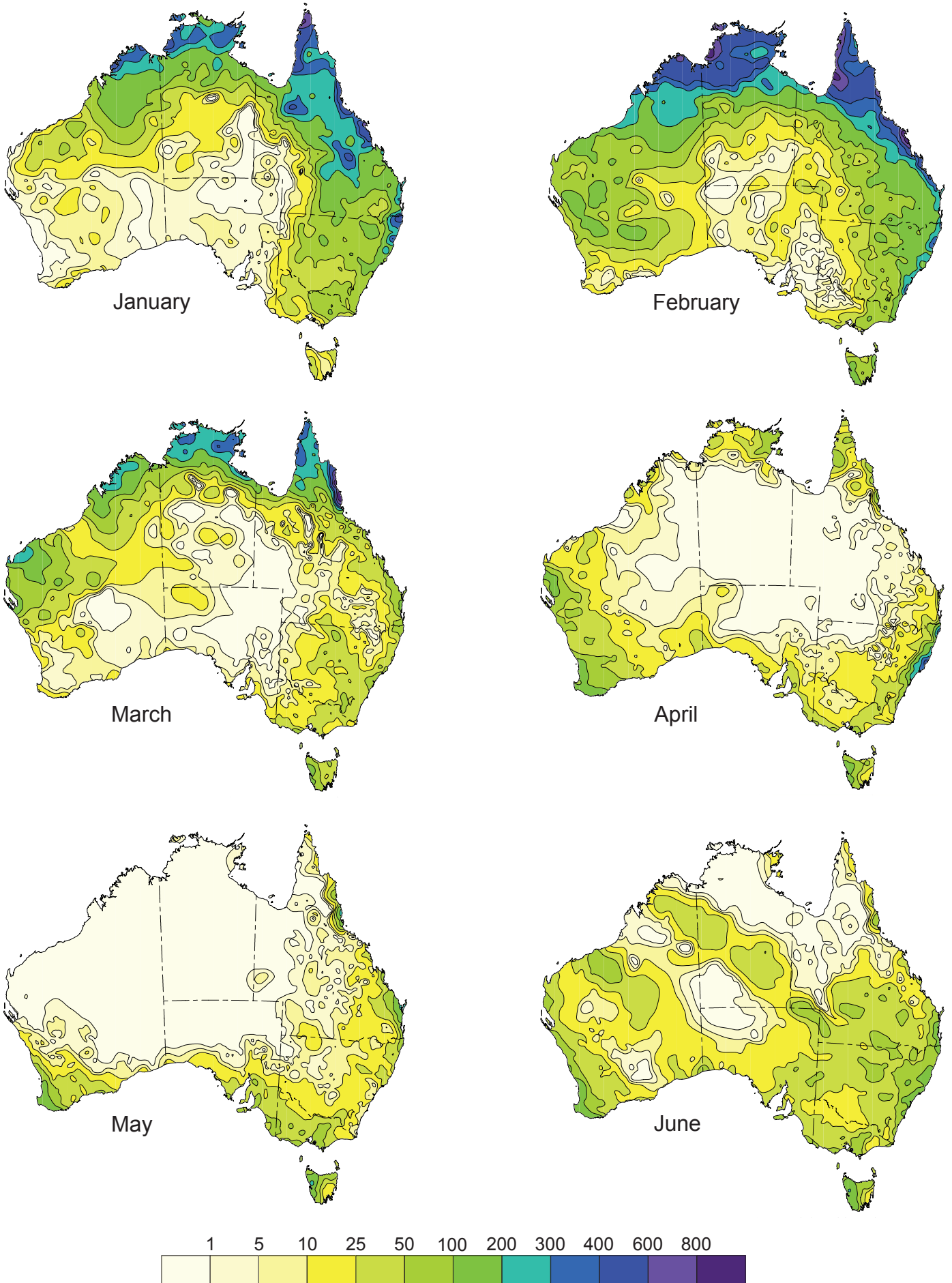
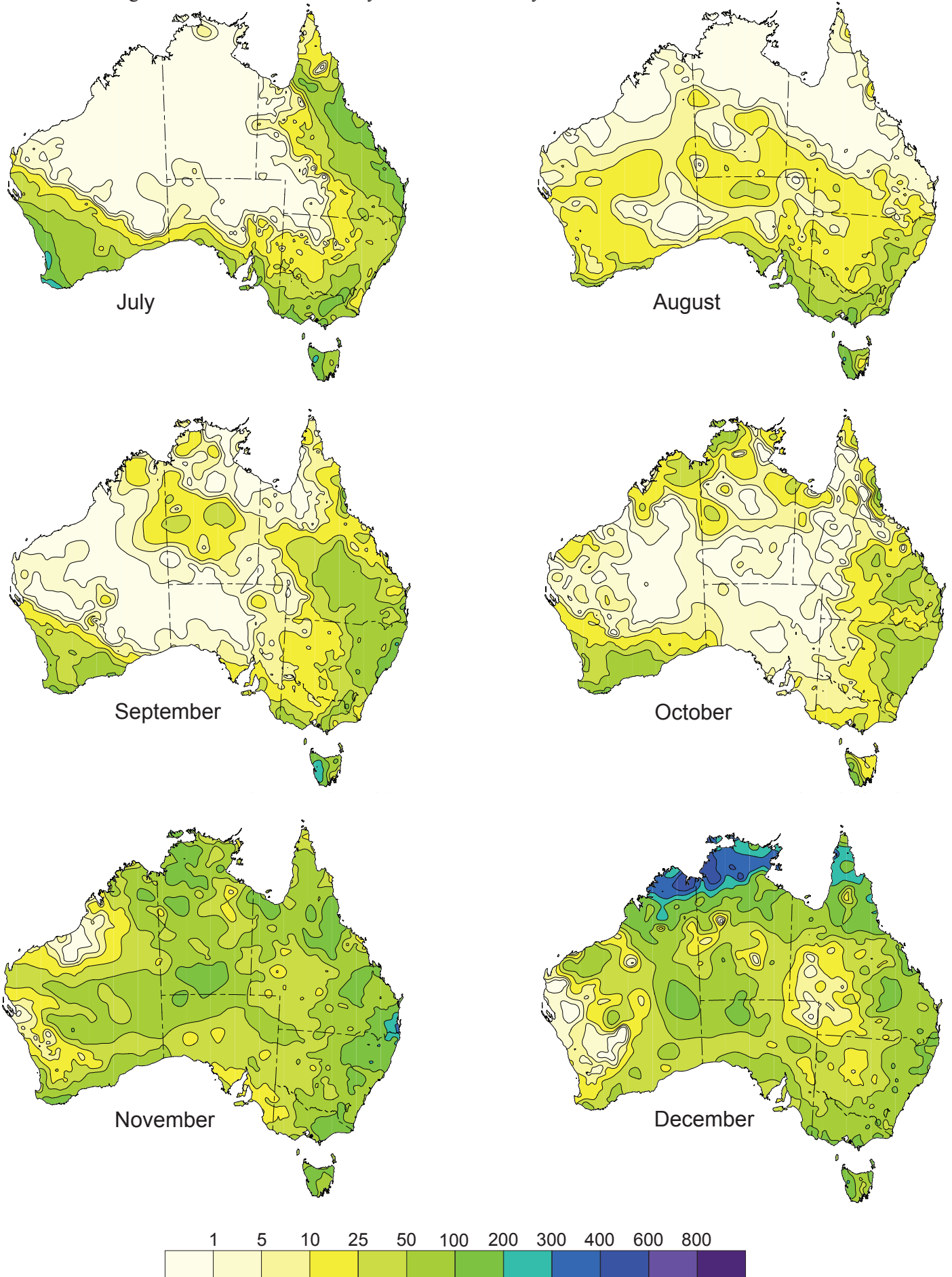


5. Monthly rainfall totals - January to December 2008

Monthly rainfall totals in excess of 400 mm occurred in many tropical areas from January to March, being particularly widespread in February when several areas had falls over 600 mm. The east coast of Cape York was very wet in March, with favoured localities registering more than 800 mm, but it wasn't until December that tropical areas once again had over 400 mm (WA and NT).



Outside the tropics, 400 mm monthly totals only occurred in western Tasmania (September, though not visible on map) and on the NSW coast (January & April). Large parts of northern and central Australia had little or no rain in April, May, July, August and to a lesser extent in September and October. Illustrating the poor growing season in the cropping areas of southeastern Australia, sub-25 mm falls were common in April, May, September and October. Extremes of the Australia-wide average were 111.8 mm in February and 8.2 mm in May.



Monthly rainfall totals (mm)