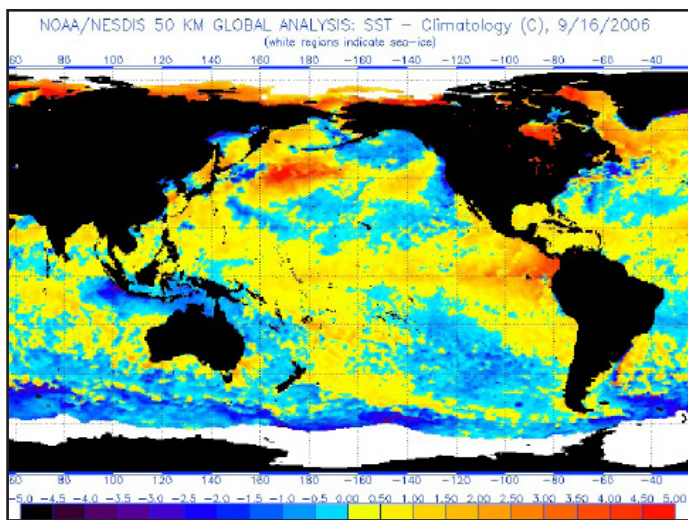
# Why forecasters look closely at Sea Surface Temperatures - a dry versus wet pattern

## COMPARE THE PAIR!

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The winter-spring seasonal rainfall variability in southeast Australia is strongly influenced by Sea Surface Temperatures (SST), especially along the equator and to the north of Australia. To see the contrast, below is the 2006 dry pattern (El Niño plus positive IOD) and the 2010 wet pattern (La Niña plus negative IOD).

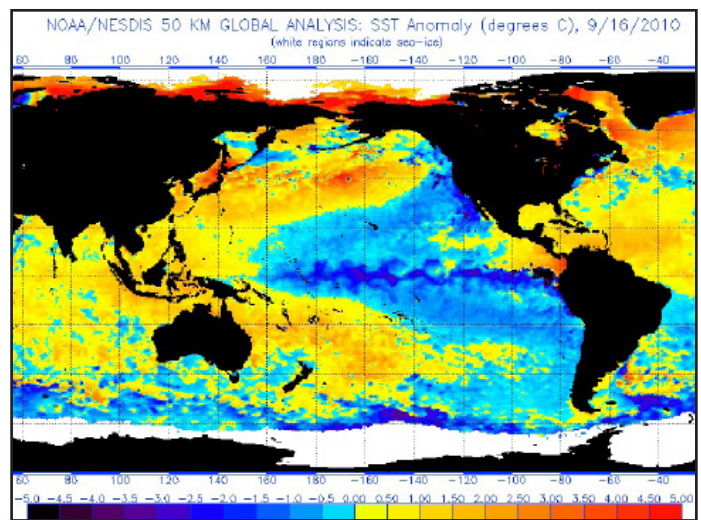
### Spring 2006 SST Anomaly



Cooler (blue) SST's to the north of Australia are usually associated with less cloud and moisture in our region.

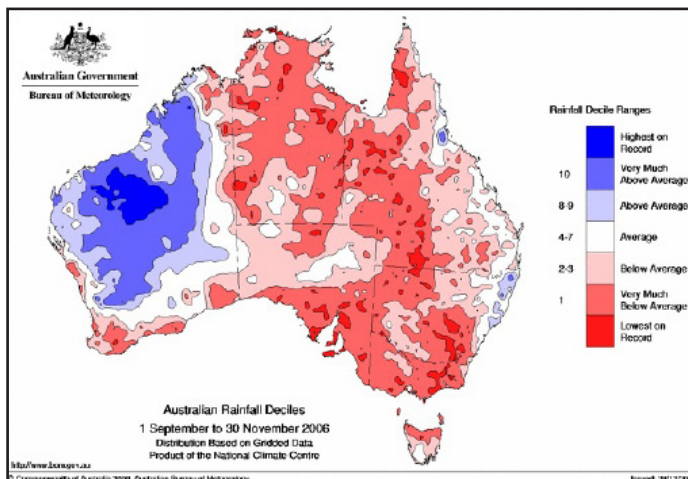
Source: NOAA, [www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly](http://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly)

### Spring 2010 SST Anomaly

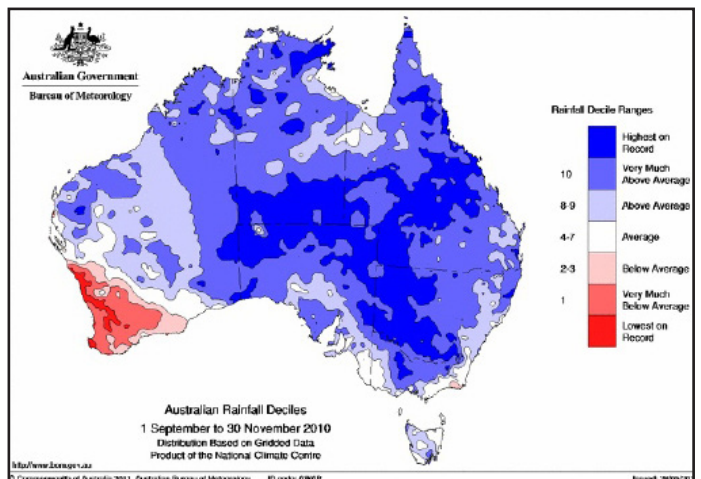


Warmer (orange) SST's to the north of Australia are usually associated with cloud and moisture in our region.

Source: NOAA, [www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly](http://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly)



Rainfall decile spring 2006. Source: BoM

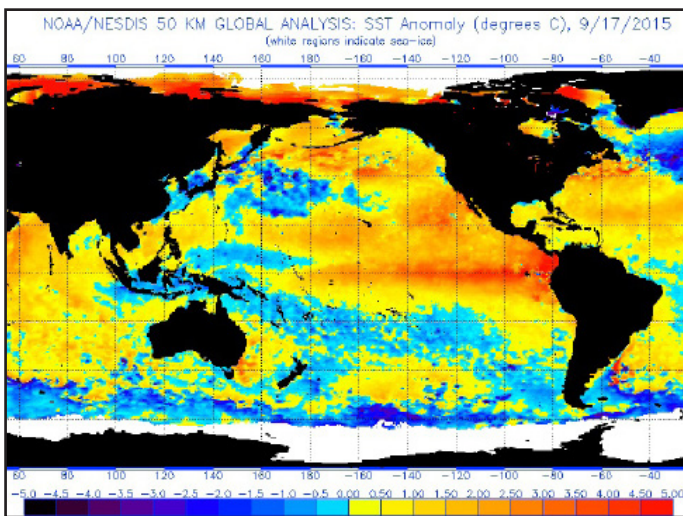


Rainfall decile spring 2010. Source: BoM

# COMPARE THIS PAIR TOO!

Another example for recent spring seasonal rainfall variability in southeast Australia being influenced by Sea Surface Temperatures (SST), especially along the equator and to the north of Australia. To see the contrast, below is the 2015 drier pattern (El Niño plus positive IOD) and the 2016 wetter pattern (negative IOD) with much warmer waters to the northwest of Australia.

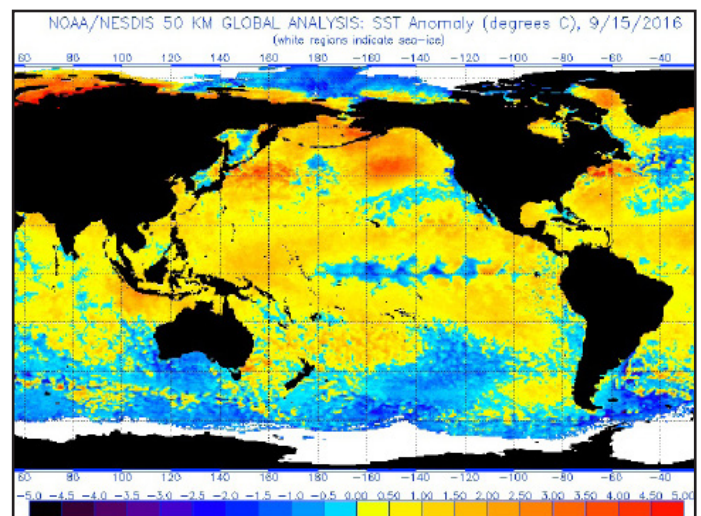
## Spring 2015 SST Anomaly



Cooler (blue) SST's to the north of Australia are usually associated with less cloud and moisture in our region.

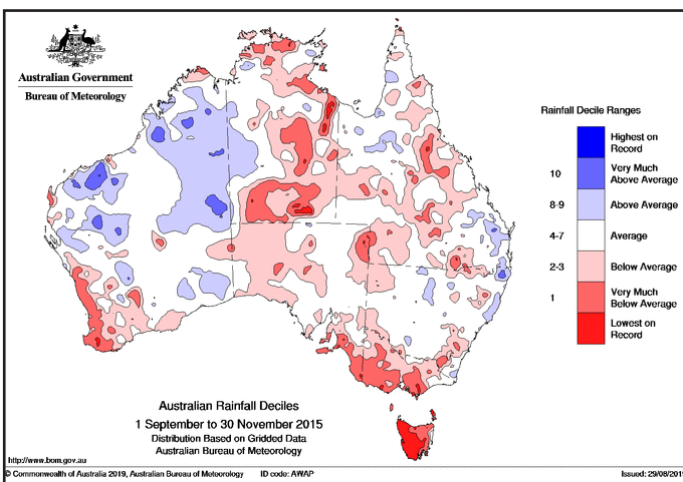
Source: NOAA, [www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly](http://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly)

## Spring 2016 SST Anomaly

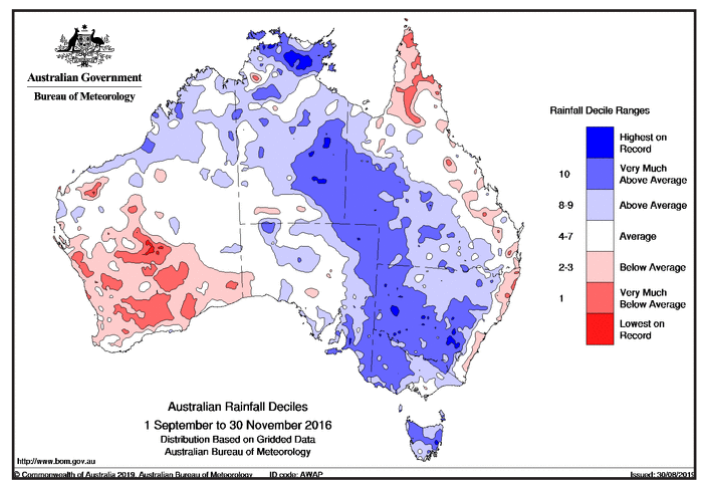


Warmer (orange) SST's to the north of Australia are usually associated with cloud and moisture in our region.

Source: NOAA, [www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly](http://www.ospo.noaa.gov/Products/ocean/sst/anomaly)



Rainfall decile spring 2015. Source: BoM



Rainfall decile spring 2016. Source: BoM